

Charity No. SC045806



FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST
SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

31 March 2025

Scottish Charity No SC045806

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity registration number: SC045806

TRUSTEES

Jonathan Caddy (Chair)

Judith Bone (Secretary) stepped down 8/8/24

Talitha Ross (Secretary) appointed 19/9/24 and stepped down 1/11/24

Fiona MacKenzie (Secretary) appointed 6/2/25

David Hammond (Treasurer)

Jacqueline Buckingham

Christopher Raymont

Alan Watson Featherstone

Dr Arunkumar Patel stepped down 19/9/24

Neil Meikleham appointed 19/9/24

REGISTERED OFFICE

228 Pineridge,
The Park, Findhorn,
Moray, Scotland
IV36 3TB

ACCOUNTANT

Fasil Bogale
Chartered Accountant
15 Jameson Wynd,
Forres
IV36 2AP

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements and the independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The trustees

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

Jonathan Caddy (Chair)

Judith Bone (Secretary)

Talitha Ross (Secretary)

Fiona MacKenzie (Secretary)

David Hammond (Treasurer)

Jacqueline Buckingham

Christopher Raymont

Alan Watson Featherstone

Dr Arunkumar Patel

Neil Meikleham

Organisational structure

Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO). It was registered on 15 July 2015. It took over much of the work of the now dissolved unincorporated association, the Findhorn Hinterland Group whose assets were transferred to the Trust on the 30th of March 2016. The SCIO has a two-tier structure with appointed trustees and a membership.

Trustees and Membership

Membership is open to anyone over the age of 16 who has an interest in the objectives of the SCIO. They have the power to appoint trustees at the annual general meeting and change the constitution. The trustees meet four times a year and up to ten can be elected at the AGM by members. Up to six can be co-opted by trustees from local organisations that have an interest in the land. The maximum number of trustees is sixteen and a quorum of three are needed to make decisions at meetings.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes

Apart from a small 0.6ha piece of land run as a green burial site in the middle of Wilkies Wood, Findhorn Hinterland Trust does not at present own land but works with landowners in the local area to help integrate land management and involve the local community. Its specific purposes are: -

- The advancement of environmental protection and improvement with particular reference to the habitats of the Findhorn area, Moray, Scotland.
- The advancement of education of the local community and wider public especially related to the outdoor and environmental opportunities provided by the Findhorn Hinterland habitats and environs.

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

- The advancement of community development by encouraging community cooperation, development and resilience through activities related to land on the Findhorn Hinterland and its management.
- The provision of recreational facilities and activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for local people and others in West Moray and beyond.

At present the FHT has formal agreements with two of the Findhorn peninsula's landowners - the Findhorn Foundation and Duneland Ltd - to manage particular areas of their land. (In the next year or two it expects to be gifted much of this land it presently manages for these organisations.) This is carried out through implementing the 2019-2024 agreed five-year management plan which has been extended to cover up to 2025 due to delays in implementation because of the pandemic.

Activities/ Achievements and Performance:

This year has been a surprisingly busy and productive one for the charity with achievements on many fronts and activities and events that often simultaneously promote all four of the charity's purposes. Some of the most prominent have been:

1. Conservation and Educational Events on or Related to the Land

Fundraising during the week of the 18th to the 25th April through the Big Give Green Match Fund campaign which raised over £11,000 and a further £3,250 through TSI Moray's Climate Action Network fund allowed the trust to implement creating over 0.8 hectares of bare sand as part of our Dune Restoration Project in November. Before this happened there were a number of awareness raising talks and events including a presentation to over 150 army personnel from Kinloss Barracks as part of their Global Charge initiative, a further talk to the Forres Rotary Club, a written submission to the Findhorn and Kinloss Community Council and a fascinating moth trapping event and display with Butterfly Conservation specialists. After project completion, FHT also was invited to be part of the North East Scotland Biodiversity Partnership (NESBiP) seminar in Inverurie to talk about the successful delivery of the dune project along with twelve other conservation organisations.

The Dune Restoration work is part of our local response to the global biodiversity crisis and by fundraising through the Newbold Legacy Trust the FHT raised £3,500 to fund a three year partnership with Forres Academy our local Secondary school to give hands on understanding and experience to pupils around practical conservation as well as helping with the now annual school Biology Field Trip this year attended by over 50 pupils.

Other educational activities included working with local charity Theatre of the Seven Directions producing two plays - A Midsummer's Day Dream and What Matters trilogy - which used our woods and land as settings and attracted young people to deliver the plays and healthy audiences. There was also collaboration with educational charity WildThings! who regularly brought groups of primary pupils to explore and learn from our woods. FHT itself put on a varied educational programme that included day workshops on biodiversity and sharing nature and two day workshops, one on bees and another on rustic bench making. Workshops were not a great income earner and were mostly attended by people from the local community as we still need to look at how to reach more distant audiences but were greatly appreciated by those who attended and were a great way of fulfilling our educational charity purpose.

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

In addition to these new initiatives the normal series of monthly work parties continued with particularly well attended events on bees in the Spring and a Summer event in the Woodland Garden. Celebration events such as the May Day Celebration, a Summer Solstice event, our traditional Christmas tree/winter gathering at the Woodland Shelter and Santa's Grotto special event at the Conservation Hub were all appreciated and continue to help build a sense of local community through fun and nature connection. The annual Community Woodland Association (CWA) conference, held in Inverness this year, was attended by a few FHT members.

2. Building Projects - Our contribution to building the new Findhorn Sanctuary completed in spring 2025 involved further work parties for young and old scraping and then moving the round wood material down to the site along with the previously cut timber used as roof sarking. Whilst the building was being constructed a team of woodworkers formed to convert the previously burnt, planked and stored timber into beautiful benches for the vestibule and outside covered area of the building. This involved collaboration with a number of local organisations and the design and implementation was led by FHT member and woodworker Steven Porter with much appreciated results. Final landscaping around the building, involving bringing back stone originally moved from the site to construct flower beds, walls and a rockery, obtaining planters from the now sold Cluny hotel and the purchase and planting of suitable plants was carried out by several FHT members.

Fairly regular work by a Monday team of volunteers has also allowed small maintenance projects to be carried out such as rebuilding a rotten picnic bench and backed benches that were falling apart next to our Woodland Shelter.

3. Green Burial Activity - The four strong burial team continues to work well with four new burials taking place this year including two events involving community members: Duerten Lau 21/04/2024 and Jane Rasbash 09/11/2024. Duerten's funeral was one of the largest organised by FHT so far as she was a much loved and central figure who had lived many years within the local community and who had taken on many roles including a couple of years as the Chair of the Findhorn Hinterland Group the precursor of the FHT charity. This brings the total number of burials to 58 with a further 88 lairs reserved of which 12 additional lairs were purchased this year. We no longer offer double lairs and two lairs are currently being paid off over time and this has added a complexity to annual reporting this year. Last year three burials in April were added to the 2023-24 report.

4. Woodland Garden - Draeyk van der Horn continues to coordinate this aspect of the trust's work and has been organising others to get involved through an 'adopt a plot scheme' where different people take on small areas of the garden. This work has been augmented by a couple of larger work parties at critical times of the year. The Outdoor Learning Space also continues to be enjoyed by many people who take time to visit the garden.

5. Membership and Publicising the Work of the Trust. Paid membership has stayed about the same this year at around 190 although exact numbers are still being worked out due to several changes in membership secretaries. The high standard of our quarterly newsletters has been maintained and continues to be useful in many ways in the documenting and promoting of our work. The quality of posters and promotional material produced by Birgit Carow, our marketing person continues to be appreciated and improved year on year.

6. Personnel and Administrative Successes - There have been some changes in the trustee group with the stepping down at the September 2024 AGM of Arun Patel as a trustee and FHT Membership Secretary and Judith Bone as FHT Secretary. Many thanks goes to both for their long and helpful service.

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Neil Meikleham joined as a trustee at the same meeting and brings a wealth of experience in the natural sciences and has taken on being a member of the Land Management team especially working with mapping our now extensive biological record data using the Geographic Information System (GIS). Talitha Ross became a trustee and took on the Secretary role from the AGM to the 1st of November and Fiona Mackenzie who has been our Minutes Secretary for many years stepped in temporarily to fill this role on 6/2/25. Again, much appreciation to both. A major restructuring of FHT to make it more sustainable and resilient in the long run was instigated by having professional help from the change management organisation Just Enterprise in May and this process was followed up with two whole team meetings and was still ongoing at the end of the year. Part time Land Manager Kajedo Wanderer continues to underpin much of what the FHT does on the land. Regular land management, finance, beekeeping and green burial subgroup meetings have served the work of the trust well, allowing us time to discuss and make decisions on important operational matters out with trustee meetings.

Financial review

The statement of financial activities shows a surplus for the year of £ 8,812 (2024 £722 deficit. The charity's reserves were in surplus of £82,832 (2024 £74,742, surplus) at the year-end.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have reviewed the Reserves Policy in the light of the main risks to the organization and determined that a reserve of £13,000 is adequate for the day to day running of its affairs and that a further sum of £8,850 to cover burial liabilities has been identified. This is a steadily reducing sum as people who could claim 80% refunds or have paid in advance for burial costs are either refunded or buried as planned. Thus, the rest of the Green Burial Restricted Fund has been released to our general Unrestricted Fund.

Responsibilities of the trustees

The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

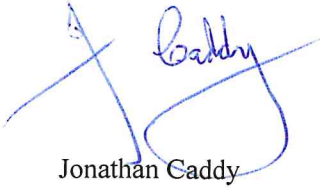
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



Jonathan Caddy

Chair

Date:

18th September 2025 .



Fiona MacKenzie

Secretary

Date:

18/9/25

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Findhorn Hinterland Trust.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 8 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10 (1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

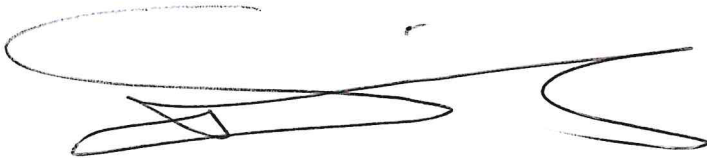
Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention, which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met.



Fasil Bogale ACMA,CGMA

Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generating funds:					
Donation & Legacies	4	4,533	1,747	6,280	9,249
Grants	4	-	17,735	17,735	1,850
Charitable Activities	4	31,527	-	31,527	22,481
Gift Aid	4	2,056	-	2,056	988
Investment	4	1,958	-	1,958	690
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		40,074	19,482	59,556	35,258
EXPENDITURE					
Charitable activities	5	32,103	18,301	50,404	35,640
Governance costs	6	340	-	340	340
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		32,443	18,301	50,744	35,980
Transfer		-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		7,631	1,181	8,812	(722)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
TOTAL FUND BROUGHT FORWARD		53,894	20,126	74,020	74,742
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		61,525	21,307	82,832	74,020

The Notes on page 10 to 14 form an integral part of these accounts

Charity number **SC045806**

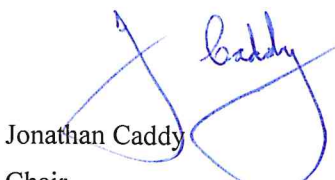
FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
YEAR ENDED 31 March 2025

	Note	31 March 2025 £	31 March 2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	2	19,156	19,847
Investment	7	40,533	37,890
		<u>59,689</u>	<u>57,737</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year		4,375	2,601
Cash at bank and in hand		23,913	22,187
		<u>28,288</u>	<u>24,788</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(5,145)	(8,505)
		<u>23,143</u>	<u>16,283</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		<u>23,143</u>	<u>16,283</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>82,832</u>	<u>74,020</u>
LONG TERM LIABILITIES		-	-
NET ASSETS		<u>82,832</u>	<u>74,020</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	8	61,525	53,894
Restricted funds	8	21,307	20,126
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>82,832</u>	<u>74,020</u>

The Notes on pages 10 to 14 form an integral part of these accounts

Charity No **SC045806**

Approved by the trustees on 18th September 2025 and signed on their behalf by:-


Jonathan Caddy
Chair


Fiona MacKenzie
Secretary

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements, except as noted below.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16th July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015) the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Related Parties

No other remuneration was paid to the trustees or to any connected persons during the year.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount paid in advance for future periods.

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 March 2025

2. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and machinery – 3-10 years

Computer -3 years

Building – 20 years

2.1. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Conservation Hub £	Plant and machinery £	Computer £	Freehold Land	Total £
Cost					
At 1 April 2024	20,327	2,523	427	1	23,278
Additions	-	541	-	-	541
At 31 March 2025	20,327	3,064	427	1	23,819
Depreciation					
Previous year charges	2,032	971	427	-	3,430
Charge for the year	1,017	217	-	-	1,234
At 31 March 2025	3,049	1,188	427	-	4,664
Net book value					
At 31 March 2025	17,278	1,876	-	1	19,155

** Freehold Land: In May 2019, the green burial site in the middle of Wilkies Wood was purchased from the Findhorn Foundation for the price £1.

3. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The following payments were made to a Trustee during the period for services in their normal line of business. Jacqueline Buckingham £435 (2024, £457), Fiona Mackenzie £40 & Christopher Raymont £1,691(2024, £2,137).

Trustees Expenses

One Trustee received reimbursement of expenses in the current year amount to £126 (2024 –£120). Trustees' expenses related to the reimbursement of material expenses incurred on behalf of the charity.

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 March 2025

4. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITY ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Christmas trees	-	-	-	935
Gorse clearance & Pony grazing	1,388	-	1,388	1,248
Green burial lair sale	19,410	-	19,410	11,350
Track use & maintenance fee	914	-	914	1,062
Other miscellaneous donations	3,291	662	3,953	1,192
Donation for Bee Funds	-	400	400	100
Membership	5,337	-	5,337	5,111
Duneland Restoration Project	-	685	685	5,336
Retreat and Workshop	3,984	-	3,984	990
Gift Aid	2,056	-	2,056	988
Miscellaneous Income	1,736	-	1,736	4,405
	38,116	1,747	39,863	32,717

Grants	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
TCV	-	-	-	100
Volunteering Matters	-	-	-	250
Newbold legacy Trust		180	180	-
Foundation Scotland		2,500	2,500	-
Moray CAF		3,250	3,250	-
The Big Give Trust		10,040	10,040	-
Hygeia Foundation	-	1,765	1,765	1,500
	-	17,735	17,735	1,850

INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Interest received	1,958	690
	1,958	690

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 March 2025

5. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES BY FUND TYPE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Green Burial	4,725	-	4,725	4,387
Pony field expenses	-	-	-	7
Vehicle expenses	32	-	32	435
Fuel/Oil	332	-	332	511
Management Plan	1,082	-	1,082	660
Land Management	13,569	-	13,569	13,964
Insurance	656	-	656	508
AGM	-	-	-	41
Tools and Maintenance	1,018	-	1,018	467
Administration costs	9,175	2,500	11,675	7,766
Bee equipment	-	990	990	263
Duneland Restoration Project	-	13,973	13,973	4,192
Trees Guards and Stakes	621	-	621	843
Retreat and workshop	893	-	893	254
Sanctuary Rebuild	-	838	838	-
Shepherds Hut Construction	-	-	-	1,162
	<u>32,103</u>	<u>18,301</u>	<u>50,404</u>	<u>35,640</u>

6. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Minutes Secretary	-	90	90	90
Accountancy fees	-	250	250	250
	<u>-</u>	<u>340</u>	<u>340</u>	<u>340</u>

7. OTHER ASSETS

	Notes	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
		£	£	£	£
Ekopia Share Investment	4a	11,940	28,593	40,533	37,890
Deposit with Seapark Petrol Station,		-	100	100	100
		<u>11,940</u>	<u>28,693</u>	<u>40,633</u>	<u>37,990</u>

The share investment in Ekopia is partly a restricted fund in order to cover inherited burial liabilities for rights to refund and prepaid grave digging costs from the trust's predecessor.

FINDHORN HINTERLAND TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 March 2025

8. INCOME FUNDS:

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
General Funds				
Unrestricted Fund	53,894	40,074	(32,442)	61,526
Transfer	-	-	-	-
Total Unrestricted Fund	<u>53,894</u>	<u>40,074</u>	<u>(32,442)</u>	<u>61,526</u>
Restricted Funds				
Green Burial Fund	11,940	-	-	11,940
Green Burial Fund Transfer	-	-	-	-
Total Green Burial Fund	<u>11,940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,940</u>
Bee Fund	1,137	400	(990)	547
Sanctuary Rebuild Fund	3,920	-	(838)	3,082
Outdoor Learning Space/EWG Fund	1,984	-	-	1,984
Duneland Restoration Project	1,145	15,920	(13,974)	3,091
New FHT Website	-	662	-	662
Visit Findhorn Website	-	2,500	(2,500)	-
Total Funds	<u>74,020</u>	<u>59,556</u>	<u>(50,744)</u>	<u>82,832</u>