Whitby Wildlife Sanctuary

Trustees' Annual Return

Charity number: 1185213
Financial year: 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Whitby Wildlife Sanctuary exists to relieve the suffering of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife, and to promote the conservation and welfare of native species. The charity provides rescue, rehabilitation and release services for wildlife in need, alongside education and awareness activities aimed at increasing public understanding of wildlife welfare and conservation.

Throughout the year, the Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when exercising their powers and duties, and in planning and carrying out the charity's activities.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

During 2025, Whitby Wildlife Sanctuary made significant progress in strengthening its infrastructure, facilities and capacity to deliver high-quality wildlife care.

A programme of site-wide electrical upgrades was completed across the sanctuary. These essential infrastructure improvements enhanced safety, reliability and resilience, and provide a foundation to support future development and increased operational demands.

The sanctuary continued to develop and enhance its custom-built wildlife care facilities, including aviaries, mammal enclosures and dedicated rehabilitation spaces. These improvements form part of an ongoing plan to ensure that facilities remain aligned with the needs of different species and evolving animal welfare standards.

A major milestone during the year was the completion and commissioning of the Small Mammals Cabin, which became fully operational in 2025 following unavoidable delays linked to the wider electrical works. The purpose-built cabin provides species-appropriate enclosures, dedicated treatment and weighing areas, and a quieter, safer environment for vulnerable small mammals. The cabin is already in use and has improved both animal welfare outcomes and staff and volunteer safety.

Throughout the year, the sanctuary remained open 365 days a year, responding to wildlife emergencies across the region. During 2025, the sanctuary admitted close to 3000 injured, sick and orphaned wild animals. At year end, over 300 animals remained in care, reflecting sustained demand for the charity's services.

Alexandra Smith

CEO

Signature: _____

Date: 13.10.26

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm that the charity's activities during the year provided clear public benefit. Improved facilities and infrastructure enabled safer, more effective care for wildlife, improved biosecurity, and enhanced volunteer and staff safety. The charity's work also contributed to increased public awareness of wildlife welfare issues.

SAFEGUARDING

The charity recognises its responsibilities towards young people and vulnerable adults. Appropriate safeguarding and privacy policies are in place, and the Trustees are committed to ensuring that all activities are carried out safely and responsibly.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial statements for the year have been prepared by the charity's appointed accountants and are submitted alongside the Trustees' Annual Report as part of the charity's annual return to the Charity Commission.

RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees maintain reserves at a level considered sufficient to ensure the 3 months ongoing operation of the charity and to provide resilience against unexpected costs or fluctuations in income. The reserves policy is reviewed regularly.

FUTURE PLANS

One of the charity's key priorities moving into 2026 is the completion of a new Quarantine Building, which was under construction during 2025. This facility will allow the sanctuary to safely isolate new admissions and unwell birds, strengthen biosecurity, protect existing patients, staff and volunteers, and enable the continuation of rescue work during disease outbreaks such as avian influenza. The building will also provide a calm, controlled environment for animals requiring close monitoring.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Whitby Wildlife Sanctuary is governed by its Trustees, who are responsible for setting the strategic direction of the charity and overseeing its management. Trustees meet regularly and ensure the charity operates in accordance with its governing document.

TRUSTEES WHO SERVED DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR

Laurie Farmer - Chair

Sam Taylor - Secretary

Mark Smith - Finance Officer

Carole Hardwick - Trustee

Siobhan Taylor - Trustee, appointed 5 July 2025

Courtney Wright - Trustee, appointed 5 July 2025

James Burnelli - Trustee, appointed 5 July 2025

Catherine Law - Trustee, ceased to be a trustee 13 November 2025

Jennifer Law - Trustee, ceased to be a trustee 13 November 2025

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have implemented appropriate controls and procedures. Adequate reserves are maintained to assist the charity in responding to unforeseen events or emergencies.

WHITBY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Registered charity CIO: 1185213

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

DRAYCOTT & KIRK
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Cleveland House
92 Westgate
Guisborough
Cleveland
TS14 6AP

WHITBY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

SUPPORT GROUP INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

Trustees	Laurie Farmer	Chair
	Sam Taylor	Secretary
	Mark Smith	Finance
	Catherine Law	
	Jennifer Law	
	Carole Hardwick	
	Siobhan Taylor	
	Courtney Wright	
	James Burnelli	

Address	Broomfields Farm Stainsacre Lane Whitby YO22 4NW
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc
Accountants	Draycott & Kirk LLP Cleveland House 92 Westgate Guisborough Cleveland TS14 6AP

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Whitby Wildlife Sanctuary

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are attached.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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 statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

C N Mason F.C.C.A

Chartered Certified Accountant

Draycolt & Kirk
Cleveland House
92 Westgate
Guisborough
Cleveland
TS14 6AP

Date 25/9/26

WHITBY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Receipts and payments account for the year ended 31st December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024
Incoming Resources					
Grants		1,000		1,000	10,500
Text donations		760		760	5,908
Cash/cheque donations		67,703		67,703	22,978
Paypal donations		2,338		2,338	705
Event payments		4,130		4,130	8,809
Gift Aid		38,940		38,940	17,829
Donations via bank transfer		29,860		29,860	42,440
CAF donations		43,955		43,955	38,911
Facebook donations		14,767		14,767	27,083
Shop sales		39,171		39,171	53,975
Other income		2,444		2,444	-
Total Incoming Resources		245,067	-	245,067	229,138
Expenditure					
Direct charitable expenditure					
Food and bedding		17,231		17,231	17,131
Equipment		16,864		16,864	13,037
Building materials /housing		19,430		19,430	56,590
Van fuel and maintenance		2,743		2,743	782
Vet bills		24,821		24,821	27,679
Telephone and internet		1,107		1,107	1,173
Mortgage payments		8,441		8,441	7,951
Wages		64,871		64,871	44,833
Volunteer expenses		-		-	-
Administration/other		15,447		15,447	9,869
Independent Examiners report		600		600	-
Shop rent		23,910		23,910	27,231
Utililites		15,556		15,556	15,582
Shop fittings		-		-	3,053
Shop merchandise		-		-	1,343
Total Expenditure		211,022	-	211,022	226,254
Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources		34,046		34,046	2,884
Transfers between funds				-	-
Total funds brought forward		55,371		55,371	52,487
Total funds carried forward		89,417	-	89,417	55,371

WHITBY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2025

Funds	2025 £	2024 £
Cash at bank	48,571	19,419
Reserve a/c	40,846	35,952
	89,417	55,371

Assets retained for the Charity's own use

Land & Buildings
Equipment & fixtures & fittings

	2025	2024
Gift Aid due	-	3,983
	-	3,983

Liabilities	2025	2024
Vet bill payable	-	2,014
Independent examination	600	600
	600	2,614

Long term Liabilities	2025	2024
Mortgage	30,442	36,136

The annual report and accounts were approved by the Trustees on 16/09/26

Signed .....

Full name MARK SMITH

WHITBY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025

1 Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and are in accordance with the Charities act and Charities Accounting Statement Of Recommended Practice (SORP).

a. All grants and voluntary income are accounted for gross when receivable, as long as they are capable of financial measurement.

b. All expenditure is accounted for including VAT when incurred.

c. Transfers are made from restricted funds to unrestricted funds when grants are approved.

d. Reserves policy: The trustees have considered the level of reserves needed in order to maintain the ongoing activities of the charity. The trustees consider that an amount representing 3 months essential running costs are advisable.

2 Grants Receivable

	Resticted	Unresricted	Total
Charities Trust		1,000	1,000
	-	1,000	1,000

The restricted grants were for the purpose of property improvements and were fully expended during the year.

3 Funds

	Opening balance	Incoming resources	Transfer between funds	Outgoing resources	Closing balance
Unrestricted funds	55,371	245,067	-	211,022	89,417
Restricted funds	-				-
Total funds	55,371	245,067	-	211,022	89,417

4 Transactions with trustee's and connected persons

During the year there was no transactions with connected persons.

5 Control

The charity is under the control of the Trustees.

APPROVAL OF THE TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2025 was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

Carole Hardwick
Acting Chair

Signature: _____

Date: 12/10/2026

James Burnelli
Acting Chair

Signature: _____

Date: 14.10.2026