Cromwell Bottom Wildlife Group Registered Charity No, 1176233

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Cromwell Bottom Wildlife Group CIO held at the Cromwell Bottom Nature Reserve Visitor Centre on Wednesday September 9th, 2026 at 7.30pm

Simon welcomed everyone to the meeting. The meeting was attended by 18 members.

1. Minutes of AGM 2025

The minutes were accepted and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Chairperson's report

Simon delivered his report to the meeting. A summary of the speech is provided below.

4.Treasurer's report

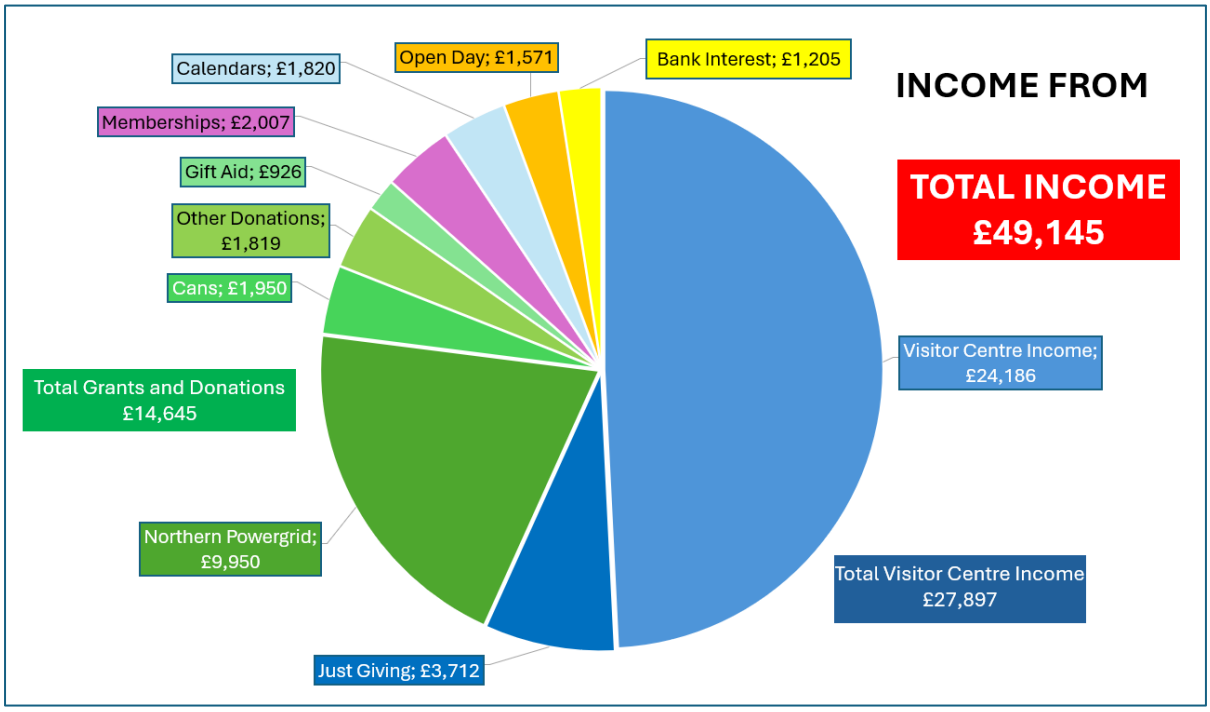
Robin Owen-Morley welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reminded the members that they had been provided copies of the formal accounts already and said he would be very happy to take any questions relating to them at the end of his talk. Robin talked through the *Statement of Financial Activities* visually using simple graphs.

Income

The first pie chart showed the breakdown of the income for the year.

Robin noted that more than half of the charity's income (£27,897) was received in the Visitor Centre and he paid credit to the weekday volunteers and the "Sunday Crew" for their very significant contribution.

He noted the donation of £9,950 from Northern Powergrid and that the trustees has chosen to apply the funds for the development of the Sensory Glade. He also paid credit to all the donors of empty drinks cans during the year, and to David Langley for processing them. The proceeds from their recycling brought in £1,950 during the year. Other contributions are noted, in particular £1,205 in bank interest now much of our funds are deposited with building societies.

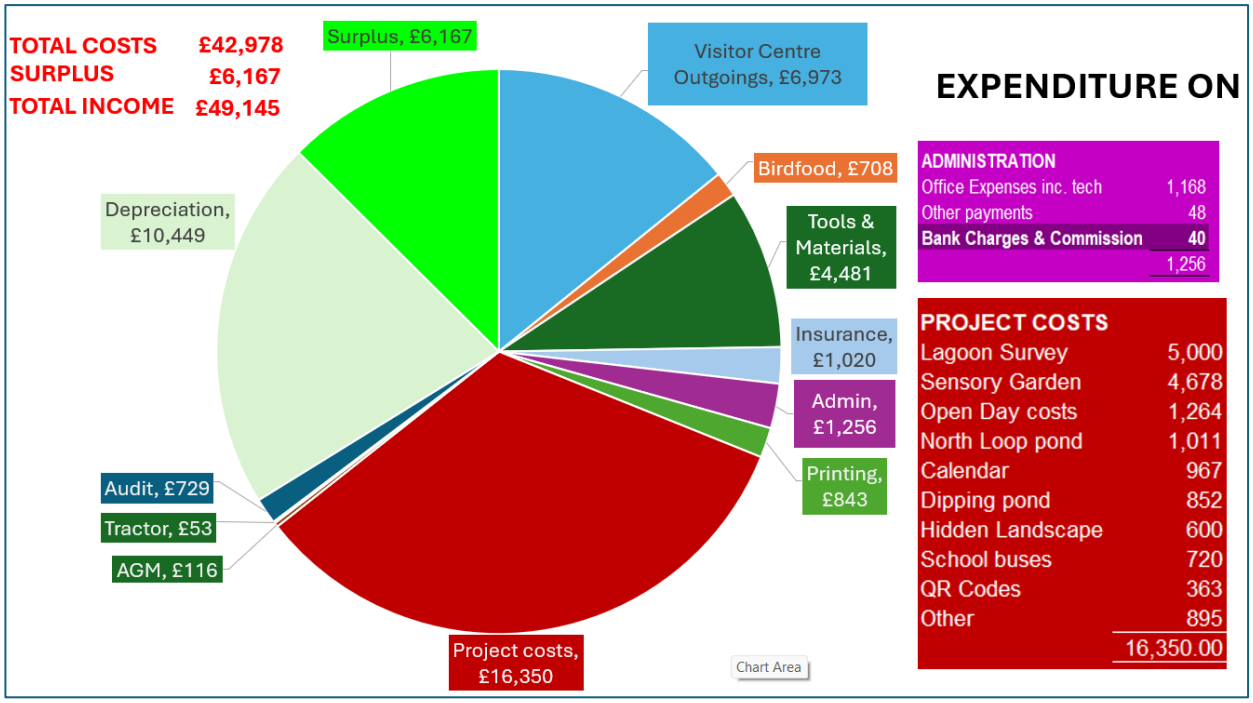


Robin noted the total income of £49,145 and then displayed the pie chart illustrating where that total income went.

Expenditure

Visitor Centre Outgoings amounted to £6,973. Given that the income (including Gift Aid) was £27,897, it demonstrates the effectiveness of our policy of just requesting donations for our refreshments. The expenditure on bird food was considerably less than last year given the technical advice to limit the food availability.

In the Administration expenses, Robin noted the £40 on bank charges and commission. He highlighted that we have been increasingly taking credit card payments on which we pay commission and that Lloyds Bank is now charging us for our bank deposits. Other banks have been doing this for a while and Lloyds has been the last to give charities free banking. Six months into this year, we have already incurred £80 in charges.



The largest cash outflow was on Project Costs and Robin listed the make-up of the £16,350 outflow. In particular, he highlighted the £5,000 contribution made to update the 2020 technical survey of the project which would enable a feed of water from the canal to the lagoon. There is a possibility of receiving funding for the project and the trustees had felt it was a worthwhile investment to bring the technical specification of

the project up to date. He also noted the £4,678 which has already been spent on the development of the Sensory Glade.

Depreciation of the charity's assets (e.g. the fabric of the Visitor Centre the cost of which has been depreciated over a period of five years) accounted for £10,449 of the charity's income. Robin expects this to be significantly reduced in the coming years.

Given all the outflows, there remained £6,167 of the total £42,978 income and this represents the surplus for the year.

There were charity funds retained at the end of 24/25 amounting to £69,780. Adding the 25/26 surplus to this gave a total of retained funds at the end of the year of £75,947.

Represented By:-		
FIXED ASSETS	£11,855	A
DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS	£2,184	
BANK & B/S FUNDS *	£62,635	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	£64,819	
Less: LIABILITIES	(£729)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS	£64,090	B
TOTAL FUNDS C/FWD	£75,945	A + B

* Lloyds	£5,470
Dudley B/S	£46,615
Bath B/S	£10,300
Cash in hand	£250
	£62,635

Robin then showed how the £75,945 of retained funds was made up. He not the (depreciated) Fixed Assets of £11,855, the Bank and Building Society funds of £62,635 and a couple of other accounting adjustments. He also gave the breakdown of all the "liquid" funds held in the bank and building society accounts.

Finally, he showed an analysis of the funds represented by the Net Current Assets of £64,090. Designated funds, restricted by the donors for their use to specific projects, amounted to just £885 leaving £63,205 of funds free of restrictions. From this, the trustees have put aside £45,000 to go towards any expenditure in relation to the putative Lagoon project. There is also £3,687 remaining in the fund specifically set aside to rejuvenate the Dipping Pond.

FUNDS		
NET CURRENT ASSETS	£64,090	B
Of which: DESIGNATED	(£885)	
TOTAL "FREE" FUNDS	£63,205	
LAGOON FUND	£45,000	
LEGACY FUND (Dipping Pond)	£3,687	
	£48,687	
REMAINING FREE FUNDS	£14,518	
TOTAL "FREE" FUNDS	£63,205	
NOTE: Imminent Projects	*£11,840*	

This left £14,518 of “remaining free reserves” noted under the Reserves Policy in the Trustees Report in the accounts. Whilst the Charity Commission frowns on significant free reserves, Robin noted that at the year end, there were known imminent projects amounting to £11,480.

With that, Robin concluded his report and asked in anyone had any questions. There being none, Simon thanked Robin for the continued excellent work he commits to both the accounts and membership.

5. Election of trustees

In accordance with the requirements of the Charity Commission, the following individuals were re-elected as trustees.

	PROPOSED	SECONDED
David Langley	Julie Jackson	Michael Henshaw
Hayley Cottrell	Robin Owen-Morley	Lyn Orchard

These trustees were re-elected unanimously by the members. Bruce Hoyle was due to be re-elected but informed the group, prior to the meeting, that he will be standing down due to personal reasons. Simon thanked Bruce for all his work as a trustee over many years.

Kirsty Collins was appointed as a trustee in November 2025. In accordance with the requirements of the Charity Commission, the members voted unanimously to ratify Kirsty’s appointment.

6. Appointment of independent examiner

Robin reported that, was once again, he has received excellent support from the West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service (WYCAS) in the independent examination and ratification of the

accounts. The motion to reappoint WYCAS was proposed by Robin Owen-Morley and seconded by Simon Day. The motion received unanimous support from the members.

7. **Guest speaker. P.C Caroline Newsome. Wildlife Crime Officer**

   Caroline delivered an informative and entertaining talk about her role as a wildlife crime officer. She described a number of case studies and answered a series of questions from the members. Simon thanked Caroline for attending the meeting.

8. **Any other business**

There was nothing to report.