

Annual Report and Accounts 2024-25



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Chairman's Foreword

I am delighted to introduce Enover Community Trust's Annual Report for 2024-25.

The past year has seen many societal changes across the UK, but the raft of economic, environmental and social challenges being faced by communities up and down the country has not impacted the number of applications for grants that the Trust has received.

This report highlights a range of projects completed during the year, from restoring natural habitats to developing community hubs and renovating vital buildings. At a time when sources of community funding are increasingly hard to find, we are very pleased that the Trust is able to step in and support so many well-deserving groups.

Key to me has always been the broader impact that the Trust's activities can have on communities. While the focus is on financial grants, the added value to the community of the projects we support is just as important, as we strive to leave a lasting legacy in the areas that Enover operates.

Entrust, the regulator of the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF), published its Value of the Landfill Communities Fund Report in September 2024. The report uses a number of metrics to quantify 'social value': Volunteering – the number of volunteers involved in a project; Public Amenity Visitors – increase in footfall to project sites; Deprivation – the percentage of funding

going to deprived areas; Diversity and Inclusion – whether funding is reaching all people groups.

The projects in this report demonstrate how the Trust is contributing lasting social value to the communities it operates in. For example, Delves Green Allotments Community Hub in Walsall is based in a deprived area and is run entirely by a group of volunteers. The restoration of heathland habitats in the Forest of Dean improves access for the public, increasing visitor numbers. The major refurbishment work to the Hindu Community Centre in Cheltenham demonstrates that our funding is available to all groups across our communities. While not a tick box operation, it is still encouraging to know that the projects we support are making a real social value impact.

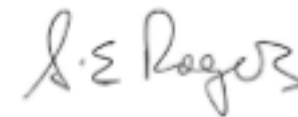
Entrust has also recently updated and refreshed its website (www.entrust.org.uk) which provides useful information and resources about the LCF as well as details of projects across the UK.

I'm pleased to report that this year the variety of applications for grants has further increased. With energy prices continuing to rise we have seen more organisations opting for solar power installations and other energy efficiency initiatives. Local sports facilities have been improved, playground equipment refurbished, and repairs have been made to all important community buildings.

Overall, the Trust has supported 96 projects with a total value of over £2.9 million this year. The Government announced a major increase in Landfill tax rates from April 2025 with the percentage credit that landfill site operators may claim against their annual Landfill Tax liability for LCF contributions made to environmental bodies being maintained at 5.3%. Coupled with a Consultation on the Reform of Landfill Tax this Spring, it remains to be seen whether there is any substantial impact on Trusts across the country, but as ever we will continue to support projects as much as possible.

I would like to once again give my thanks to our Trust Manager, Angela Haymonds, who continues to manage the activities of the Trust diligently and supports all of our applicants through the process. I would also like to recognise the commitment of my fellow Trustees, who all give their time voluntarily to contribute to the Trust and the projects that we are able to grant funding to.

I hope that you enjoy reading this year's Report and that it encourages you to apply for funding if you meet the criteria.



RSPB Highnam Woods Woodland Improvement Project



Location: Gloucestershire
Grant Amount: £19,732

Highnam Woods in Gloucester has undergone significant improvements as part of a project to help maintain and protect it as a vital habitat for various species, including breeding nightingales and rare plants.

The project, which received a grant of £19,732 from Enover Community Trust, has enhanced the woodland's condition and resilience to climate change and tree disease.

In addition to benefiting wildlife, the project has improved visitor access to Highnam Woods. The site is a cherished resource for various community groups, including The Nest Collective, local Forest Schools, walking groups, Scouts, and Guides.

Ali Bennett, RSPB Fundraising Officer, said: *"We are thrilled to see the completion of this project, made possible by the generous support of Enover Community Trust. These habitat management improvements are crucial for the long-term health of Highnam Woods and will greatly benefit the diverse range of species that call it home."*

Bailey's Pool Improvements, Walsall MBC



Location: West Midlands
Grant Amount: £42,000

The Trust provided a grant of £42,000 towards a project to improve accessibility and biodiversity at Bailey's Pool in Bloxwich.

The scheme involved renovating the boardwalk and footpath, with benches and information boards installed along the route and upgrades carried out to improve the entranceways. A series of remediation works also improved the biodiversity of the area, including reconditioning the pool and planting a range of wildflowers along its banks.

Richard McVittie is Community Development Officer for Walsall MBC which also offered £12,000 towards the project in partnership with Canal and River Trust. He said: *"The project will ensure that Bailey's Pool is accessible to all who wish to use it. This will increase health and well-being opportunities, as well as outdoor socialising in the area which has proven to be a key factor to also improve mental health, highlighted from the Covid-19 lockdowns."*



Restore our Heath, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust



Location: Gloucestershire
Grant Amount: £30,234

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust has completed a project to restore heathland habitats for conservation grazing at two nature reserves in the Forest of Dean, thanks to a £30,234 grant from Enovert Community Trust.

The project focused on restoring species rich grassland habitats for grazing Exmoor ponies at the Trust's newly acquired Simpson's Meadow Nature Reserve, and an adjacent nature reserve at The Park. With the introduction of conservation grazing livestock, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust can now manage these sites sustainably, helping to restore and protect important species.

Accessibility improvements have also been carried out, including the replacement of traditional 'kissing gates' with more accessible 180-degree gates, while new interpretation panels have been installed to inform and guide visitors.

Alex Ball, Funding Development Manager of Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, said: "The funding has enabled us to implement sustainable reserve management practices and improve the natural beauty and biodiversity of Simpson's Meadow and The Park. The local community will also benefit from improved access and educational opportunities through our new interpretation panels."

Improving Energy Efficiency at Jubilee Pool



Location: Bristol
Grant Amount: £50,330

A project to improve the energy efficiency of Jubilee Pool has helped to ensure its future.

Jubilee Pool is one of the smaller public swimming facilities in Bristol, attracting people whose personal circumstances render other larger pools inaccessible, e.g. people with intellectual or sensory disabilities, older people, and survivors of violence/abuse. Jubilee Pool's water temperature is also higher than that of other pools in Bristol, making it a popular venue for babies and young children, as well as people who are rehabilitating after illness or injury.

Following ten years of neglect and repeated risk of closure, urgent works were required to improve energy efficiency, to ensure the pool remains viable and to mitigate the frequent increases in energy prices. The project has enabled the Friends of Jubilee Pool to make substantial energy savings to keep the pool open and continue to provide the local community with their much-loved leisure facility.



Shrub End Community and Sports Centre Environmental Project



Location: Essex
Grant Amount: £40,000

Shrub End Community and Sports Centre in Colchester has completed its latest sustainability initiative, which was made possible thanks to a £40,000 community grant from Enover Community Trust.

The project involved the installation of solar panels, battery storage, an iBoost heating system, and electric vehicle charge points, marking a significant step towards reducing the Centre's carbon footprint.

Generating sustainable electricity will help the Centre to reduce its energy costs, ensuring it can continue to offer a diverse range of inclusive health and wellbeing opportunities for members of the community. The improvements will also significantly reduce the Centre's CO₂ emissions, with the system expected to generate an average of 60-80 kW per day and result in a CO₂ reduction of around 8,000kg per year.

Upgrade Recreation Ground Floodlights, Lydney RFC



Location: Gloucestershire
Grant Amount: £34,000

New floodlights were installed at Lydney Recreation Ground thanks to a £34,000 grant from Enovert Community Trust.

The recreation ground is open to the public 24/7 and the floodlighting is provided to users free of charge by Lydney Rugby Football Club to support access to sports and training facilities, helping to keep the community active.

Running the old halogen floodlights had become increasingly expensive and the new energy efficient floodlights will enable the Club to make considerable financial savings. Enovert Community Trust has previously supported Lydney RFC with a grant of £50,000 towards the installation of solar panels and LED floodlights at the Club's main pitch.



Solar Power for The Experience Project



Location: Essex

Grant Amount: £40,939

A project to install solar panels and battery storage at the Whittingham Mission building in Southend-on-Sea was completed thanks to a generous grant of £40,939 from Enover Community Trust.

The Methodist Church has committed to make all of its churches eco-friendly, with a goal to reach net-carbon zero by 2030. Thanks to the new solar panels, it has been estimated that Whittingham Mission Building will reduce its carbon emissions by two tonnes per year.

The installation of solar panels will also help reduce energy bills, allowing savings to be allocated towards funding community initiatives and activities, including the Southend and Leigh Methodist Circuit Experience Project, as well as providing for additional staff and further improvements to the premises. The Experience Project aims to combat food poverty, foster community cohesion, and reduce the amount of food waste going to landfill.

Simon Matthews, Project Manager for Southend and Leigh Methodist Circuit, said: "This generous grant has enabled us to begin our journey to net-zero, while also making great savings on our energy bills that we can pass on to our ongoing community projects. By investing in sustainable solutions, we are building a brighter future for Southend and its residents."

Bridging the Gap, Stourbridge



Location: West Midlands
Grant Amount: £50,000

A project to construct a bridge to connect the village of Kinver with the open space at Brockley Walk has been carried out following a £50,000 grant from Enover Community Trust.

The bridge provides a safe means of accessing the area, ensuring visitors do not have to navigate a narrow, dangerous, country lane. The project has ensured that all members of the community, especially elderly people, and those without transport, can access the area.

By creating a shorter and safer way to access the open spaces, the project will contribute to greatly increasing participation in outdoor exercise and encourage interest in the environment.



Little Horkesley Playground Upgrade



Location: Essex
Grant Amount: £30,000

This project to replace the old, dilapidated play equipment at Little Horkesley village playing field was completed following a grant of £30,000 from Enover Community Trust.

The existing equipment consisted of two swings and two "rockers" and at nearly 30 years old was barely fit for purpose.

Much of the play equipment at the playing field was removed about four years ago as it had deteriorated and was unsafe, while the remaining equipment was in need of costly repairs which the small parish council could not afford through its limited precept.

The Parish Council conducted a survey of local residents which showed strong support for a project to replace and improve the play equipment, as it was not appealing to families in its current state. This project involved the installation of a large climbing frame, two swings, a seesaw, and a rocker, greatly enhancing the offer to families in the local community.

Drainage for Skate Park and Pump Track



Location: Gloucestershire
Grant Amount: £50,000

ECT contributed £50,000 towards the refurbishment, redesign, and extension of the skatepark at Bishop's Cleeve Parish Sports Ground which has created a state-of-the-art facility for users of all abilities.

The project included the transformation of the previous BMW dirt track into a cutting-edge, all-weather pump track, catering to two-wheeled sports such as bikes, skates, and scooters.

The project included crucial flood mitigation, ensuring the facilities remain accessible while reducing flood risks to the site and surrounding areas. With drainage works now complete, the facilities are accessible year-round, encouraging physical activity amongst younger local residents.

Katie Danter, Facilities Manager of Bishop's Cleeve Parish Council said: "We are thrilled to see this project come to life, supporting fitness, social interaction, and free access to sport for everyone, no matter their ability or background. We've already had incredibly positive feedback from residents, and we can't wait to see the facilities being enjoyed for years to come."



Fairford Toddler Area Refurbishment Project



Location: Gloucestershire
Grant Amount: £20,000

This project to refurbish the toddler play area in Fairford near Cirencester was completed following a £20,000 grant from Enover Community Trust.

The play area equipment had been in place for twenty years and was showing signs of extreme deterioration, with broken parts requiring costly or difficult repairs. The Council decided to replace the equipment for the benefit of the youngest members of the local community and their families.

With two pre-school establishments, the play area caters to the needs of many local young families, as well as those living in surrounding villages. Fairford Town Council consulted with Fairford Pre-School and Flying Start Nursery and the winning playground design was chosen by the children.

Activity Shelter, Challenge Academy CIC



Location: West Midlands
Grant Amount: £10,000

A shelter has been installed at Challenge Academy Adventure Centre in Baggeridge Country Park near Sedgley following a £10,000 grant from Enover Community Trust.

Challenge Academy runs a diverse array of adventure experiences, learning opportunities, training, and resources. The shelter provides a vital indoor space for participants to use on site, meaning that the organisation will be able to maximise activity and training throughout the year, and reduce seasonal variations. In turn this means that Challenge Academy will be able to reach more people within the community.

This project marks the final phase of development at Challenge Academy. The new shelter will be accessed via the 'inclusive' pathways and ramps previously part-funded by Enover Community Trust as part of an earlier £30,000 grant.



Kingsland Community Centre Accessibility



Location: Essex
Grant Amount: £35,000

Kingsland Community Centre in Colchester completed a project to improve accessibility to its first-floor facilities thanks to a grant of £35,000 from Enover Community Trust.

The Centre has successfully replaced its faulty and unreliable passenger lift with a new, energy-efficient traction lift.

For the past 13 years, Kingsland Community Centre has been a hub for local people, offering a variety of social and community services to individuals and families of all ages and needs.

The decision to replace the hydraulic lift with a more sustainable traction lift was made with environmental considerations in mind. This change is expected to reduce the Centre's energy consumption, contributing to its ongoing efforts to operate more sustainably.

Clubhouse Upgrade, Marton Cricket Club



Location: Middlesbrough
Grant Amount: £27,845

Established in 1853, this popular cricket club approached the Trust for a £27,845 grant towards a project to improve, restore and refurbish a function and community room and public visitor area.

The current function and community room was unsafe and had not been refurbished since the clubhouse was constructed in the 1970s. As a result of the poor facilities the clubhouse was not often used by members of the public.

This project has created a safe, attractive and affordable social environment for all Club users, while the renovations have made the function room more attractive to potential hirers, providing the Club with an additional source of revenue.



Creating a Community Hub, Delves Green Road Allotments



Location: West Midlands
Grant Amount: £7925

Delves Green Road Allotment Association in Walsall completed a project to improve the landscaping and accessibility around its community hub following a grant of £7925 from Enover Community Trust.

The project has created a pathway to the Association's community hub for its members and the wider community, with the aim of improving accessibility and promoting a shared passion for gardening and the outdoors.

The Association, which is run entirely by volunteers, funded and installed a community cabin for members, families, and friends to come together for gatherings, meetings, and support. The next stage of the project involved landscaping the area with a path, disabled access ramp, patio, planters, and furniture to ensure the space is accessible and safe for all.

Jill Day, Vice Chair of the Delves Green Road Allotment Association said: "This project has enabled people of all abilities to be able to access our community hub. The new landscaping doesn't just provide better access to the community hub, but we also hope it will attract Scout and Guide groups and schools, encouraging an interest in gardening for future generations."

Outfield Drainage, Pedmore Cricket Club



Location: West Midlands
Grant Amount: £21,750

Pedmore Cricket Club completed a project to install a new cricket pitch drainage system, which will significantly improve playability and enhance the Club's ability to serve its community. This project was made possible thanks to a grant of £21,750 from Enovert Community Trust.

The Club serves as a community hub, hosting players of all ages, so it was of high priority to update the drainage systems to ensure its continued year-round use. The lack of a proper drainage system at the Club had led to regular waterlogging of the playing areas, forcing the cancellation of matches and training sessions, and severely impacting both training and revenue.

Clare Johnson, Club Secretary at Pedmore Cricket Club, said: "This new drainage system is vital for the future of the Club. It will ensure that our pitch remains playable, meaning that we won't lose revenue from closures, and it also reinforces our commitment to providing a safe and welcoming environment for our players and their families."



Outdoor Community Space Upgrade, Marks Tey



Location: Essex
Grant Amount: £35,000

A project to improve the outdoor facilities provided by Marks Tey Parish Council (MTPC) has been completed following a £35,000 grant.

MTPC manages 15 acres of community space adjacent to the Parish Halls. The grant contributed to a range of improvements and renovations intended to help local people reconnect with wildlife and access green spaces and clean air, including the resurfacing and redesign of the village's skatepark, cleaning the basketball court, upgrading the football pitch floodlights, and improvements to security.

A green design, enhancing the area with sympathetic planting of trees and hedgerows and the placement of benches in the vicinity, has also provided landscaping improvements, with all the trees supplied, free of charge, by Colchester Borough Council as part of a Woodland and Biodiversity scheme.

Floodlighting and Fixed Goals at @Worle



Location: North Somerset
Grant Amount: £39,000

This project to upgrade floodlighting and replace the fixed goals at @Worle, a multi-sports centre, was carried out following a £39,000 grant from Enover Community Trust.

By replacing the old, inefficient floodlights with new, energy efficient LED lamps, the project has helped the Centre to reduce its operating costs while continuing to provide safe lighting for all the users at the site.

In addition, the project involved replacing the sports goals at the site, many of which had fallen into disrepair and been removed from site due to health and safety concerns. As a result of the project, the pitches are once again fully accessible to local users and sports clubs.



New Floodlights, Shenstone Tennis Club



Location: Staffordshire
Grant Amount: £19,937

Low-level 'Tweener' floodlighting has been installed at two tennis courts at Shenstone Tennis Club following a grant of nearly £20,000 from Enover Community Trust.

The tennis courts were installed in the 1970s and had become dangerous to play on in low light.

The Tennis Club provides high quality, affordable, accessible, safe and well-maintained courts for recreational play and local competition tennis for all ages and abilities. The Club adds to the quality of life in the village and contributes to the upkeep of Shenstone Playing fields and is a not-for-profit village tennis club.

As a result of the project, the community will benefit from having access to courts that everyone can play on.

Net Refurbishment, Kingsholm Cricket Club



Location: Gloucestershire
Grant Amount: £33,882

This project to refurbish the practice nets facility at Kingsholm Cricket Club in Gloucester was completed following a £33,882 grant from Enover Community Trust.

The original practice nets had been in place for over a decade and were no longer fit for purpose. The refurbishment works entailed resurfacing the practice area foundations, as well as installing new matting and associated resurfacing works.

The Club provides sport and recreations for all ages and the net facilities are vital to the provision of a controlled, safe practice environment for all members of the Club.



Brickwork Repairs and Repointing, Messing Village Hall



Location: Essex
Grant Amount: £16,723

Messing Village Hall, a Grade II listed building dating back to 1748, has been safeguarded for future generations thanks to a £16,723 grant from Enover Community Trust. The project involved extensive repairs to the historic brickwork, ensuring the hall continues to serve as a vital hub for community activities in Messing, near Colchester.

The works addressed significant water and frost damage to the hall's original brickwork, caused by historic flooding in the adjacent road. Over 200 damaged bricks were carefully replaced with traditional soft red bricks sourced from the Bulmer Brick and Tile Company to ensure they match the existing structure. Cement mortar pointing, which had previously worsened the damage, was replaced with traditional lime mortar pointing approved by conservation experts.

Andrew Lucas, Trustee and Building Manager of Messing Village Hall, said: "This restoration project was essential to preserve the integrity of our village hall. Thanks to the funding from Enover Community Trust, we've been able to protect this historic building for the community to enjoy for many years to come."

Replacing the Church Roof, St James' Church



Location: West Midlands
Grant Amount: £26,000

St James' Church in Brownhills, Walsall completed its long-anticipated re-roofing project, supported by a grant of £26,000 from the Enover Community Trust.

The roof, last refurbished in the early 1980s, had seen years of wear and tear, leading to the decision to fully replace it.

This funding, along with contributions from the church community, enabled the Church to successfully fund the re-roofing work, ensuring that St James' Church remains a safe and welcoming space for all members of the community.

The project involved the replacement of the entire roof with new Dreadnought tiles, energy-efficient insulation, battens, felt, and leadwork, as recommended by the Church's architects. This significant upgrade will ensure the safety and longevity of the building, enabling the Church to continue its vital work within the local community.



St Mary's Norton Bell Project



Location: Gloucestershire
Grant Amount: £16,500

A project to restore, enhance and promote the bells at St Mary's Church Norton was carried out following a £16,500 grant from Enover Community Trust.

The eight bells were removed from the tower of the Grade II listed church and had their worn-out fittings replaced, ensuring they are preserved as a resource for the community to learn about and take part in musical heritage.

The bells have been made suitable for training new bellringers from the local community in the ancient art of change ringing.

Additionally, the bell frame has been strengthened, the bells have been professionally tuned, the ringing area and tower has been made safe, and the bells have been rehung to sound out for future generations.

Major External Refurbishments to Hindu Community Centre



Location: Gloucestershire
Grant Amount: £30,000

This project to undertake major external repairs to the Hindu Community Centre in Cheltenham was completed following a £30,000 grant from Enover Community Trust.

The Hindu Community Centre building, which was previously a Methodist church, is over 100 years old, and the outside of the building had decayed over the years. Areas of concern included the roof, the old masonry stones, areas of flat roof, sky light windows, the brickwork, and flashings. One side wall also required rendering and re-plastering.

The project has seen the exterior of the building refurbished, ensuring all members of the Hindu Community living in Cheltenham and the surrounding area can continue to benefit from the Centre's support and the social interaction the facilities provide.



Accounts

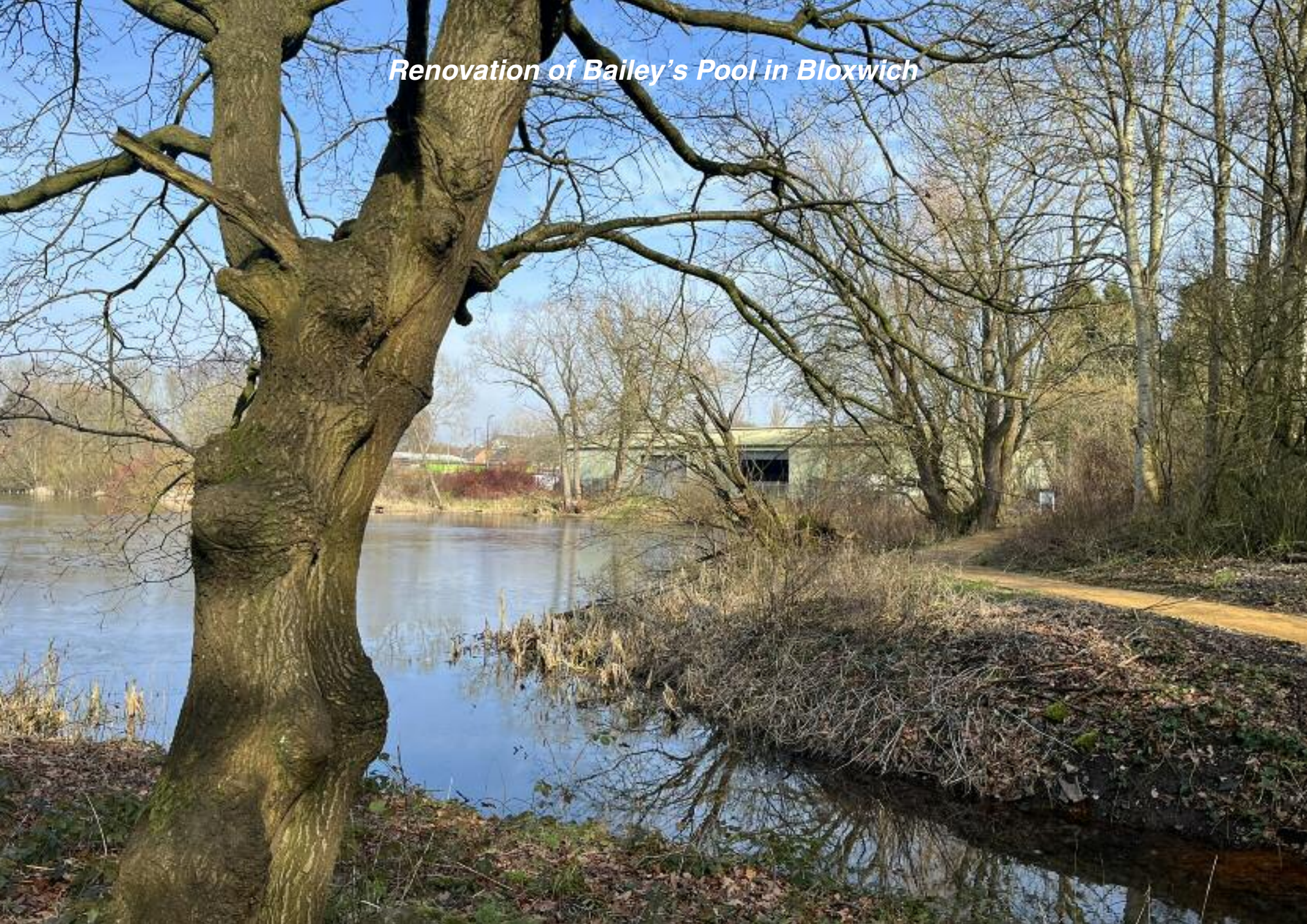
	2024 (£)	2023 (£)
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>		
Landfill Tax Credits	3,564,953	2,885,484
Interest	84,987	46,766
Total income	<u>3,649,940</u>	<u>2,932,250</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>		
Entrust administration fees	<u>104,434</u>	<u>97,529</u>
Grants payable and administration costs	<u>2,746,309</u>	<u>3,035,629</u>
Total resources expended	<u>2,850,743</u>	<u>3,133,158</u>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		
Net movement in funds	799,197	(200,908)
Fund balances at 1 January 2024	<u>2,302,257</u>	<u>2,503,165</u>
Fund balances at 31 December 2024	<u><u>3,101,454</u></u>	<u><u>2,302,257</u></u>

	2024 (£)	(£)	2023 (£)	(£)
Current assets				
Debtors	793,606		729,539	
Cash at bank and in hand	2,482,869		1,984,960	
	<u>3,276,475</u>		<u>2,714,499</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>175,021</u>		<u>412,242</u>	
Net current assets		<u><u>3,101,454</u></u>		<u><u>2,302,257</u></u>
Income funds				
Restricted funds		3,101,454		2,302,257
Unrestricted funds		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
		<u><u>3,101,454</u></u>		<u><u>2,302,257</u></u>

Restored Heathland Habitats at Simpson's Meadow, Gloucestershire



Renovation of Bailey's Pool in Bloxwich





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