



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/directors/members of

British Institute for Geological Conservation Ltd

On accounts for the year ended

April 2023

Charity no.:

1016312

Company no.:

02775501

Set out on pages

3-6

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 3 / 04 / 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the **charity's** trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the **Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act")**.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your **charity's accounts as carried out** under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("**the 2011 Act**"). **In carrying out my examination, I have** followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that:

- **accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or**
- **the accounts do not accord with such records; or**
- **the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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; or**
- **the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).**

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: Date:

Name:

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Address:

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING April 4th 2023

INCOME	Current year	Previous year
Interest on Business Account	£492.62	£13.90
Geologists' Assoc. (Capel Horeb)	NIL	£3,071.62
Evolution Garden Project		
Merthyr Tydfill CR (Levelling-Up Fund)	£124,268.32	£92,370.32
Refund from Pest Control work	£245.94	NIL
Wales Council for Voluntary Action	NIL	£9,999.80
Misc.	£162.42	NIL
Fees for filming at Bendrick Rocks	£250.00	£250.00
TOTAL	<u>£125,363.30</u>	<u>£105,705.64</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Evolution Garden Project		
Employment Costs & Monitoring	£4,000.00	£6,153.72
Independent Project Monitoring	£4,350.00	NIL
Development Officer Costs	£70,000.00	£20,000.00
Educational equipment	£10,315.06	£320.02
Education consultancy	£15,000.00	NIL
Gardening equipment	£2,639.70	£22,749.70
Greenhouse Construction	£25,459.77	NIL
Ecological Survey Equipment	£5,194.62	NIL
PPE	£1,975.73	NIL
Pest Control	£387.93	NIL
Event Catering	£125.26	NIL
Postage	£96.05	NIL
Bendrick Rocks Aerial Survey	£700.00	NIL
Capel Horeb		
Interpretation boards design	NIL	£2,110.00
Bank Charges	£65.97	£15.00
TOTAL	<u>£140,310.09</u>	<u>£51,348.44</u>
TRANSFER TO (FROM) RESERVES	-£15,053.21	
RESERVES		
Business Manager Account	£137,233.57	
Community Account	£6,203.13	
TOTAL	<u>£143,436.70</u>	

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING April 4th 2023

ASSETS

	Current year	Previous year
A. Called up share capital not paid	NIL	NIL
B. Fixed Assets		
Land	£45,000.00	£45,000.00
Library	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
C. Current Assets		
Stocks	NIL	NIL
Debtors	NIL	NIL
Investments	NIL	NIL
Cash in Bank	£143,436.70	£158,489.91
D. Prepayments and accrued income	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	<u>£189,436.70</u>	<u>£204,489.91</u>

LIABILITIES

A. Capital and Reserves	£189,436.70	£204,489.91
B. Provisions for liabilities and charges	NIL	NIL
C. Creditors	NIL	NIL
D. Accruals and deferred income	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	<u>£189,436.70</u>	<u>£204,489.91</u>

Notes

- For the year ending 4 April 2023 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.
- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

British Institute for Geological Conservation

Annual Report 2022–2023

The bulk of this year's activities were centred on the *Merthyr's Roots* project, which following a visit from Mr Michael Gove (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) has been supported by the Community Renewal Fund (CRF – “Levelling Up Fund”). The project is based at Cyfarthfa Castle greenhouses and country park, and aims to educate the local communities about their important natural heritage.

The project has benefited a range of stakeholders with varying abilities and needs, including 2532 children and young people, and 400 adults (mainly teachers, educators and group leaders). A Total of 117 workshop sessions were delivered, each tailored to a specific audience. The events considered the impact and significance of climate change and biodiversity loss; we have handled bugs, studied natural cycles, considered fossil fuels, made small worlds, looked locally and thought globally and discovered our own evidence for climate change. We have also considered mass extinctions, the plight of pollinators, and conjured with the complexities of co-evolution of plants and animals. We also had an extensive programme of walks and talks based on the rich natural and man-made environment of the area. These included climate change sessions, fungi forays, foraging and wild foods, geological talks, fossil hunts, ecological surveys of reptiles, amphibians, small mammals, wild birds, nocturnal wildlife, invasive species, co-evolution of plants and animals, the wood wide web and nature's interconnectivity, moth trapping, bat surveys, seed and mast harvesting.

Mainstreaming and showcasing disability has been a significant component of this project. This has included:

- Employing three disabled Social Service Clients for 6 months to help deliver the project;
- Together with the People First (disability advocacy group), holding an 8-week programme of events including fossil hunting, terrarium building, walks and talks, biodiversity surveying, making pooters, Life that Glows, and foraging;
- Having Volunteering Greenhouse Social Service clients and NHS mental health groups to help with the running and maintenance of the project, including supporting events, pest control and pruning, planting and preparation for events, hospitality and public engagement.

The project has worked closely with schools and home school networks, LA Education Department staff, NHS practitioners, and the Police and Probation Services. We have also worked extensively with specialist interest groups including historical societies, horticultural and nature conservation groups.

We have also engaged with the Heads of the Valleys *Future Valleys* project and Tilbury Douglas at Prince Charles hospital, as well as the Cyfarthfa Foundation. We have collaborated with Cyfarthfa Museum Staff, TV & Welsh Language production companies. local business owners, land owners, the film and tourist sectors, local and regional stakeholders. These organisations have all become aware of the project and participated in or contributed to its activities.

We encouraged groups to use new places, to revisit historic places, to use and champion threatened spaces. We have encouraged the use of old maps and historic documents and used Welsh words nearly forgotten. We made familiar places foreign by adding darkness and encouraged participants to look at the world they thought they knew with fresh eyes. Saving spaces for future generations has become a key part of project delivery for future project.

Other BIGC projects during the year have included:

- Capel Horeb – maintenance work to clear a rock-fall that partly obscured the exposure, and the design of geodiversity interpretation boards funded by the Curry Fund (Geologists' Association);
- Bendrick Rock – design of geodiversity interpretation boards funded by Natural Resources Wales and dealing with media profile of site including request from Michael Portillo to film there for his Great British Railway Journeys series;
- Evolution Garden at Cyfarthfa Castle – further plant purchases and interpretation (this project has evolved into the *Merthyr's Roots* project);
- Development of set of papers on geoconservation for the journal *Geoheritage*.