Morecambe Bay Partnership

Trustees Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements Year ended 31 March 2026

Charity Registration no: 1173489

Registered Address: Stricklandgate House

92 Stricklandgate, Kendal. LA9 4PU.

Independent examiner: Enaid Accountancy Ltd, Platform 10, Engine Room, Hood Road, Barry. CF62 5QL.

enaid ACCOUNTANCY

We are Morecambe Bay Partnership

We exist to care for the Bay as a whole; its nature, its heritage and its people.

Our charity's vision is of a Bay where wildlife is recovering and thriving; where we are all better prepared for more frequent and intense weather; where cultural heritage is respected and celebrated; and where people of all ages and abilities can access, enjoy and care for this place responsibly.

We are the only charity focused on the Bay at this scale. We raise funds so that community-led nature, learning and heritage programmes can happen, bringing together individuals and organisations to turn local passion into collective action.

We listen carefully to what's needed, spot opportunities for change, and help build partnerships and raise the funds that make lasting impact possible.

We are guided by our core beliefs:

- that the natural and historic environment of Morecambe Bay is precious and vulnerable;
- that fairness, inclusion and respect matter;
- and that when people feel connected to nature and heritage, they are more likely to look after it.

Our mission is simple:
to bring people together to care for the Bay's future.

Contents

Legal and administrative information

Charity name
Morecambe Bay Partnership

Charity registration no.
1173489

Registered office and contact details
Stricklandgate House
92 Stricklandgate
Kendal
Cumbria
LA9 4PU

Trustees
Kerry McLoughlin – Chair until end of term of office at 02.06.26
Mark Hawker - Chair (from 02.06.26)
Mark Holroyd – Vice-chair
Dr Thomas Burditt
Amanda Finan
Emma Parsons
Georgina Young
Harrison Stewart (resigned 02.06.26)
Helen Kemp
Lucy Baird (resigned 31.05.26)
Alistair Eagles
Professor Paul Salveson MBE

Independent examiner
Enaid Accountancy Ltd
Platform 10, Engine Room,
Hood Road, Barry. CF62 5QL

Bankers
The Cumberland Building Society
Cumberland House
Cooper Way
Parkhouse
Carlisle. CA3 0JF

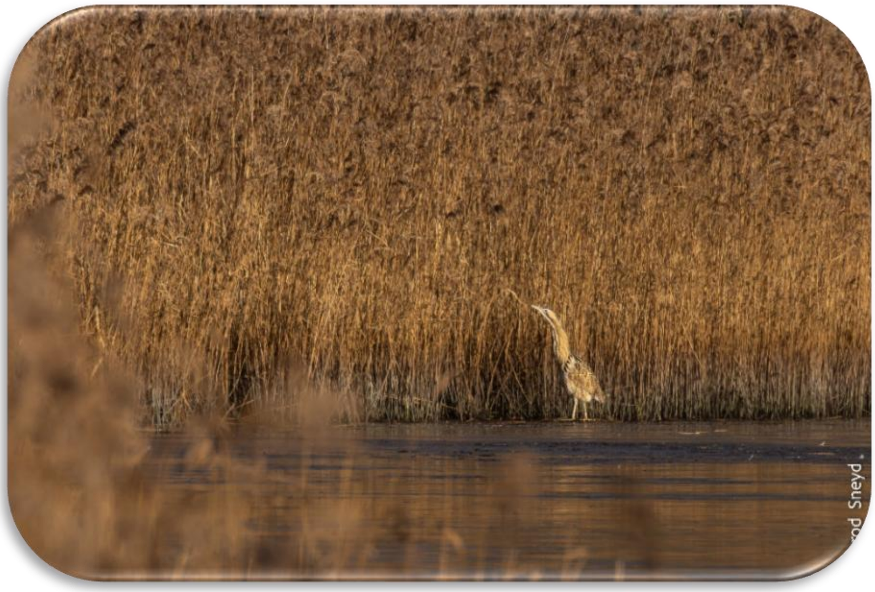
Statement of Board of Trustees responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, and in accordance with UK Accounting Standards including FRS102 the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgments 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; and,
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have the general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.



Statement of Board of Trustees responsibilities cont.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Trustees confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 1st September 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

MARK HAWKER
CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Objectives and Activities

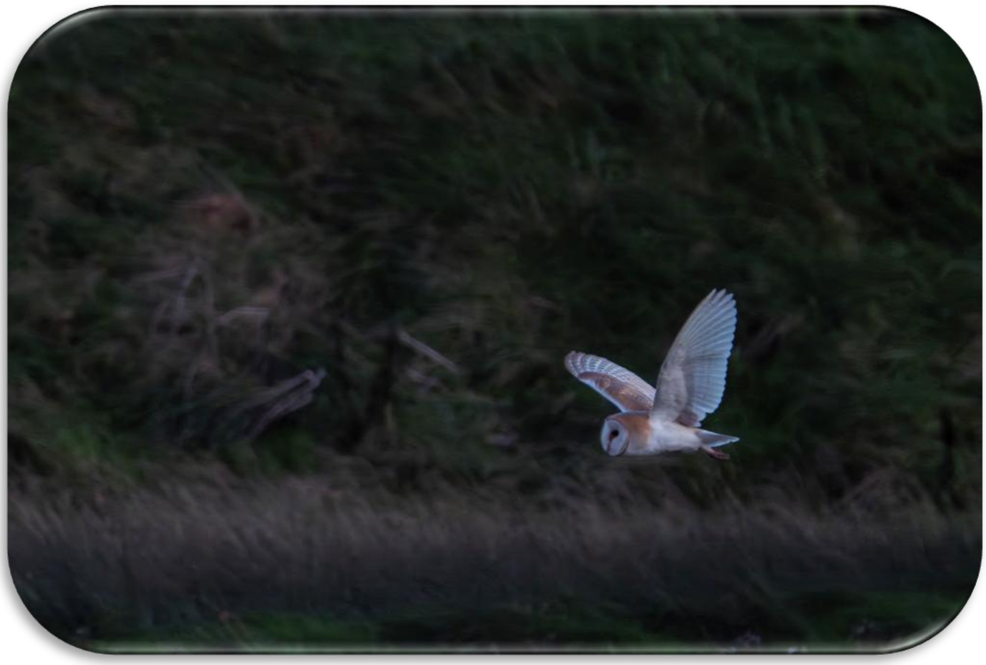
The objects of the charity are;

- to promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Morecambe Bay for public benefit, through the protection and maintenance of the Bay's coastal and marine environment.

- to advance the education of the public in the natural and cultural history, conservation, environment and management of Morecambe Bay.

- to develop the capacity and skills of members of the socially and economically disadvantaged communities of Morecambe Bay in such a way that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs and participate more fully in society.

- to provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interest of social welfare for recreation or leisure time occupation of individuals in the Morecambe Bay area who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.



Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The charity fulfils its objects and delivers its public benefit as described below:

The public benefits that flow from our objects namely:

Object 1 (promotion of conservation), Object 2, (education), Object 3 (supporting community especially disadvantaged) and Object 4 (recreation) include:

- An enhanced environment, leading to improved health and better quality of life for all.

- Raised awareness and understanding of the local natural and cultural heritage, environmental issues, and the richness of local heritage as well as the context of how these fit with wider global issues.

- An enhanced quality of life and sense of well-being through stronger connectedness and engagement between people and nature in our locality.

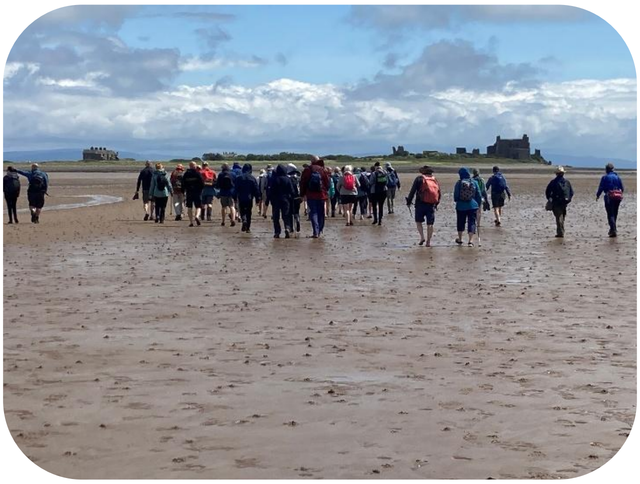
- New and increased opportunities to engage and participate in activities and events which bring people together, leading to greater social cohesion and fulfilment, improvements in physical and emotional well-being, quality of life and a more stable and cohesive community.

- Enhanced citizenship and involvement in community life.

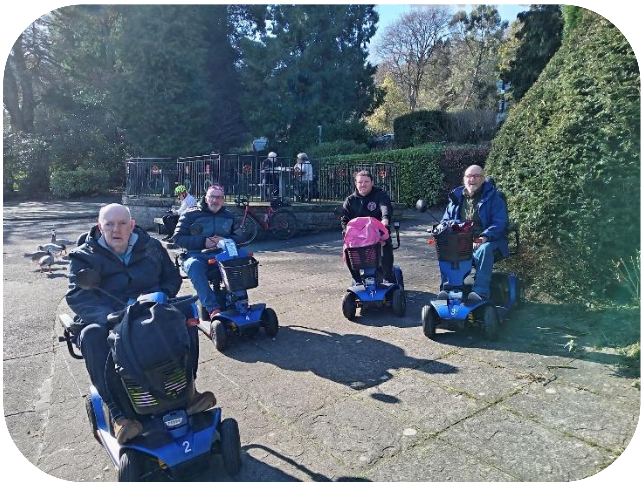
- New facilities, events, and opportunities for some of the most disadvantaged to participate in activities including access to the outdoors, cycling, walking and other artistic activities.

Highlights 2025-26

Over 4,000 people attended 210 events about Morecambe Bay to understand and appreciate this special place.



Our mobility vehicles were hired for free to over 250 people, giving them freedom to explore the natural environment.

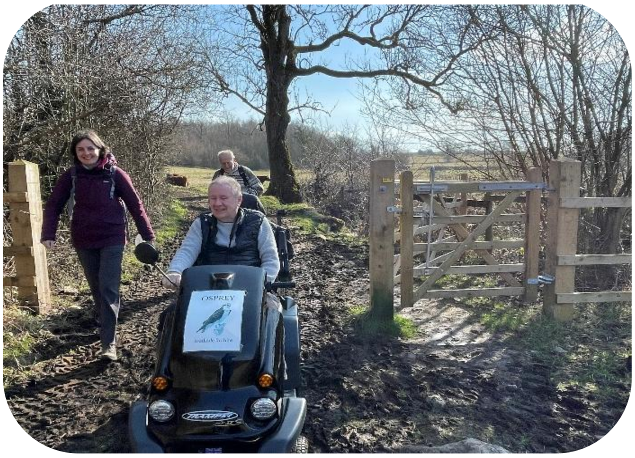


More than 1,300 school aged children learned in nature to help them foster a lifelong love for their environment

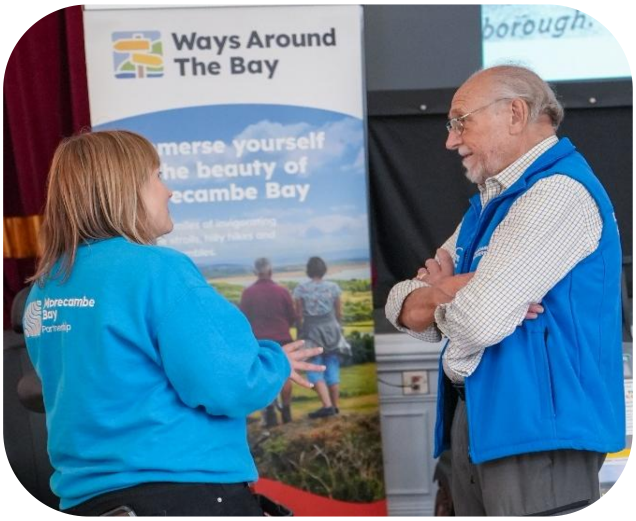
A new project “Our Bay, Our Future” was awarded 4-years of funding to help over 5,000 young people act for nature and to address the effects of climate change.

Highlights 2025-26 cont.

We created the “3 Nature Reserves All Ability Trail” and free mobility vehicle hire service with RSPB and other partners to enable access for all.



We engaged over 1,500 people face to face on the shores of Morecambe Bay to gain valuable insight and data.



We led the way on co-designed Nature Based Solutions to restore saltmarsh with the Sunderland Point community.

We submitted a £1 million round 1 application to the Heritage Funds’ Landscape Connections initiative on behalf of partner organisations in the Arnside and Silverdale National Landscape.

Strategic Objectives

- Nature is cared for and restored
- Everyone can address environmental impacts
- Heritage is protected and shared
- Access to nature is fairer

Structure, Governance & Management

Morecambe Bay Partnership is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered with the Charity Commission (registered charity number 1173489). It was incorporated on 20th June 2017, having previously operated as an unincorporated organisation since November 2001 (registered charity number 1089559) which has since been dissolved & removed from the Register of Charities.
The constitution requires a minimum of 6 Trustees and a maximum of 12. Trustees who have served for three consecutive years in office must stand for re-appointment.

The objective is to have a range of appropriate skillsets across fields that are relevant to the Charity's objectives. When recruiting new trustees, consideration is given to the existing trustees' skills and experiences and trustees are sought who have the additional skills required. Their appointment is by an application process and resolution of the Board of Directors/Trustees following which legal documentation is completed. On appointment, new trustees are provided with an induction pack and ongoing training is provided as required.

The day-to-day running of the charity is delegated to the professional staff team. The average number of full-time equivalent employees over the year was 7.6.

Risk management

Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems or procedures have been put in place to manage those risks. A risk register is reviewed at each quarterly trustee meeting.

Financial Review

During the current financial year, the Charity achieved a surplus £85,393 (2025: surplus of £59,048) This was largely due to grants being received in advance of spend, and much of this surplus (£61,562) is within restricted reserves and will be spent on continued delivery of funders objectives in 2026/27 and future years.

The remaining balance of £23,831 is allocated to unrestricted reserves which are held for the furtherance of charity objectives and the management of risk.

The surplus has resulted in total reserves held at year end of £345,281 (2025: £259,888).

Of the total reserves held at year end £149,698 (2025: £125,867) were unrestricted as to use, although only £127,829 (2025: £107,894) was available for general use because of designations made as set out in note 12 of the accounts.

All reserve balances are monitored quarterly to ensure the charity delivers the requirements of funders and remains financially sound.

The Trustees are satisfied with the financial performance of the Charity throughout the year.

Reserves Policy

Morecambe Bay Partnership's reserve policy is to hold in reserves £60,000 to close the charity in good order and meet its obligations so no person or organisation would be left out of pocket.

The level of reserves has been set so that it is sufficient to cover three months' full operating costs, redundancy payments, HR & legal advice. The reserves policy and the reserves limits are reviewed at each trustee's meeting.

Independent Examiner's report

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Morecambe Bay Partnership (Charity number 1173489) for the year ended 31 March 2026 which are set out on pages 15 to 28.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of 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 under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and,
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the Charity's Trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 report cont.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or

- the accounts do not accord with those records; or

- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ANDREW PHILIP NASH FCA
MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN ENGLAND AND WALES – 2461833
DATED 1 SEPTEMBER 2026

Enaid Accountancy Ltd
Platform 10
Engine Room
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QL

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	*Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Income from:					
Donations and grants	3	27,705	515,612	**543,317**	*451,208*
Charitable activities	4	5,579	57,906	**63,485**	*16,099*
Investments		24,136	-	**24,136**	*19,538*
Total Income		**57,420**	**573,518**	**630,938**	*486,845*
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5 & 6	1,794	40,118	**41,912**	*43,000*
Charitable activities	5 & 7	31,795	471,838	**503,633**	*384,797*
Total expenditure		**33,589**	**511,956**	**545,545**	*427,797*
Net income/expenditure)		**23,831**	**61,562**	**85,393**	*59,048*
Transfer between funds	12 & 13	-	-	-	*-*
Net movement in funds		**23,831**	**61,562**	**85,393**	*59,048*
Reconciliation of funds					
Funds brought forward	12 & 13	125,867	134,021	**259,888**	*200,840*
Funds carried forward	12 & 13	**149,698**	**195,583**	**345,281**	*259,888*

The notes on pages 18 to 28 form part of the financial statements

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2026

	Notes		Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £		*Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		**6,073**		*7,592*
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments	10	36,564		*8,955*	
Cash at bank and in hand		669,883		*818,086*	
Total current assets		**706,447**		*827,041*	
Creditors					
Amount falling due within one year	11	(367,239)		*(574,745)*	
Net current assets			**339,208**		*252,296*
Net assets			**345,281**		*259,888*
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	12 & 13		**195,583**		*134,021*
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	12 & 13	21,869		*17,973*	
General funds	12 & 13	127,829		*107,894*	
Unrestricted funds			**149,698**		*125,867*
Total funds			**345,281**		*259,888*

The notes on pages 18 to 28 form part of the financial statement

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 1st September 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

MARK HAWKER
CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2026

		Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026		*Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025*
		£		*£*
Cash flows from operating activities: Net income/(expenditure) for period (as Per SOFA)		**85,393**		*59,048*
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation charges	1,519		*1,898*	
Loss on disposal of assets	-		*261*	
Investment income	(24,136)		*(19,538)*	
(Increase)/decrease in accounts receivables	(21,952)		*18,565*	
(Increase)/decrease in accrued grant income	(3,110)		*(752)*	
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments and other debtors	(2,547)		*2,623*	
Increase/(decrease) in accounts payable	40,168		*3,588*	
Increase/(decrease) in accruals	14,182		*(330)*	
Increase/(decrease) in deferred revenue	(256,883)		*237,995*	
Increase/(decrease) in other creditors	(4,973)		*4,605*	
		(257,732)		*248,915*
Net cash used in operating activities		**(172,339)**		*307,963*
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Investment income	24,136		*19,538*	
Net cash used in investing activities		**24,136**		*19,538*
Change in cash and cash equivalent in period		**(148,203)**		*327,501*
Cash and cash equivalent at the beginning of the period		**818,086**		*490,585*
Cash and cash equivalent at the end of the period		**669,883**		*818,086*

The notes on pages 18 to 28 form part of the financial statement

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 1, and relevant charities law.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 March 2026, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2026 and the results for the year ended on that date.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Legal status

Morecambe Bay Partnership is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. The registered office is Stricklandgate House, 92, Stricklandgate, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 4PU.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted 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 funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 12 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable – i.e. when the eligible donation is received.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

Income from charitable activities is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable, whichever is earlier, unless it relates to a specific future period or event, in which case it is deferred.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated between activities proportionate to the direct costs incurred in those activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Any assets costing more than £3,000 are capitalised other than those purchased using restricted funds. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life, on the following basis:

Project equipment	20% reducing balance

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The treatment of tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. These are reassessed annually.

In view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

2. Comparative statement of financial activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Income from:				
Donations and grants	3	28,505	422,703	451,208
Charitable activities	4	7,242	8,857	16,099
Investments		19,538	-	19,538
Total Income		55,285	431,560	486,845
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5 & 6	5,570	37,430	43,000
Charitable activities	5 & 7	35,098	349,699	384,797
Total expenditure		40,668	387,129	427,797
Net income/expenditure)		14,617	44,431	59,048
Transfer between funds	12 & 13	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		14,617	44,431	59,048
Reconciliation of funds				
Funds brought forward	12 & 13	111,250	89,590	200,840
Funds carried forward	12 & 13	125,867	134,021	259,88

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Grants	22,174	515,612	**537,786**
Donations	5,531	-	**5,531**
	27,705	**515,612**	**543,317**

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Grants	20,000	422,703	442,703
Donations	8,505	-	8,505
	28,505	422,703	451,208

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Income from MBP Sales	1,899	-	1,899
Income from contracts and other activities	1,300	57,906	59,206
Income from community and ticketed events	2,330	-	2,330
Income from other trading activities	50	-	50
	5,579	57,906	63,485

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	*Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*	*Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Income from MBP Sales	*2,791*	*-*	*2,791*
Income from contracts and other activities	*2,018*	*8,857*	*10,875*
Income from community and ticketed events	*2,238*	*-*	*2,238*
Income from e-bikes	*195*	*-*	*195*
	7,242,	*8,857*	*16,099*

5. Total expenditure

	Staff Costs Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Other direct costs Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Indirect costs Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Raising funds	37,714	1,364	2,834	**41,912**
Charitable activities	221,374	248,204	34,055	**503,633**
	259,088	**249,568**	**36,889**	**545,545**

	Staff Costs Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	*Other direct costs Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*	*Indirect costs Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*	*Total Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Raising funds	*36,586*	*1,666*	*4,748*	*43,000*
Charitable activities	*259,281*	*83,028*	*42,488*	*384,797*
	295,867	*84,694*	*47,236*	*427,797*

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centers proportionate to the direct staff and other costs allocated to those activities.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 7.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 8.

5. Total Expenditure (continued from previous page)

Indirect costs include:

	Total Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	*Total Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Other people costs	10,010	*18,186*
Professional services	12,039	*13,269*
Premises	2,772	*6,948*
Administration	4,239	*1,574*
Governance	7,829	*7,259*
	36,889	*47,236*

Governance costs include:

	Total Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	*Total Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Independent examination and accounts preparation	2,010	*1,950*
Insurance	5,462	*5,054*
Other	357	*255*
	7,829	*7,259*

6. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	**Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £**	**Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £**
Staff costs	-	37,714	**37,714**
Other direct costs	1,364	-	**1,364**
Indirect costs	430	2,404	**2,834**
	1,794	**40,118**	**41,912**

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	*Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*	*Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Staff costs	*3,478*	*33,108*	*36,586*
Other direct costs	*1,666*	*-*	*1,666*
Indirect costs	*426*	*4,322*	*4,748*
	5,570	*37,430*	*43,000*

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Staff costs	24,470	196,904	**221,374**
Other direct costs	2,164	246,040	**248,204**
Indirect costs	5,161	28,894	**34,055**
	31,795	**471,838**	**503,633**

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	*Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*	*Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Staff costs	*24,648*	*234,633*	*259,281*
Other direct costs	*6,620*	*76,408*	*83,028*
Indirect costs	*3,830*	*38,658*	*42,488*
	35,098	*349,699*	*384,797*

8. Staff costs

	Total Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	*Total Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Salaries	**229,888**	*258,713*
Employer's NIC	**17,974**	*19,064*
Employer's pension	**11,226**	*18,090*
	259,088	*295,867*

The average headcount during the period was 8 persons (2025: 9 persons)

No employee received employee benefits above £60,000.

The total employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the year was £83,051 (2025: £80,263).

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Project equipment £	Total £
Cost		
As at 1 April 2025	36,135	36,135
Disposals	-	-
As at 31 March 2026	**36,135**	**36,135**
Accumulated depreciation		
As at 1 April 2025	28,543	28,543
Charge for the year	1,519	1,519
Elimination on disposal	-	-
As at 31 March 2026	**30,062**	**30,062**
Net Book Vale		
As at 1 April 2025	**7,592**	**7,592**
As at 31 March 2026	**6,073**	**6,073**

10. Debtors and prepayments

	Total Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	*Total Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Trade debtors	**26,669**	*4,717*
Prepayments	**5,332**	*3,006*
Accrued grant income	**4,342**	*1,232*
Gift aid	**221**	*-*
	36,564	*8,955*

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	*Total Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Accounts payable	**46,715**	*6,547*
Accruals	**16,448**	*2,266*
Deferred revenue	**298,604**	*555,487*
HMRC Control account	**5,472**	*5,445*
Other creditors	**-**	*5,000*
	367,239	*574,745*

Deferred income consists of grants received in 2025 – 2026 for the next financial period.

12. Analysis of charity funds

	Balance Brought forward Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Income in period Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Expenditure In period Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Transfer Between Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Balance carried forward Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	17,973	-	-	3,896	**21,869**
Redundancy	**17,973**	**-**	**-**	**3,896**	**21,869**
Designated funds	107,894	57,420	(33,589)	(3,896)	**127,829**
General funds	**125,867**	**57,420**	**(33,589)**	**-**	**149,698**
Unrestricted funds					
Restricted funds					
Birds Aware					
- LCC – MB Visitors Survey	-	48,906	(39,620)	-	**9,286**
Birkrigg Common					
- Ulverston Town Council / CGP	-	500	-	-	**500**
Blue Influencers					
- Ernest Cook Trust	(143)	20,000	(15,265)	-	**4,592**
Experience Morecambe Bay					
- W & F Council/CCF5	37,711	87,261	(69,479)	-	**55,493**
- Active Travel	20,000	-	(20,000)	-	**-**
Our Future Coast					
- Engagement (funded by Wyre Council)	2,871	202,427	(118,174)	-	**87,124**
- Historical Coastal Community Change (funded by Wyre Council)	2,931	108,965	(100,024)	-	**11,872**
Youth Engagement					
- The Areti Charitable Trust	-	42,410	(15,694)	-	**26,716**
All Aboard					
- Awards for All NLCF	-	19,049	(19,049)	-	**-**
- The Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	**-**
Arnside to Grange Trail					
- W& F Council	63,625	-	(63,625)	-	**-**
Landscape Connections					
- LCC A&S National Landscape	1,001	5,000	(6,001)	-	**-**
- The Halpin Trust	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	**-**
- National Trust	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	**-**
- RSPB	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	**-**
Outdoor Learning					
- Ernest Cook Trust	1,200	15,000	(16,200)	-	**-**
Putting Business in Its Place					
- The Halpin Trust	4,825	-	(4,825)	-	**-**
Restricted funds	**134,021**	**573,518**	**(511,956)**	**-**	**195,583**
Total funds	**259,888**	**630,938**	**(545,545)**	**-**	**345,281**

12. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

Redundancy
These are funds set aside by the Trustees to cover any future redundancy costs.

Bird Aware
This project, funded by Lancaster City Council, enabled face-to-face surveys of visitors to key points around Morecambe Bay.

Birkrigg Common
This project, funded by Ulverston CGP Trust, trains volunteers in land management techniques including safe use of brushcutters.

Blue Influencers
A project to connect young people to create deep, lasting and meaningful connections with the natural world and their communities, funded by the Ernest Cook Trust.

Experience Morecambe Bay
A project to make the coast and countryside accessible to people who often can't visit. The project is funded by Westmorland & Furness Council through the Coastal Communities Fund (Department for Levelling Up).

Our Future Coast
Funded by the Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme through Wyre Council, this project works with communities to co-design, develop and test nature-based solutions for coastal risk management in the face of climate change.

Youth Engagement
Funded by the Areti Charitable Trust this project helps young people in Lancaster and Morecambe District to connect with nature in their local area and at Leighton Moss RSPB reserve.

All Aboard
Funded by Awards for All, this project helped to fund the running of the mobility vehicle hire service.

Arnside to Grange Trail
Arnside to Grange Trail: this project funded through the Westmorland & Furness Council Local Sustainable Travel and Transport Fund explored the feasibility of a 5km traffic-free route across the Kent Estuary between Arnside & Grange-over-Sands to Outline Business Case.

Landscape Connections
Phase 1 of a long-term project working in partnership to help nature recovery in the Arnside & Silverdale National Landscape. This phase is to support bid writing, project development and an application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund under their Landscape Connections strategic initiative to be submitted in February 2026.

Outdoor Learning
A project aiming to connect more young people with Morecambe Bay by creating outdoor learning opportunities for those facing barriers, funded by the Ernest Cook Trust.

Putting Business in its Place
The project created ways to raise funds from businesses, individuals, and others to support our work to help care for the internationally important coastal wildlife & natural environment of the Bay, funded by the Halpin Trust.

12. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

	Balance Brought forward Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Income in period Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Expenditure In period Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Transfer Between Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	Balance carried forward Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Redundancy	*16,954*	*-*	*-*	*1,019*	*17,973*
Designated funds	***16,954***			***1,019***	***17,973***
General funds	*94,296*	*55,285*	*(40,668)*	*(1,019)*	*107,894*
Unrestricted funds	***111,250***	***55,285***	***(40,668)***	*-*	***125,867***
Restricted funds					
Arnside to Grange Trail					
- W & F Council	*-*	*99,999*	*(36,374)*	*-*	***63,625***
Blue Influencers					
- Ernest Cook Trust	*193*	*20,018*	*(20,354)*	*-*	***(143)***
Experience Morecambe Bay					
- W & F Council/CCF5	*51,494*	*123,770*	*(137,553)*	*-*	***37,711***
- Active Travel	*20,000*	*-*	*-*	*-*	***20,000***
Landscape Connections					
- LCC A&S National Landscape	*-*	*8,857*	*(7,856)*	*-*	***1,001***
Our Future Coast					
- Engagement (funded by Wyre Council)	*639*	*40,163*	*(37,931)*	*-*	***2,871***
- Historical Coastal Community Change (funded by Wyre Council)	*6,520*	*38,371*	*(41,960)*	*-*	***2,931***
Outdoor Learning					
- Ernest Cook Trust	*-*	*15,000*	*(13,800)*	*-*	***1,200***
- Outdoor Learning Appeal	*1,513*	*-*	*(1,513)*	*-*	*-*
- Francis Scott Trust	*-*	*3,000*	*(3,000)*	*-*	*-*
- UKSPF LCC	*-*	*4,348*	*(4,348)*	*-*	*-*
- CLA Charitable Trust	*-*	*1,573*	*(1,573)*	*-*	*-*
Putting Business in Its Place					
- The Halpin Trust	*9,231*	*76,461*	*(80,867)*	*-*	*4,825*
Restricted funds	*89,590*	*431,560*	*(387,129)*	*-*	*134,021*
Total funds	*200,840*	*486,845*	*(427,797)*	*-*	*259,888*

13. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £	Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2026 £
Fixed assets	6,073	-	**6,073**
Current assets	153,265	553,182	**706,447**
Current liabilities	(9,640)	(357,599)	**(367,239)**
	149,698	**195,583**	**345,281**

13. Analysis of net assets (continued from previous page)

	Unrestricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £	*Restricted Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*	*Total Funds Year ended 31 Mar 2025 £*
Fixed assets	*7,592*	*-*	*7,592*
Current assets	*151,163*	*675,878*	*827,041*
Current liabilities	*(32,888)*	*(541,857)*	*(574,745)*
	125,867	*134,021*	*259,888*

14. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration in respect of trustee services (2025: £nil). No member of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of expenses (2025: one member of the board received reimbursement of £42 for travel expenses).

15. Related party transactions

During the year two trustees (2025: one) were paid for their involvement in the projects of the charity. Emma Parsons, acting as Emma Parsons Consulting, was paid £11,825 (2025: £2,338) in connection with fees for consultancy in assisting with the delivery of the Landscape Connections project. Lucy Baird was paid £1,760 (2025: £ nil) in connection with fees assisting in the delivery of the Our Future Coast – Historical Coastal Change Visioning Project.