



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **1/1/2024** Period start date To **31/12/2024** Period end date

Charity name: **Bumble Hole Conservation Group**

Charity registration number: **1054674**

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The Object of Bumble Hole Conservation Group (BHCG) as outlined in the Constitution is: For the public benefit, to conserve, develop, and enhance the flora, fauna and heritage of Bumble Hole and Warrens Hall Local Nature Reserves by educating and informing visitors about conservation and the heritage of the reserves, and encouraging involvement in the care of the reserves by being fully inclusive of the local community and reflecting its diversity.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The Visitor Centre, located at Bumble Hole, is the headquarters for BHCG. The premises are provided by Dudley MBC on a long-term rolling lease. Activities on the Reserves are co-ordinated from the Visitor Centre. These include litter picking across the site, landscape management, removing fallen trees, planting wild flowers and bulbs, weeding pathways and steps and mowing towpaths as required. There are established line of communication with DMBC and SMBC where issues beyond the capabilities of the volunteers can be reported. The Visitor Centre is open to the public from 10-2 on Monday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday and additionally on Fridays during school holidays – subject to there being sufficient volunteers available to safely open the Centre. Hot drinks and refreshments are sold for fundraising purposes, along with small souvenirs – key rings, canal boats, calendars, Christmas cards etc. There are several items of local history on display and reference books for members of the public to use.

		<p>Membership at the end of 2024 was 443, an excellent growth from 136 at the end of 2023. This exceeded our expectations and on the back of this, we have recruited several new volunteers from our membership base.</p> <p>Members Only events were introduced in the second half of the year including quiz nights and tunnel walks. The Black Country Boating Festival in September once again was an exceptional fundraiser for BHCG with sales of crafts, cakes, toys and jigsaws. A donation was made to BCBF as a community event and also BUGS Ukelele Band's charity fundraising was supported by BHCG.</p> <p>Charitable events were held in the year for Pepper Pet Rescue, MacMillan, Wychbold Swan Rescue, The Royal British Legion and 'Amelia's Fund' – raising funds for specialised cancer treatment for local child.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>Trustees have regard to the guidance on public benefit. The Visitor Centre is open on a regular basis with the local community enjoy using the Centre for meeting up. Local walking groups, canal boat owners, boat trips and Let's Fish events and Angling Academy hosted by Canal and River Trust (CRT) have all benefited from using the facilities in the Visitor Centre.</p> <p>Local schools and cubs groups have used the centre. The Wildlife Trust and The Birmingham and Black Country Invertebrate Group were both welcomed during the year.</p> <p>Sustrans Bicycle checks have been successfully supported at the Visitor Centre and two Childrens Craft events took place during the year.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	

Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>Without volunteers, BHCG would cease to exist. The team undertake a variety of activities. Outside on the Reserve they litter pick, plant, weed and maintain the site. Once they have received training on power tools, they can use the equipment purchased by the charity for strimming, hedge trimming, mowing etc. When there is a Trustee available to lead activities, these occur daily from 10-12.</p> <p>Inside the Visitor Centre, volunteers make drinks, keep the centre clean, chat with the visitors and provide information on local heritage. All volunteers are provided with equipment needed, along with protective clothing and footwear. The uniform provided includes polo shirts and fleeces.</p>
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Tripling our membership in 2024 was fantastic. The local community has benefited from the regular opening of the Visitor Centre with a real feeling of friendship and camaraderie developing. During 2024, the Visitor Centre was tidied and the display boards updated with more relevant information.</p> <p>Out on the reserve in collaboration with the Wildlife Trust, a wildflower meadow was established just inside the Gads Green entrance with thousands of seeds and plug plants being planted.</p> <p>Quarterly newsletters for BHCG Members were introduced in 2024 to provide feedback on charitable activities, the Nature Reserve and to advise on forthcoming events.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	

Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At December 2024, the amount of income over expenditure stood at £25,324.35. For the same period in 2023, the figure was £12,664.81. The Trustees were delighted that engagement with the local community was continuing to be demonstrated by the strong performance of sales and membership take up.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	All funds held within the BHCG Bank Account are classed as reserves. No individual Trustee can sanction any expense in excess of £200 without obtaining full agreement from all Trustees. We still remain on a rolling lease and therefore there is still a strong likelihood that DMBC will change the lease to a fully-repairing lease and the charity will then be wholly responsible for the building and its maintenance. A level of reserves will need to be ringfenced to cover any emergency repairs, for example roof leaks and electrical faults.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£86,911.79
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	In addition to the sale of refreshments, snacks, souvenirs etc BHCG hold raffles at Spring, Summer and Christmas, Craft Fayres (2 in the year) and using locally sourced materials from the Reserve our volunteers create Christmas Trees which are very popular.

Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are appointed by the Members of BHCG at the AGM. Existing Trustees must resign and put themselves forward for re-election at each AGM. Additional Trustees can be appointed by the Trustees – again these Trustees must resign at the next AGM.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Bumble Hole Conservation Group
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1054674
Charity's principal address	Visitor Centre Windmill End Netherton Dudley DY2 9HU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Brenda Myers	Chair	1/4/23 – 31/12/24	Membership at AGM
2	Jayne Walker	Vice Chair	1/4/23 – 31/12/24	Membership at AGM
3	Ann Horton	Secretary	1/4/23 – 31/12/24	Membership at AGM
4	Maureen Tierney	Treasurer	19/10/23 – 31/12/24	Membership at AGM
5	Tess Phillips-Silk		1/4/23 – 31/12/24	Membership at AGM
6	Paul Herbert		26/3/24 – 31/12/24	Membership at AGM
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Ann E Horton	
Full name(s)	Ann Elizabeth Horton	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	
Date	14 October 2025	

Independent Examiners Statement

*In connection with my examination of the books
no matters of concern have come to my attention.
Therefore I believe that the Statement of Accounts
is a true and fair representation
of the finances of Bumble Hole Conservation Group
for the year ending 31st December 2024.*

*Neil Roberts
95a St Peters Road,
Netherton,
Dudley.
DY2 9HN*

30th January 2025



STATEMENT of ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31st December 2024

Reg. Charity Number 1054674

STATEMENT OF INCOME and EXPENDITURE

12 Months to 31st December 2024

RECEIPTS

Takings and Items Resold	45645.24
Memberships	2072.00
Donations	4537.68
External Donations	3659.90
Canal & River Trust	274.41
Charity Events	2498.20
Community Events (BUGS & BCBF)	202.50
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 58889.93

PAYMENTS

Items for Resale	15870.21
Donations	4632.00
Utilities	2920.12
Phones and Technology	382.06
Insurance	659.24
Office Equip, Stationery and Sundry Expenses	3329.77
Outdoor Expenses and Maintenance	2776.63
Uniforms	989.39
Training	55.20
Community Events (BUGS & BCBF)	1027.50
Sum Up Card Charges	226.51
Dudley MBC	696.95
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 33565.58

Amount of Income over Expenditure **£ 25324.35**

BALANCE SHEET

at 31st December 2024

Balance at 1st January 2024	61587.44
Plus Income over Expenditure	25324.35
Balance at 31st December 2024	£ 86911.79

BALANCES IN HAND at 31st DECEMBER 2024

Balance at Bank	86651.79
Cash in Hand	260.00
	£ 86911.79

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