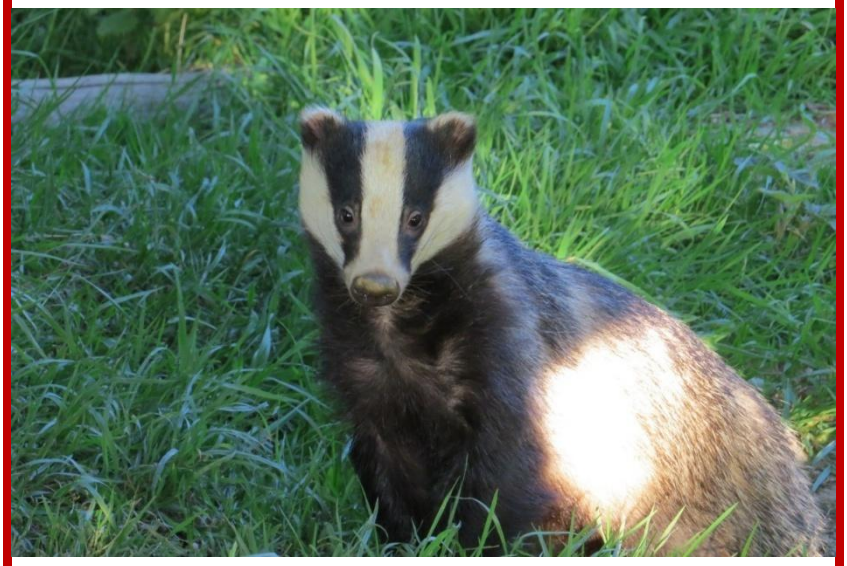
Oxfordshire Badger Group

Registered Charity (England and Wales) 1186850



Annual Report

2025 - 2026

Financial Statement

for the year ended 31st Dec 2025

Approved at the

Annual General Meeting, 30th Sept 2026

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Reference and administrative details

Charity name:	Oxfordshire Badger Group
Type of charity:	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members
Registration details	Registered with the Charity Commission on 9th December 2019 The charity is registered with HM Revenue and Customs
Registration Number	Registered Charity in England and Wales number: 1186850
Charity address:	29 Webbs Way, Kidlington, OX5 2EW
Trustees who manage the charity	Julia Hammett (Chair)
	Richard Tilley (Treasurer)
	Linda Ward (Secretary)
	Eileen Anderson (Education and Outreach)
Banks	The Co-operative Bank, P O Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT (primary) PayPal (Europe) S.à r.l. et Cie, S.C.A. 22-24 Boulevard Royal L-2449 Luxembourg
Public Liability	Zurich insurance, The Zurich Centre, 3000 Parkway, Whiteley, Fareham, Hampshire PO15 7JZ

Structure, governance, and management

Type of governing document

Constitution: Based on the Charity Commission model governing document for a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members. Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Aims of the Charity

As defined in our Constitution (Governing Document) the charity's objects are:

1. To promote, for the public benefit, the conservation and protection of badgers, their setts and habitats in Oxfordshire and elsewhere; and
2. To advance the education of the public on the ecology, behaviour and protected status of badgers, their setts and habitats.

Trustees, committee, and organisational approach

Oxfordshire Badger Group (OBG) is a small wildlife welfare charity which promotes the conservation and protection of badgers, their setts and habitats in Oxfordshire and beyond.

This is our sixth annual trustees report since becoming a registered charity in December 2019. It covers the period 1st January 2025 to 31th July 2026. It describes how our group has continued to meet the charities objectives during this time.

Our Constitution specifies that there must be at least 3 charity trustees to a maximum of 12. The Chair, Treasurer and Secretary are ex officio charity trustees. The trustees during the period of this report were: Julia Hammett (Chair), Richard Tilley (Treasurer), Linda Ward (Secretary) and Eileen Anderson (Education and Outreach). The charities organisational approach is one where key decisions and planning are performed collectively within a committee in which the trustees work alongside other volunteers. The trustee's have formally delegated responsibility for day-to-day operational decision making to the committee.

At the Annual General Meeting held 30th September 2026, our Treasurer, Richard Tilley stepped down and has accepted Honorary Membership. Cathi Tilly was elected to the position of Treasurer and ex-officio Trustee. We look forward to working with her.

The Charity is seeking to recruit additional trustees and committee members. In appointing an additional or replacement trustee, due consideration will be given to ensuring that the trustees have, between them, the skills and experience necessary to manage the charity effectively and in accordance with charity law. Similar considerations apply to committee membership.

Oxfordshire Badger Group is funded entirely by public donations and grants. The group has no paid staff and is run by volunteers.

Statutory declaration of charitable activities

The trustees of Oxfordshire Badger Group confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding which activities the charity should undertake.

Message from our Chair

Volunteers have been kept busy with rescue, planning applications and our outreach/education programme amongst other activities aimed at helping badgers. Our vaccination programme came to an end in 2025 after 7 amazing years and many thanks to Debbie for leading the team of dedicated volunteers who put in so many hours of their time. The WhatsApp groups covering different parts of the county are an effective way of coordinating rescue and for responding to RTAs, especially checking for lactating sows. We are grateful to all those involved.

OBG owns a small ancient woodland - Hutchcomb's Copse on Cumnor Hill. During March 2026 our Trustee Linda organised a 'match funding' appeal that succeeded in raising over £9,000 in just two weeks. This allowed us to repay all of the remaining purchase loan and completely secure this beautiful ancient woodland. This achievement represents a major milestone in the history of the charity. A huge thank you for the heartwarming generosity of nature lovers not only in Oxfordshire , but all over the country and even abroad!

The badger cull figures for 2025/6, after a decade of licensed badger culling show alarmingly that 254,038 badgers have been killed, over half of the population (estimated in the last national survey carried out in 2011) The Government's new Bovine TB strategy signals a move away from licensed badger culling but still continues to place emphasis on badgers through a costly vaccination programme. Oxford University scientists' work has been used as evidence by successive Governments to justify this devastating and unprecedented wildlife control programme of a protected species. OBG has tried to engage with those scientists involved. Any future efforts to tackle bTB nationally must focus on cattle not badgers. The cull has had a disastrous impact on the badger population in Oxfordshire and nationally, but the effects of climate change could be an even greater threat for the long-term future of badgers and other wildlife, as the long drought this summer has shown.

OBG relies on a small team of dedicated committee members to drive our charitable work. Special thanks, therefore, to two committee member who have stepped down. Barbara for all her hard work over 10 years, on meticulous RTA and sett record keeping and her valuable contribution to the vaccination programme. She left the Committee in October 2025 and was replaced by Becci.

Richard Tilley, who has been a member since 1993 is leaving us for the tranquillity of Scotland. Richard has served on the Committee for over 10 years, first as Survey Officer before becoming our Treasurer in 2018. He helped lead OBG's transition into a registered charity. He has done a magnificent job as Treasurer and as trustee, taking on the additional charity financial reporting and budget management responsibilities. His work enabled the major fund-raising efforts needed to run the vaccination programme, and purchase Hutchcomb's Copse.

Oxfordshire badgers face many challenges but with your support we will continue to help them together. There are so many friends of badgers out there including Matt Hobbs, who kindly raised nearly £1,000 for OBG from a performance of his brilliant comedy show, 100% Badgers
We thank everyone who has donated to allow our work to continue.

Julia Hammett

Activities and achievements – our officers reports

Membership secretary report

Our charity is run by and for, our 'voting members' who work with the trustees and committee to decide how we can best meet our mission to protect and celebrate the badgers of Oxfordshire. It is important to ensure that we keep in touch with members. We encourage people to play an active role and to give as much or as little time to volunteering as they feel able.

Membership is open to anyone who is interested in supporting the charities aims.

At the time of reporting, we have 97 members and the number remains stable.

1. Membership fee is fixed at £12 per household (people living at same address) per year.
2. A concessionary membership fee of £6 per household is available to students and people on low income.
3. OBG pays £2 of the membership fee to the Badger Trust. This entitles members to attend Badger Trust training events and Annual General Meetings.
4. Membership will lapse if the membership fee if not paid in full withing six months of receiving a final reminder that payment is due.
5. We provide mentoring / training and have produced protocols and guidelines for people taking part in our core 'field based' volunteer activities.
6. Our 'social' activities (that do not require training) are open to non-members.

We offer training and mentorship along with social opportunities. Over the past year we have worked to bring in a number of new policies. These are aimed at supporting / protecting our volunteers and others and ensure compliance with best practice for charities. These include:

- Code of Conduct
- Safeguarding Policy
- Serious Incident Reporting

We have a total of 423 subscribers to our free mailing list (including our members). Again, this number is quite stable. The level of engagement with our communications can be shown by the Mailchimp 'subscriber star rating'. Engaged subscribers (4-5 star) open our emails and click through on links regularly, while less engaged subscribers (1-3 stars do so less frequently.

Among our members, 58% are highly engaged, as are 46% of other followers. We have not explored which type of communications are most popular. However, we try only to send messages that are relevant to helping badgers and encouragingly the 'unsubscribe rate is low.

Looking at location, we find that nearly 85% of our members live in Oxfordshire, with the remainder prepared to travel from neighboring counties or even further. By District the current breakdown is: Cherwell 23%, Oxford City 24%, S Oxon 11%, Vale 18% and West Oxon 10%.

Volunteers needed !

Oxfordshire Badger Group is run entirely by volunteers. As you will see from this report, we work to protect badgers and their habitats in many ways, with opportunities to take part in both field and office-based work. Both are equally vital to the continued success of the Group. If you have any time or expertise to offer, we'd love to hear from you.

Badger records

Oxfordshire Badger Group holds secure records of reported deaths, live sightings and setts dating back over five decades. This highly sensitive, confidential information is key to delivering our crucial rescue work and underpins all our activities.

We have a mutual data sharing agreement with the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) to facilitate connection between agencies and ensure that badgers and their habitats are considered and protected.

Oxfordshire Badger Group welcomes the opportunity to liaise with ecologists, developers and Local Planning Authorities to share expertise in order to inform and improve development plans that embrace rather than exclude badgers from the environment.

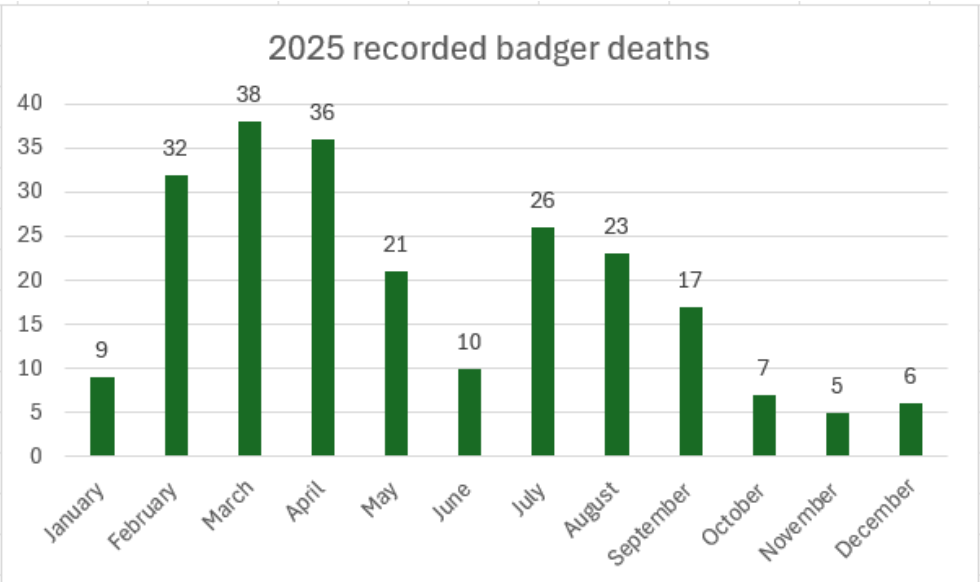
Casualty reports

Road Traffic Collision checks: A core group of OBG members from across the county volunteer to check dead badgers if safe to do so. They report back on the animal's health and arrange rescue if viable. Dead badgers are checked for gender and lactation status in case there may be vulnerable cubs nearby that require our assistance.

Table 1: Total number of badgers reported dead 2017 to 2026

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 so far
Deaths	95	161	165	150	287	271	210	245	230	183

January – December 2025



230 dead badgers were reported between 1st January 2025 and the end of December 2025. This total is just slightly lower than the 245 recorded in 2024.

Most badgers were killed on roads (96%). Details of the 8 other deaths are as follows:

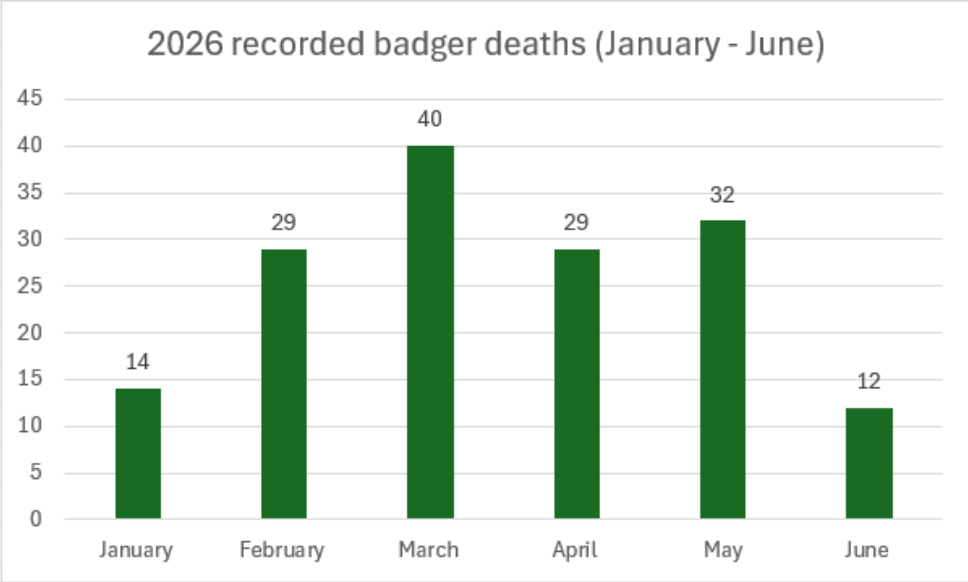
January: A dead female badger was found lying above ground at base of oak tree and appeared to be a natural death. The bodies of two long-dead badgers found at a badger sett. No evidence of anything suspicious. A cub was found next to a gate with no obvious wounds or injuries.

April: A dead badger was found under a footbridge in a residential area. A badger cub was found at the foot of a farm road.

June: a dead adult badger was found in a residential garden

August: A dead badger was found on a playing field, but with no signs of obvious injuries. Likely cause of death related to the high temperatures & lack of rain / food.

January – June 2026



155 dead badgers have been reported in 2026, during the period of January – end of June. All but one of these reports have been RTCs – in February, a dead badger was found by a warden of a nature reserve, which appeared to be a natural death.

Hotspots for deaths on the county's roads in 2025:



** n.b. although total figures include all dead badgers reported, in the case where no accurate location was given these records won't appear on the corresponding GIS map.*

	2025	**2026** (1st 6 months)
A34	16	13
A40	28	7
A420	44	17
A4074	6	10

Sett records:

Oxfordshire Badger Group holds details of setts that began to be recorded over fifty years ago. Our confidential archive reveals stories of the movements of badgers across the county: setts abandoned, destroyed or otherwise lost, new setts excavated, unknown setts discovered and ancient setts still in active, healthy use.

Reports of new setts come in from a variety of sources:

- From members of the public concerned about development of land where they know there is a sett.
- From sett surveying days organised by OBG to explore areas of the county where we have sparse records or where development is planned.
- From rescue callouts to injured or ill badgers across the county and from visits by OBG to concerned members of the public who seek advice about living with badgers.
- the work of our expert volunteers often uncovers badger setts and signs in new areas.

January – December 2025

A total of 73 new sett reports were added to the OBG records in 2025, along with several updates to older records.

January – end June 2026

A further 34 new records have been added so far into 2026, along with several more updates to older records.

The current number of records held by OBG is currently 1977.

Live badger sightings

A total of 14 live badger sightings were sent in during 2025, comprising of 19 badgers being seen. This number included two badger cubs being seen in a garden with an adult.

In 2026, two live sightings have been sent in, comprising of 1 badger in a residential garden, and 1 in a residential garden using an old pond for water. 11 separate live sightings of one or more badgers together.

Professional requests for data

We offer a data search service to professional agencies that have a legitimate reason to request information about the presence of badgers in a specific area. During the reporting period we received and responded to three requests from ecologists requesting a data search

Badger rescue and welfare

February 2025, we attended a rescue of a badger in a compost bin. A later X-ray indicated a tumour on his leg, and he was therefore euthanised.

March 2025, we picked up a badly injured badger that had been hit by a car. He died shortly after arriving at Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue (OWR.)

April 2025, a joint rescue with OWR of a badger cub separated from her family. The cub made a full recovery.

May 2025, a badger cub was found with a jam jar on its head. After a couple of weeks of treatment at OWR, she was ready to go back home. The first night we tried, we had no contact from any adults, but the cub was very excited. After seeking further advice, we released her at the sett hole the cub seemed most excited about. She disappeared down the sett very quickly.

July 2025, we rescued a large badger after it had been hit by a car. Unfortunately, he died at Tiggywinkles a few days later of pneumonia.

July 2025 a badger making a huge amount of noise in a garage. After a difficult rescue, the badger was taken to OWR, but he died under GA.

July 2025, we received a report of an injured badger crawling around about on the side of a road. After several hours of searching, the badger was never found.

July 2025, RTC, collected and taken to Tiggywinkles.

August 2025, badger stuck in a garage, rescued and taken to OWR

December 2025 – Territorial wound, rescued and taken to OWR

April 2026, joint rescue with OWR of a female adult trapped in a warehouse. The badger was taken to OWR but didn't survive

May 2026, badger cub rescued near a sett, after several attempted at reintroduction, it was clear the mother wasn't interested, and it wasn't safe to release back to the natal sett

May 2026, cub trapped in a garden after falling off a wall. She was checked over and returned to the natal sett the same day.

May 2026, two cubs rescued and taken to OWR

30th May – OWR rescued a cub. They asked for our help in returning the cub. We surveyed and deployed trail cameras, but no viable sett was found. It was decided not to return the cub

June 2026 - a report of a cub in Oxford with plastic around its middle. Trail cameras were deployed and after a few days, footage revealed that the plastic had come off.

June 2026 – injured cub. The cub had a broken foot and died shortly afterward reaching OWR.

July 2026 – report of a badger limping near a railway embankment, After reviewing trail camera footage and speaking to neighbours, it transpired that the badger had been limping for at least 2 years and some of the neighbours have been feeding him for that period of time and will continue to do so. Decision was made to leave him be.

August 2026 – report of a thin badger who was weak on his back legs on a farm. The badger was gone by the time we arrived. No sign after an hour searching. Left it that the landowner would put food and water out and phone if the badger returned.

Rescue Summary

4 road traffic collisions

9 badger cubs

2 trapped badgers

1 territorial bite wounds

3 illness

A massive thank you to all those volunteers that spent their time out searching for rescuing badgers. Thank you to the rescue centres involved especially Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue.

The past few years have shown the importance of the member of public that reports in the badger, stays with it, if at all possible. This saves time when locating the badger as they often move from original reported location.

We have 8 rescue kits stationed around the county

Social media report

We have a presence on Facebook and Instagram. Facebook is run by Emily while Instagram is run by Debbie. Facebook has 1.9k followers, a small growth from 2025 which is positive as we are posting far fewer rescue posts and no vaccination posts now the project has ended. Thank you to Debbie for linking up regarding any rescues and photos for social media when she is able to.

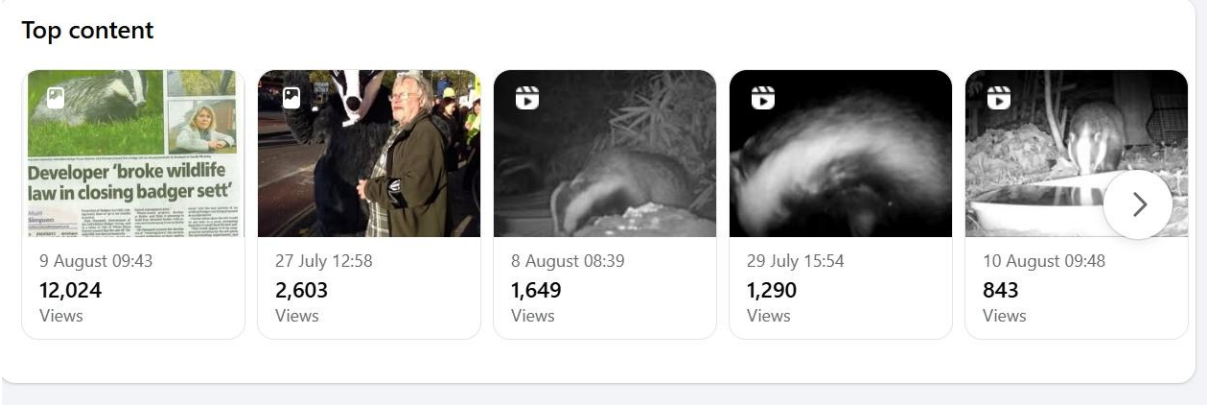
Over the last year some of the things we have talked about are Hutchcombe Copse, specifically the fundraiser, advertised for a new treasurer, shared Matt Hobbs comedy shows, shared content from the Badger Trust plus sharing content from Becci's studies and other videos and pictures sent by Debbie, Eileen and Kieron and supporters. Sorry if I have missed anyone or anything.

Throughout the summer we have called for people to leave water bowls out for wildlife and to continue looking out for wildlife in the hot weather/heatwaves.

Between **the 20 July and 16 August 2026** views on our posts were up by a whopping 769%.

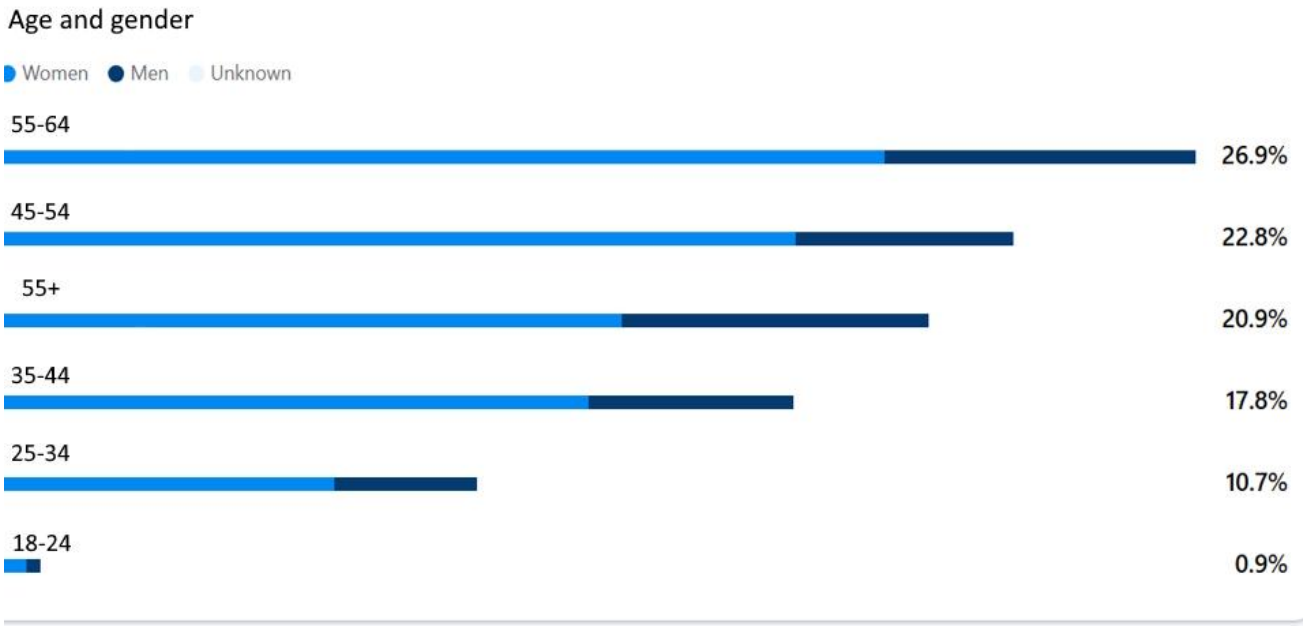
68% of views are views on photos, 26% reels (videos) and the rest are links.

We have reached people far beyond our followers, views by non followers are 82%



Thank you to Eileen who has sent in many videos of badgers at the water station in her garden which has helped to drive engagement to the page and to Kieron for the Hutchcombe Copse content. Becci also sent some great clips in that had good engagement and shares across Facebook.

Our content is being read by all age groups



Overall we are doing great and collaborating well but we need more fun content! 😊 We're looking to find some different content – such as animal stories from Hutchcomb's Copse to improve engagement. We are looking to be better at sharing events, pieces to camera, and photos of volunteers at work.

Badger and other wildlife crime

Our Group liaises with the police, Badger Trust, RSPCA and members of the public to help identify and report wildlife crime. We aim to ensure that all volunteers and members are suitably trained and attend sessions led by Craig Fellowes MBE, the Badger Trust Crime officer. During 2025, two members were able to attend the Trust's excellent advanced crime training course which leads toward Expert witness training.

To reiterate, all crimes to badgers should be reported to the police online or via 101. Please make sure you get a crime number and then send all these details to the Badger Trust (BT). Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to report crime to us or to BT. It is sad for the badgers but by recording all the statistics it really paints a picture of what badgers in Oxfordshire are facing.

Education and Outreach Report

During the term leading up to Christmas 2025 Oxfordshire Badger Group visited three schools. We provided an interactive slide presentation while Keiron wearing our badger suit demonstrated typical badger moves and behaviours as Eileen talked about them, adding lots of fun to the facts we shared.

The first was a visit to West Kidlington Primary School, which has a roll of 276 children aged 3-11. We provided a Badger Assembly for Years 2 -6. The Principal was hugely supportive and keen and hadn't prewarned the children – so we caused great excitement. Actually, a bit of an uproar! They have a visiting badger and the grounds staff, and gardening volunteers attended too, so knowledge and information were widely shared, contributing to our charitable objectives.

Our second school is now a regular visit – Larkrise. Another Primary school with a roll of 434 3–11-year-olds. Here we held two separate sessions, one with each of the two Reception years. This school really puts our contribution at the core of their curriculum, using it to develop writing and creative expression through words as well as through drawing and painting. We see the results of this work when we visit with badger-y contributions displayed in the classrooms. A really pleasing way to integrate badgers as a special part of life as we live it. The children are remarkably articulate about where they have seen badgers.

We also spent time in the Staff Room while we waited for children to finish lunch. Staff were interested and keen for us to contribute, and we were able to bust a few myths whilst there, and to have informal chats with staff about badgers.

An additional benefit from visiting Larkrise (probably the fourth or fifth year in a row) is that the two Reception teachers came along to our mince pies in the wood event – so it really feels like a shared relationship.

Our third visit was to Bloxham Grove Academy, a special education school for 7–18-year-olds with provision for Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Social, Emotional and Mental health, and Moderate Learning Difficulty. A smaller establishment, we provided a whole school assembly to those of the roll of 102 young people attending that day.

Other Outreach activities:

Eileen joined Begbroke Women's Institute for an evening with a presentation which was well received and generated interesting conversations and anecdotes about badgers in people's lives.

As a finishing note for the current year, Eileen was invited to join the Badger Trust's England and Wales Education Advisory Group and attended the inaugural meeting in July 2026. Membership includes the Badger Trust Vice Chair and members from Binfield Badgers, Mid Derbyshire and Lancashire Badger Groups

Development and badgers

There are two emerging, serious threats to badgers and their setts in Oxfordshire:

1. The Government's recent Planning and Infrastructure Bill weakens environmental protection in order to accelerate house building and infrastructure. Oxfordshire is earmarked for thousands of homes so many setts and badgers will be at risk with no mitigation. Badgers will lose crucial safeguards and contiguous habitats as developers can bypass local environmental mitigation by paying into a central conservation fund, which could lead to unchecked nature offsetting.
2. The Oxford Cambridge arc (plans for rapid growth and development between Oxford and Cambridge) BBOWT, RSPB , CPRE, Woodland Trust have all called for the Government to rethink their approach, as the scheme will bypass critical processes for safeguarding the environment and Nature recovery.

Planning Issues

In addition to taking part in national and strategic policy consultations, OBG takes part in local planning application consultations where badgers are likely to be impacted.

South Oxfordshire- OBG continue to advise residents about neighbouring land which could be developed and is home to a badger sett. In another village no setts were found on land earmarked for building but OBG advised about future monitoring.

Spindleberry Nature Reserve - Continuing to monitor the impact of the housing development on the resident badgers.

Grenoble Road- Carrying out initial survey work before work starts on the 2,000+ houses planned for the area

Thames Water- OBG is involved in consultations on infrastructure projects in the Oxford area.

Radley Large Wood- OBG called to advise on heavy tree work and impact on badger sett.

Horse Field, Iffley Meadows- Continuing to engage with local group to save ecologically rich area from development and support plans to create a Meadow School.

Yarnells Hill, Botley Ongoing effort to protect badgers on this fragile green space.

Arncott - Concerns over development of adjacent land frequented by foraging badgers. Visited and advice given.

We rely on local residents to be our eyes and ears, so please let us know if there are any developments which could impact badgers in your area.

The badger cull



Oxfordshire Badger Group has always strongly opposed the policy of culling badgers as part of the government's strategy for eradicating bovine TB. In 2020, the government issued licences to cull badgers in Oxfordshire for the first time. Since then, the cull zones have progressively expanded and covered an estimated 60% of the county. In 2023 the first Oxfordshire cull zone completed a fourth year. The total killed in the 2023 cull was less than expected, however this was due to falling numbers of badgers resulting in much lower targets. Culling is able to reduce the badger population by 70% or more. Yet after ten years of culling there is no clear effect on the spread of bovine TB in cattle. In August 2023 OBG started a sustained, high-profile campaign to:

- raise awareness that culling may drive badgers to local extinction across much of England
- lobby decision makers in government to end the badger cull
- persuade the Oxford University scientists responsible for the 'Randomised Badger Culling Trial' 2006 (RBCT) which provides the original scientific basis for culling – to accept that culling does not contribute to disease control in cattle.
- highlight the lack of persuasive scientific evidence and the misuse and inappropriate analysis of the RBCT data.

We held silent 'SAD Badger' street events; took to the streets of Oxford in badger costume and demonstrated outside key university buildings. Our petition "Oxford Scientists must Speak Out Against Badger Extermination" gained over 52,000 signatures.

We expected the new Labour government to end the badger cull which its general election manifesto for July 2024 called 'ineffective'. However, they renewed cull licences for 2024 and 2025 and so our campaign continued.

Focus on the lack of scientific evidence for culling and the pivotal role played by Oxford University Scientists

We are uniquely placed to lobby and engage with the key scientists responsible for conducting the original Randomised Badger Culling Trial and subsequent research. Many are now influential in

advising DEFRA and Ministers on policy for controlling bTB. During 2024 we kept a high profile. Highlights are on our website Cull pages at https://www.oxonbadgergroup.org.uk/the-cull-1/

As previously reported, 2024 was a year of intensive campaigning – our 'year of protest'. This work continued in 2025 and on into 2026. In October 2025 we were joined by Rob Pownell of Protect the Wild to demonstrate outside Professor Sir Charles Godfray's Department , objecting to his work as author of the 2025 government review into the management of bTb. Sir Charles invited us in to explain his continuing refusal to come out and state that the evidence does not support culling badgers.



This led to an extended, confidential conversation in which we were able to have a frank exchange of views. Ultimately, we were unable to persuade Sir Charles that a meeting between the Oxford Cull scientists and their scientific critics – such as Professor Paul Torgerson would be worthwhile.

Hutchcomb's Copse

A community conservation project to restore, improve and manage the ancient woodland

Old Hutchcomb's Copse is ancient and semi-ancient wood tucked away off Hurst Rise Road on Cumnor Hill near to Oxford City. The Copse is owned and managed by Oxfordshire Badger Group as a protected and unspoilt natural haven for wildlife. It is opened for a variety of events and work parties throughout the year.

Mince Pies in the Woods and Easter Eggs in the Woods

These events took place in lovely sunshine during December 2025 and April 2026 in Hutchcomb's Copse, OBG's private wood in Cumnor. The Easter event was a first and not so well attended as the mince pies – which saw a pleasing increase in visitors, from 12 attendees last year to some 44 this year. A tour of the Copse and vegan mince pies were all well received. The event raised some £463 overall for the Hutchcomb's Copse budget.

Scouts in the Wood

In March 2025 we invited the Abingdon Sea Scout cubs who we met with in 2024 to join us in the Copse. Some 10-15 Cub Scouts came in the morning and a different 10-15 in the afternoon. This was a volunteering activity by the Scouts who raised £180 for us as well as carrying out tasks, the latter contributing to the badges they were working towards and celebrating their achievements.

We identified the work to be done and the regular Scout Helpers and Leaders provided supervision – and hands-on work too. Various tasks were undertaken with great enthusiasm including cutting and constructing bird nesting boxes, creating Bug Hotels, building log piles, outlining paths with fallen wood, digging out steps, and planting 200 native Bluebells. Everyone had an enjoyable day though we were challenged by having to use borrowed tools and kit.

Two scything parties took place in 2025 and the first of two in 2026. The challenging work of reducing the growth in our glade is rewarded with chocolate cake and hot (or cold) drinks.

Words from the Wild Wood and from the Wild Autumn Wood

Two one-day events were held in Spring and early Winter 2025, and we were lucky again with sunny weather. Some six attendees took part and produced the most amazing writing and poetry, with unanimously positive feedback.

May 2026 was a busy month with OBG Members and friends getting together to undertake some core maintenance tasks, cutting back trees encroaching on neighbouring properties, and taking a chainsaw to one of the larger fallen trees, opening up a path around the Copse. We met with the organiser of Oxford Conservation Volunteers work parties with a view to engaging them in working with us on more of the core maintenance tasks that are needed.

We have a dedicated website at **https://www.hutchcombs-copse.org.uk**

Collaboration with other organisations

Oxfordshire Badger Group believes that collaboration is essential to deliver our charitable aims. We have established operating relationships with the following organisations.

The Badger Trust: OBG is a full member of the Badger Trust (registered charity 1111440). OBG functions independently but in partnership with the Trust. This relationship provides access to expert advice, peer group support and mentoring; training; authoritative information (such as leaflets) and the opportunity to apply for Badger Trust grants. OBG supports relevant Badger Trust campaigns and helps disseminate information and calls for action to our members and followers.

We also liaise with the Groups covering our neighbouring counties (Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire, Northamptonshire, Warwickshire and Wiltshire) on a regular operational basis.

The Conservation Volunteers local South Eastern group (TCV) registered charity in England (261009). OBG is a paid member of TCV. This gives us access to advice, support and funding opportunities. We are listed on their website and contribute to their regular newsletters. We also benefit from access to discounted insurance prices.

Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT): Our local wildlife Trust shares a keen interest in badger welfare.

Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC): We share information with Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) via a mutual data sharing agreement that respects the sensitivity of our data.

RSPCA: The RSPCA is often contacted by members of the public and others concerned about badger issues, especially possible crime or badgers in need of rescue. Our charity liaises with the local officers.

And many local schools.

Treasurer Report 2025

Basis of accounting

OBG's Financial and Reporting Year runs from 1st January to 31st December. This Report covers our sixth year as a CIO charity, to 31st December 2025.

As in previous years, the accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis.

Gross income includes gross receipts via PayPal and SumUp.

Gross expenditure includes fees deducted by PayPal, SumUp, Amazon and eBay.

All receipts, including donations and grants, are accounted for when received.

Any income tax recoverable on donations under Gift Aid is included when the money is received from HMRC or is paid to OBG by PayPal on qualifying transactions.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from Corporation Tax as all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

Restricted Funds

Oxford Badger Group did not have any Restricted Funds during 2025.

Independent Examination of Accounts

As OBG's total gross income in 2025 of £8,229.92 is substantially less than the Charity Commission's threshold of £25,000 an independent examination is not required, unless requested by members at the AGM.

Income

Total gross income in 2025 was £8,229.92, down just £281.21 (3.3%) on the previous year (£8,511.13 in 2024).

Expenditure

Total gross expenditure in 2025 was £7,073.00, down £8,646.30 (55%) on the previous year (£15,719.30 in 2024).

This reflects

a. the winding down of our badger vaccination programme.
b. reduced loan repayments for Hutchcomb's Copse woodland.
c. reduced purchases of stock for sale at events.

Net income

Net income in 2025 was £1,156.92 compared to net expenditure of £7,208.17 in 2024.

Bank balance

At the end of 2025, total bank balances totalled £9,305.53, up £1,156.92 (14%) on the previous year (0,148.61 in 2024). The small cash float is almost exactly the same as 2024.

Notes on receipts

All sales, subscription and donation figures are gross, before the deduction of any fees by PayPal or SumUp.

Principal funding sources

The main funding sources for the 2025 funding year were:

- Donations from members and supporters
- Sale of goods
- Members' subscriptions
- Gift Aid recovered from HMRC
- Volunteers' time and services, all free to the group.

Trading activities

Sale of goods for fundraising in 2025 was £923.05, down £912.91(50%) on the previous year (£1,835.96 in 2024) reflecting fewer outside events attended. However income was boosted by the sale of tickets to "Words in the Wild Wood" writing events hosted at Hutchcomb's Copse.

Bank Interest

The savings account opened on 3/10/24 earns interest on reserve funds. In 2025 a total of £94.73 interest was accrued.

Gift Aid

£570.72 Gift Aid was received directly from HMRC in 2025, mostly due from a late claim for 2024.

Gift Aid collected via PayPal was £242.17 in 2025, down £278.39 (53%) on the previous year (£520.56 in 2024), reflecting a reduction in donations collected via PayPal.

Grants

No grants were requested from the Badger Trust or other sources in 2025.

Subscriptions

Members' subscriptions totalled £881.63 in 2025, up £47.52 (5.7%) on the previous year (£834.11 in 2024).

Donations

Total donations were very similar to the previous year at £5,147.62 in 2025, down just £112.62 (2%) on the previous year (£5,260.24 in 2024). However, the mix of donations changed as vaccination crowdfunding wound down towards an end, whereas general and other fundraising, including for Hutchcomb's Copse, was increased.

Badger Sett Surveys

Three payments of £60.00 each were received in 2025 for passing sett record data to ecologists.

Notes on expenditure

Trading costs

Total trading costs in 2025 were just £257.97, down £978.87 (79%) compared to £1,236.84 in 2024, after a major re-stocking of items in the previous year.

UK Land – Hutchcomb's Copse

Loan repayments for the Hutchcomb's Copse woodland purchase were £4,000, down 38% on the previous year's £6,500. The initial 3 year loan repayment period was due to end on 15th July 2025, but had been extended by generous agreement of the lenders to 30th September 2026.

Interest on the loan was paid monthly to the lenders at the agreed rate of 2.5%. Total interest payments in 2025 were £319.83, down £163.11 (33%) on the previous year (£482.94 in 2024) due to a reduction in the outstanding loan principal to be repaid.

As of 31st December 2025, £19,000 of the £30,000 loan had been repaid leaving £11,000 outstanding.

General Administration

Total general administration, including insurance and Zoom fee, in 2025 cost £1,063.99, a saving of £1,090.85 (50%) on the previous year (£2,154.84 in 2024), due largely to a cut in insurance premium as badger vaccination came to an end, and the end of costs associated with the SAD badgers campaign.

Donations

Donations are made to wildlife hospitals to help cover the costs of treating or humanely euthanising badgers recovered by our rescue team. These totalled £425 in 2025, slightly down on the previous year (£525 in 2024).

Other expenditure

No further equipment was required for badger rescues.

As the Group's badger vaccination programme came to an end in Spring 2025, there were just a few residual costs. Final vaccination expenditure in 2025 was £333.32, including team members being partially recompensed for their travel expenses.

Financial reserves policy

The trustees refer to applicable Charity Commission requirements and Guidance in setting the charities financial reserves policy. The trustees aim to hold adequate reserve funding to meet unforeseen or new contingencies; to maintain a good cash flow; known operating commitments; and be able to close down in good order should the charity become financially unsustainable.

The charity reserves are in cash and cash deposits. They arise from the accumulated surpluses of members' subscriptions, donations and grants over expenditure. They also include surpluses accumulated by the previous voluntary group which were transferred to the charity on 09 December 2019. They are unrestricted and available to support any of the charities activities.

Our policy is to try and maintain reserves sufficient to cover one year's typical expenditure. Anything over and above this will be kept as a general contingency. This policy, and the level of reserves held by the charity is reviewed annually.

As expected, expenditure in 2025 was considerably less than 2024 as the Vaccination Programme and SAD badger campaign both came to an end. Expenditure in 2025 was just £7,073.00 compared to £15,719.30 in 2024 (Down 55%).

As of 31st December 2025, total reserves carried forward were £9,340.93.

General running costs in 2026 are again expected to be between £2K and £3K, with an additional £2K spent on badger rescue and rehabilitation. The Trustees regard reserves as sufficient,

however significantly increased donations and fundraising will be necessary in 2026 to clear the unsecured loan for Hutchcomb's Copse.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

The charity has no funds which are materially in deficit.

Statutory statements on liabilities

The trustees declare that:

- The charity has given no guarantees where potential liability under the guarantee is outstanding at the date of this statement (*eg:* any outstanding/ongoing contract or legal undertaking to buy or provide specific services); and

- The charity has no debt outstanding at the date of this statement which is owed by the CIO and which is secured by an express charge on any assets of the CIO (*eg:* a mortgage on property owned by the charity).

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31st December 2025

Fixed assets	
Hutchcomb's Copse woodland	£25,000.00
Current assets	
Co-Op Bank accounts	£9,305.53
Cash float	£35.40
Net assets	**£34,340.93**
The funds of the charity	
Fixed assets fund	£25,000.00
Income funds	£9,340.93
Total funds	**£34,340.93**

Richard Tilley, Treasurer and Trustee

Statement of accounts 01/01/25 to 31/12/25

OXFORDSHIRE BADGER GROUP (OBG) Receipts & Payments Accounts	01/01/2024 TO 31/12/2024	**01/01/2025 TO 31/12/2025**
INCOME		
Trading activities		
Sale of goods	1,835.96	923.05
Sale of tickets - "Words from the Wild Wood"	-	190
Bank interest	0.26	94.73
Gift Aid		
Gift Aid claimed from HMRC	0	570.72
Gift Aid collected by PayPal	520.56	242.17
From other charities		
Badger Trust grants	0	0
Other sources		
Members' subscriptions	834.11	881.63
Donations (unspecified)	1,511.88	2,719.81
Donations for vaccination & rescue	1,649.31	509
Donations for Education & Outreach	0	0
Donations for SAD badgers campaign	10	0
Badger sett surveys	60	180
Donations for Hutchcomb's Copse	2,089.05	1,918.81
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	**8,511.13**	**8,229.92**

EXPENDITURE		
Trading Costs		
Purchases of stock for sale	1,137.94	247.97
Stall fees	80.00	10.00
Postage	18.90	0
UK Land		
Woodland management	343.90	478.89
Loan interest payments	482.94	319.83
Loan repayments	6,500.00	4,000.00
General administration		
Insurance	787.94	220.98
Website fee	244.00	0
Zoom fee	-	155.88
Amazon Prime fees	9.98	8.99
Ebay fees	15.38	0
PayPal fees	41.08	46.96
SumUp fees	13.18	2.79
Office supplies	84.62	165.53
Venue hire/catering for events	542.32	15.55
Equipment for events	-	180.83
Sundry Honoraria	-	266.48
Books	102.39	0
Badger suit cleaning	63.95	0
Honorarium for speaker	250.00	0
Donations made		
Badger Trust levy & donation	225.00	194.00
Repayment unused Badger Trust	1,500.00	0
Wildlife hospitals/other groups	525.00	425.00
Other expenditure		
Equipment for badger rescues	0	0
Equipment for vaccination	1,289.84	175.02
Travel expenses for vaccination team	1,364.94	158.30
Vaccination training & mask fitting	96.00	**0**
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	**15,719.30**	**7,073.00**
Net income/(expenditure)	**(7,208.17)**	**1,156.92**
Total bank balances at end of year	**8,148.61**	**9,305.53**
Cash float	**35.42**	**35.40**
Richard Tilley, OBG Treasurer, 17/8/2026		

Financial position as at 9th August 2026

This is the position following the 1st 7 months of 2026.

Oxfordshire Badger Group bank accounts hold a total of £12,430.26

The Hutchcomb's Copse loan was repaid in full on 15th May. Total interest paid was £1,984.70

Grants

OBG was successful in applying for two grants during 2026.
Badger Trust – A Claire Hammacott grant to purchase trail cameras and related equipment awarded to OBG for use in Becci Cooper's research into impact of human presence on badger cub behaviour. Awarded April 2026 - **£1,060.80**

Oxfordshire County Council Councillor Priority funding: awarded July 2026 for Old Hutchcomb's Copse management work, equipment and volunteer training - **£1000**

Legacy

In July 2026 OBG received legacy funding of £2723.97 from the estate of a kind benefactor

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
OXFORDSHIRE BADGER GROUP	1186850

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2025	To	Period end date 31/12/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Members' Subscriptions	881	-	-	881	834
Donations	5,148	-	-	5,148	5,260
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Sales of goods and tickets	1,113	-	-	1,113	1,836
Gift Aid	813	-	-	813	521
Professional Services	180	-	-	180	60
Interest	95	-	-	95	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	8,230	-	-	8,230	8,511
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	8,230	-	-	8,230	8,511
A3 Payments					
Insurance, website and Zoom fees	377	-	-	377	1,032
Badger Trust levy	194	-	-	194	225
Repayment of unused grant	-				1,500
Donations to wildlife hospitals/groups	425	-	-	425	525
Hall & stall hire & office supplies	190	-	-	190	726
Equipment for events	181			181	
Books	-	-	-	-	103
Cleaning	-	-	-	-	64
PayPal, SumUp & other online fees	59	-	-	59	80
Equipment for badger vaccination	175	-	-	175	1,290
Training for vaccination/mask fitting	-				96
Travel expenses & sundry honoraria	425			425	1,615
Purchase of stock for sale	248			248	1,138
Woodland Management	479			479	344
Loan interest	320	-	-	320	483
Sub total	3,073	-	-	3,073	9,221
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Loan repayments	4,000	-	-	4,000	6,500
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	4,000	-	-	4,000	6,500
Total payments	7,073	-	-	7,073	15,721
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,157	-	-	1,157	- 7,210
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	8,184	-	-	8,184	-
Cash funds this year end	9,341	-	-	9,341	8,184

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

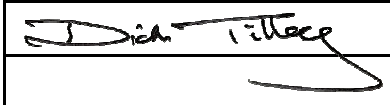
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank accounts	9,306	-	-
	Cash	35	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	9,341	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Hutchcomb's Copse woodland	OBG	25,000	25,000
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Outstanding loan for prchase of Hutchcomb's Copse woodland	OBG	11,000	30/09/26
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		RICHARD TILLEY	07/10/2026