

# FROYLE WILDLIFE

## Trustees' Report for the period 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026



The trustees of Froyle Wildlife present their Report and Accounts for the period 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026.

### **1. Reference and administrative details**

Froyle Wildlife is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered charity number 1171997. Its registered address is:

Braemore  
Husseys Lane  
Lower Froyle  
Alton GU34 4LX.

The trustees of Froyle Wildlife throughout the period were:

Barry Clark (chairman)  
Susan Clark  
Alan Dyos (secretary)  
Jayne Fisher  
Deborah Addison  
Mark Crisp  
Jenny Matthews

At each annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. Any person who retires as a charity trustee by rotation is eligible for re-election.

Mark Crisp and Jenny Matthews retired as trustees in 2026 and are not standing for re-election. Susie Robertson is proposed as a replacement.

### **Governance, management and trustee recruitment**

Froyle Wildlife is run by its trustees, who meet as often as required during the year to manage its affairs. They also arrange the events which Froyle Wildlife puts on in the village, and recruit and manage volunteers to assist with the upkeep and maintenance of the Froyle Park pond and the two wildflower areas on Froyle Recreation Ground.

The trustees of Froyle Wildlife share an interest in local wildlife and the natural environment, and the importance of its conservation and protection. Potential new trustees are sought from the residents of the local area who share the values and objectives of Froyle Wildlife.

## **2. Objectives and activities**

The objectives of Froyle Wildlife are:

- (a) to promote for the benefit of the public resident in and around the villages of Upper Froyle and Lower Froyle, Hampshire the conservation, protection and improvement of the local physical and natural environment, in particular but not exclusively by identifying and recording species of flora and fauna in the local area;
- (b) to advance the education of the public resident in and around the villages of Upper Froyle and Lower Froyle, Hampshire in the conservation, protection and improvement of the local physical and natural environment.

During the period Froyle Wildlife (FW) continued to arrange a programme of activities. The trustees confirm that activities have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Our plan is to carry out the following activities, either separately or in conjunction with each other:

1. Providing talks, preferably illustrated, by relevant knowledgeable individuals on aspects of species, local wildlife conservation, protection and natural environmental improvement;
2. Providing guided walks in the local countryside, led by relevant knowledgeable individuals, to observe and where possible record various elements of the local flora, fauna and, if appropriate, related topography;
3. Offering opportunities to participate in the development, maintenance, upkeep and renewal of local natural facilities including, but not limited to, the wildlife pond and meadow area in Froyle Park, and the wildflower areas on the Froyle Recreation Ground;
4. Providing forums in which interested people can meet to discuss and share experiences, observations and opinions relating to local flora, fauna and conservation matters generally, all of which will be open to members of the public at an appropriate modest entrance fee, generally £3 (designed to cover both staging and general operating expenses) and free for members.



*Froyle Wildlife Pond area July 2026*



*Wildflowers on Froyle Rec. June 2026*

### **3. Achievements and performance**

Froyle Wildlife arranges 'walks and talks' that support our purposes and form part of a year on year programme, see our website for more information <https://froylewildlife.co.uk/news/past-events/>. We continued to look after the wildflower areas on Froyle Recreation Ground and the wildlife pond area near Gid Lane with volunteers.

Last October Simon Porter of Penn Croft Farms in Crondall delivered a fascinating talk on the benefits of regenerative farming and how he had introduced it there. The basic concept is to improve the condition of the soil, the most important contributor to the production of healthy plants and thus healthy food. It involves minimum disturbance of the soil, extended crop rotation and diversity, cover (mulch or straw), living roots to feed it, and the integration of livestock to provide additional nutrition.

We heard an enlightening talk in November about 'Beaver and Water Vole Reintroductions' by David Elliot. As Lead Ranger with the South Downs National Trust, we heard about their reintroduction into the landscape, both locally and across the country. Beavers are 'ecosystem builders' improving riparian habitats and their activities can reduce downstream flooding by slowing the flow of water in head streams. Our native water vole numbers were decimated over the last 50 years, mainly due to predation by non-native North American Mink. Eradication of mink by trapping along river systems permits reintroduced water voles populations to live.



*Amphibian talk Froyle Village Hall*

In February 2026, we heard a talk by Pete West from Hampshire Amphibian and Reptile Group (HIWARG) with identification tips. Froyle has common toads and frogs plus recent evidence of non-native pool frogs that have distinctive calls. Grass snake and slow worm are sometimes seen in local gardens or sunny roadside verges. Smooth newts and Great Crested newts are found around ponds in Froyle and in the last 15 years there have

been a number of newly constructed ponds with some in gardens and fields. These ponds help to increase local biodiversity and provide habitat for species such as amphibians and dragonflies.

Catharine Gale gave us a fascinating talk in March about swifts. One of the yearly highlights for nature lovers in Froyle is the return of a favourite bird migrant, the Common Swift. They return from their wintering grounds in Africa to breed here in the UK. Swifts use the same nest site every year primarily on buildings but nests are lost each year due to building demolition and roof repairs/renovations. To help conserve this species we must preserve their existing nest sites while creating new ones by installing swift nest boxes and encouraging builders to make provision for swift nests in new builds or extensions.

Keith Betton from HOS (Hampshire Ornithological Group) led a guided bird walk around Lower Froyle in May. He was very informative about each of the birds spotted. We heard and/or saw 33 species during the two hour walk, including Goldcrest, Skylark and Lapwing. A male yellowhammer (a Red Listed species) with its striking yellow plumage was nicely perched on top of a hedge, enabling us all to get good views. We encountered White throats, Swallows and Swifts, both just returning to the UK. We all enjoyed the morning and were grateful to Keith for helping to open our eyes and ears to the birds around Froyle.



*Bird walk in Lower Froyle*



*Common Swift*



*Downland Villa Bee-fly*

A lovely sunny day brought out 13 species of butterfly at the wildlife pond area open day in July, including Red Admiral, Gatekeeper, Meadow brown, Painted lady, Small Copper, Clouded yellow. Two day flying moths the Mint Moth and the hovering Hummingbird Hawk-moth were also spotted. The pond was busy with 8 species of dragonfly including male Emperor Dragonflies plus a female egg-laying. Azure damselflies. 15 visitors came and enjoyed the meadow and pond area. The most unusual sighting of the day was a Downland Villa Bee-fly (*Villa cingulata*), listed as a nationally rare species and a first for here.

Botanist Isabel Givan led an evening stroll in July to identify flora in Upper Froyle, starting at St Mary's churchyard. We then visited the Lime Avenue public footpath, there was White Bryony; the pink flowers of Field Bindweed and the white flowers of Greater Bindweed (that has a traditional childhood nickname of 'granny pop out of bed'). Arriving at the wildlife pond and meadow near Gid Lane, we saw a wonderful diverse range of British native wildflowers, including Wild Carrot, Tufted Vetch, Hops, Birds-foot Trefoil, Marjoram, Water Mint, Meadow Crane's-bill, Teasle, Lady's Bedstraw, Purple Loosestrife and Meadow Sweet. An enjoyable finish to our stroll, enhanced by Isobel's flora identification tips.

Our walk in August at Magdalen Hill Down was guided by reserves officer Fiona Scully. We relished spotting the numerous Adonis Blue and Chalkhill Blue butterflies that shimmered with the sunlight in flight. Others included Small Heath, Common Blue, Clouded Yellow and Painted Lady. Overhead there were Kestral and Red Kite, whilst some noticed Grass snake and Common Lizard before they vanished into the vegetation. A lovely walk in nature with enthusiastic Fiona.

### **Community involvement:**

Froyle Wildlife received an EHDC local councillor grant for biodiversity enhancements on Froyle recreation ground. The grant was for 4 bird nest boxes, a large 'Bee and Insect hotel' and 250 snowdrop bulbs. Volunteers installed these in Spring 2026.

The nest boxes on trees provide more nesting places for small birds such as great tit, sparrows and nuthatch. These were put up at the beginning of April on mature trees at approximately 3m height. Within 2 days a blue tit was seen visiting one of the new nest boxes. The 'hotel' provides solitary bees, pollinators and insects with a sheltered habitat that can be also be seen by anyone. The existing wildflower meadow areas that are nearby will provide nectar to attract pollinators, mainly during May, June and July. The plantings of snowdrop bulbs 'in the green' near shade of deciduous trees will provide seasonal interest. They were planted in clumps in random groups around the perimeter of the recreation ground.



*Installing bee and insect hotel*



*Trimming willow dome Froyle rec.*

In Spring we trimmed the willow dome on Froyle recreation ground and tied in new growth to maintain a compact structure. In July the perennial wildflower plot had its annual cut by traditional scything and rake up of cuttings as part of the maintenance plan. Many locals enjoyed seeing the colourful wildflowers and using the willow dome, achieved with the help of 17 volunteers involved for 116 hours work.

We encourage local people to send us their wildlife sightings in Froyle and surrounding areas with photos if possible: this year these included Honey Buzzard, White Stork, Emperor dragonfly, Grass snake, and Clouded Yellow butterfly. In addition to our website [www.froylewildlife.co.uk](http://www.froylewildlife.co.uk), we also publish monthly articles in

the Froyle Village magazine to inform about local wildlife. Our Instagram page [#froylewildlife](#) has 84 followers and our events are also posted on Facebook in the Froyle Residents group. A new WhatsApp group was started to share wildlife photos and news. We had a display of local wildlife information at the Froyle Fete in July and at the Froyle Gardens Open event in June 2026.



*Raking up cuttings on Froyle rec*



*Scything the meadow around pond area*

Managing the wildflower meadow surrounding Froyle Wildlife pond has involved 8 volunteers for 153 hours of hands on work to maintain the habitat. With this effort, the wildflowers have thrived and the pond continues to support breeding amphibians, dragonflies and damselflies. Work included cutting paths to enable access for visitors; scything selected areas of meadow and removing excess pond vegetation. The high number of plants, insects and amphibians that would otherwise be absent from the area is due to our management which includes grazing in winter months.



*Dew pond restoration September 2025*



*October grazing at wildlife pond area*

In Septemebr we started restoring an historic pond in Upper Froyle which had silted up. Currently the pond dries out every summer before amphibians can complete their breeding life cycle. Volunteers removed about a quarter of the vegetation and silt to benefit the known population of great crested newts as well as other protected species. Pete West from HIWARG (Hampshire and Isle of Wight Amphibian and Retile Group) supervised the work. Amongst the debris in the spoil we found a corroded half penny dated 1747. So nearly 280 years old!

## Species recording:

Observations have been made to record what species are present in the local area throughout the seasons. These add to the information from previous years, accessible from our website <http://froylewildlife.co.uk/recording/species-lists/>. Species identified are submitted to county recorders for verification and then the records go to Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre.



*Broad-bodied Chaser*



*Great Crested newt larva*

We have informally monitored the habitat at the wildlife pond and wildflower meadow and our records include: 19 species of dragonfly/damselfly; 4 species of amphibian; 26 species of butterfly; 138 species of moth and 119 species of flowering plants. The wildlife pond has a good population of Great Crested Newts (GCN) with recorded presence every year since 2016. Evidence of breeding was confirmed again in 2026 with newt larvae observed of both GCN and Smooth Newt. Records at the pond area for the first time this year include: Common Broomrape, Scarce Fungus Weevil, Cut-leaf Teasel, Vapourer moth larva and Downland Villa Bee-fly.



*Common Broomrape*



*Vapourer moth larva*



*Cut-leaf Teasel*

Surveying continued this summer in Froyle's disused quarry (a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation SINC), a habitat with naturally regenerating chalk grassland. At this private site Froyle Wildlife volunteers also assisted with habitat management of scrub and non-native buddleia.

#### **4. Financial performance**

Froyle Wildlife's opening funds were £1,262 none of which were restricted. During the year it received a grant of £550 from East Hants District Council. Overall there was a surplus of income over expenditure of £36 (compared with the previous year's deficit of £143). Closing funds were £1,298, none of which are restricted. Froyle Wildlife has no debts.

The trustees manage Froyle Wildlife to allow the purchase of essential items of equipment or consumables to enable it to carry on its conservation activities, and aim to maintain a small positive cash balance as working capital to enable the production of local events. The subscription amount is set at a level to meet these objectives: the trustees do not consider it is necessary or appropriate to generate significant reserves to be held by the charity.

#### **Other matters**

Froyle Wildlife holds no funds as custodian trustee, and has not taken advantage of any exemptions from disclosure.

### **FROYLE WILDLIFE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2026**

#### **Income & expenditure statement**

|                                                         | <b>Year ended 31 August</b> |               |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
|                                                         | <b>2026</b>                 | <b>2025</b>   |
|                                                         | <b>£</b>                    | <b>£</b>      |
| <b>Income</b>                                           |                             |               |
| Subscriptions                                           | 410                         | 430           |
| Donations                                               | 182                         | 427           |
| Refreshment receipts                                    | 170                         | 126           |
| Door entries                                            | 87                          | 27            |
| Grants                                                  | 550                         |               |
|                                                         | <hr/>                       | <hr/>         |
| <b>Total income</b>                                     | <b>1,399</b>                | <b>1010</b>   |
|                                                         | <hr/>                       | <hr/>         |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                                      |                             |               |
| Maintenance                                             | 76                          | 513           |
| Donations to speakers                                   | 235                         | 238           |
| Insurance                                               | 173                         | 173           |
| Sundries                                                | 75                          | 36            |
| Hall hire                                               | 165                         | 115           |
| Food & drink                                            | 84                          | 78            |
| Biodiversity enhancements                               | 555                         |               |
|                                                         | <hr/>                       | <hr/>         |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                                | <b>1,363</b>                | <b>1,153</b>  |
|                                                         | <hr/>                       | <hr/>         |
| <b>Surplus/(Deficit) of income<br/>over expenditure</b> | <b>£36</b>                  | <b>£(143)</b> |
|                                                         | <hr/> <hr/>                 | <hr/> <hr/>   |

# **FROYLE WILDLIFE**

## **ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2026**

### **Balance sheet at 31 August 2026**

|                            | <b>31 August</b>     |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                            | <b>2026</b>          | <b>2025</b>          |
|                            | <b>£</b>             | <b>£</b>             |
| <b>Current assets</b>      |                      |                      |
| Cash at bank               | 1217                 | 953                  |
| Petty cash                 | 81                   | 309                  |
| <b>Net current assets</b>  | <u>1,298</u>         | <u>1,262</u>         |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>         | <u><b>£1,298</b></u> | <u><b>£1,262</b></u> |
| <b>Represented by:</b>     |                      |                      |
| Capital introduced, note 5 |                      | 53                   |
| Opening reserves, note 5   | 1,262                | 1,352                |
| Surplus/(Deficit)          | 36                   | (143)                |
| Closing reserves           | <u>1,298</u>         | <u>1,209</u>         |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>         | <u><b>£1,298</b></u> | <u><b>£1262</b></u>  |

Approved on behalf of the Committee by:

**Barry Clark**

**Alan Dyos**

**Date: 15 September 2025**

**FROYLE WILDLIFE**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2026**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

1  
. Froyle Wildlife is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (no.1171997) which took over the the activities of Froyle Nature Conservation Group (FNCG).

2  
. The accounts cover the year ended 31 August 2026.

3  
. The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis, as agreed by the Trustees.

4  
. In accordance with recommended practice, the gross income and expenditure for various ancillary activities have been shown in the accounts, rather than the net figures, which are as follows:

|              | Refreshments |
|--------------|--------------|
|              | £            |
| Receipts     | 170          |
| Costs        | <u>(84)</u>  |
| Net proceeds | <u>£86</u>   |

5. The capital introduced of £53 has been added to the closing reserves of £1209 in 2025 to make the opening reserves of £1262 in 2026.