

Dorset Branch Butterfly Conservation

Treasurer's Report for the year 2021-22 to accompany the accounts

This is the second year of Head Office has been managing all the book-keeping for all the Branches. There have been problems with timely reports, late payments of creditors and errors and omissions in the transactions. At the time of writing this (August 2022) I am still going through errors some of which will be corrected in the following year

The branch has been getting back to some level of pre-pandemic level of activity with the Sales stall operating, and we have arranged some butterfly transect workshops. A Butterfly ID Training Day and an AGM we had planned were, however, cancelled. The work on our reserves of Lankham Bottom, Alners Gorse as well as Portland sites arranging for contractors and volunteers has continued throughout. As stated in Note 1 of the accounts Head Office paid directly for £4,331.60 of reserve work instead of passing over a sum of grant -funding.

Although the Branch is holding £44k of funds the committee are aware that the reserve management needed on our two sites and Portland work is crucial and it is important to have some financial security for the future. Our planned annual expenditure is £22k but our anticipated income is £10k leaving an annual shortfall of £12k. We will have to find some new sources of funding as our financial reserves will only cover for the next 4 years. We have started to ask for donations for going on our guided walks, but it is difficult as yet to track any income which might be coming in.

The branch did receive £10,500 of legacy income two years ago and the committee decided to add this to the "Designated" fund which is earmarked for reserve management work. As such this Designated fund is increased to £20,500. It should be noted that designating funds only means that is what the committee intends to spend the money on, and could be changed. The only income that has to be spent on specific work is "restricted" funding and would usually come from grants or donations; HQ have asked us to not encourage restricted donations from our members as it makes the accounting difficult.

With thanks to the following organisations for supporting the branch.

- Cerne Abbas Society for Horticulture - £50
- Lotek Ltd - £470.39
- EuCAN - £250
- Dorset Countryside Volunteers - £117.20- Gift-in-kind
- Ryewater Nurseries – for free storage of field equipment.

The branch does need some help and ideas for raising funds. Please let the committee know if you feel you can support us in any way.

Georgie Laing

Treasurer

29 August 2022