



GREEN SPACES GREAT PLACES

ANNUAL REVIEW 2015 – 2016



Introducing the Land Trust

The Land Trust was established in 2004 by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and Groundwork and became a fully independent registered charity in 2010. Since then, we have built a portfolio of almost 60 sites (2,200 hectares of land) and a substantial pipeline of opportunities.

We work with a wide range of public and private sector landholders, including large estate managers, housing developers, landfill operators, local authorities and mining companies, helping them to identify solutions for public open spaces and allowing them to do what they do best.

MANAGING OVER
2,200 **60**
HECTARES OF LAND IN ALMOST LOCATIONS

ATTRACTED OVER
£300k
GRANT INCOME

1,000 HOUSEHOLDS
contributing to
GREEN SPACE
by service charges

the Land Trust named
"Client of the year"
by Landscape Institute
December 2015

Increased our portfolio by
37 **HECTARES**
across
6 sites
in 2015/16



Our New Sites

- Port Clarence
- Wath upon Dearne
- Upton
- Bookhurst Wood
- Millennium Wood
- Davy Down

Our Award Winning Sites

- Elba Park
- Countess of Chester Country Park
- Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park

Chairman's Report

The Land Trust is a charity that is committed to acquiring and managing green space for the benefit of communities. 2015/16 has seen more land come under our management, including a number of open spaces associated with new housing developments. Perhaps most importantly, this year we have also continued to improve the delivery of our five charitable objectives and our Social Return on Investment Research has shown that investing in well managed green space has financial value to society as a whole.

Site Acquisitions

In line with our 10 Year Strategy, this year has seen significant development of our service charge activities. Whilst we continued to acquire a number of sites funded the traditional way, through endowments, this year we have taken on the management of the open space around 1,000 residential properties at Upton, Northamptonshire (page 14). It is also anticipated that our existing partnerships with developers will see us increase our management of open space around strategic residential developments across the country over the coming year. Many of these large-scale developments will see open spaces transfer over to us in a phased build-out, some taking many years to transfer fully and benefit local communities, but it is important that we harness and build upon the opportunities as they emerge. Our role in delivering sustainable green infrastructure and integrating green space into the built environment contributes to securing not only more housing but better quality environments and better places for people to live.

This year we further increased our portfolio by adding 37 hectares (ha) across six sites including sites under interim management arrangements. This brings our portfolio under management to nearly 60 sites and 2,217 ha (including the 464 ha of Newlands, Revive and Restore Programme sites that we manage).

It is encouraging to note that through our involvement even more green spaces are being maintained for communities. This year we celebrated the completion of access works on the 110 ha SANG (Sustainable Alternative Natural Greenspace) for Grainger PLC at Aldershot around their Wellesley development (page 14). The former Ministry of Defence site was officially opened to the public in November 2015 and has already resulted in a number of other opportunities to support SANG developments around the Thames Basin Heath. Further details of the

achievement of our charitable objectives are detailed in the Chief Executive's Report and can be found on our website.

www.thelandtrust.org.uk

Investments

Volatility in the investment market has seen significant variation in the value of our endowment investments this year. From a market low in September 2015, the value of the portfolio has now shown some recovery and, along with funds received from acquisitions, by the year end the investment portfolio was £105m (vs £113m in 2014/15 and £102m in 2013/14). Continued favourable income yield on our investments; 5.02% in 2015/16 (vs 4.6% in 2014/15) enables us to manage our sites sustainably to achieve our charitable outcomes and to fund future improvements.

This year we benefited from an additional £0.55m of investment income following our investment manager moving from a cash received to an accruals basis of accounting. Furthermore, the year saw an increased level of corporate special dividends that boosted our income.

Working Capital

Whilst our site costs are generally met out of investment income, part of the Land Trust's central activities continues to be financed by a working capital allocation set up to fund the charity in the early years. The Working Capital Deficit in the year fell to £1.025m (2014/15: £1.076m). Encouragingly, this is lower than originally envisaged in the Business Strategy and along with the pipeline of potential sites, the Board remains confident that over the coming years the Land Trust will achieve long-term sustainability.

Benefits

Our sites under management continue to deliver benefits to our communities, and this year we have undertaken some research to establish how visitors use our sites and the value that our long-term investment approach has on society. We have always known that well managed green spaces benefit communities but this research

suggests that the Land Trust activities contribute the equivalent of circa £53million per annum of benefits to the health and welfare sector and a circa £41million per annum saving to society due to a perceived reduction in crime and helping people feel healthier and safer in their communities (page 22). The full research is published on our website.

Trustees

Since the year end, I am pleased to welcome Tom Keevil as a Trustee to the Board. Tom has a long legal career as a senior executive, working most recently at United Utilities PLC and Barratt Developments PLC. His experience and advice around risk management and governance along with the development sector will be a valuable contribution to the Board (page 24).

Over the year we also identified the need to strengthen our Board knowledge around the important area of health and have therefore taken the opportunity to develop a Health Advisory Committee, led by Walter Menzies, to provide the Land Trust with external strategic support. The Advisory Committee will help us develop a wider perspective and obtain valuable input into how we might best develop our sites to deliver sustainable health benefits for communities that live and work around our green spaces.

Acknowledgements

Finally, my thanks go to the Members, my fellow Trustees, senior officers and staff of the Trust for the very real progress we have made this year.



Peter Smith

Peter Smith
Chairman

Chief Executive's Report

This year I am pleased to report a significant increase in the delivery of our charitable objectives across our sites, in particular an increase in the delivery of health related activities. It has also been a year where we have been able to put a value on our green space to society, whilst continuing to increase the amount and quality of sites under our management.

New Sites

We acquired a further 37 hectares (ha) across six sites, including Davy Down, an existing urban riverside park which we manage on behalf of Essex and Suffolk Water Company; Bookhurst Park, an ancient woodland in Cranleigh, Surrey (page 19); and Port Clarence near Stockton on Tees, which we will initially manage for its biodiversity value whilst evaluating the environmental impact of the former tip site. During the year we have also disposed of the site at Barton Lane and our interim management agreement at Belmont House has come to an end. This brings our portfolio under management to 57 sites and 2,217 ha (including the 464ha of Newlands, Revive and Remade Programme sites that we manage). Perhaps our most exciting acquisition this year has been the open space around the residential development at Upton, Northamptonshire (page 14), which has allowed us to significantly increase our involvement in sites managed through the collection of service charges. We look forward to working with the residents to not only deliver quality green space management, but to do it in such a way that enhances biodiversity, health activities and community engagement.

Existing Sites

Our partnership with Grainger PLC at Aldershot was celebrated in November when work to improve access to the SANG (Sustainable Alternative Natural Greenspace) was completed and the community came out to celebrate despite Storm Abigail joining us (page 14). We have also seen significant enhancements to a number of our existing sites, including the completion of a river and reed bed project to improve water quality at Rabbit Ings

in Barnsley (page 6), along with upgrades to community football pitches and facilities there and at Frickley Country Park, Wakefield (page 9). Capital works included wetland restoration at Carr Lodge, Doncaster (page 7) and Braeburn Park, Dartford (page 20). This year, in partnership with local NHS Trusts, TCV and Nature4Health, we have also appointed a Health for Life Ranger, who will promote healthy outdoor lifestyles and offer a range of health activities at our Countess of Chester Country Park (page 20).

Benefits

We have always believed that green spaces have a positive effect on communities and, increasingly, research indicates the enormous contribution that access to the outdoors can have to our health and wellbeing. Ultimately it is individuals and society at large that benefit from healthier people and vibrant communities. I am therefore delighted that this year we have seen an enormous increase in people taking part in organised activities and events on our sites – to over 72,000. In particular, we doubled participation in training activities to more than 1,500 people and saw a 57% increase in our health activities such as regular health walks and woodland workouts. Perhaps the most pleasing result this year has been the continued increase in the valuable support we receive from volunteers. I was delighted last year to report a 50% increase to over 8,000 volunteer days, but this year we have benefited from a further 79% increase to over 14,400 days. This is a massive contribution to our work and helps to ensure that our parks and green spaces are enhanced for and by local communities. A summary of the organised activities and events for 2015/16 is illustrated below.

Maintaining
278ha
of wildflower
meadows

LEADING OVER
1,800
GUIDED WALKS

EDUCATING OVER
7,800
SCHOOL CHILDREN

14,800 TOOK PART IN
HEALTH
ACTIVITIES

31,800 TOOK PART IN
COMMUNITY
ACTIVITIES

As well as measuring the improvement in our charitable impacts across our sites (health, education, environment, economy and community cohesion), we also commissioned research into the social return on investment we are achieving. We wanted to not only know how people used our green spaces and how this made them feel, but importantly what impact did the green spaces have on the local community and what was the social value of green space. Following feedback from across 12 sites, our independent research showed that the Land Trust's green spaces contribute the equivalent of circa £94 million per year of benefit to support health, welfare and social cohesion.

Fundraising and Grants

As a charity we enhance our sites and the benefits we are able to deliver to communities through fundraising applications. This year we have secured more than £300,000 for various schemes including the Health for Life project at the Countess of Chester Country Park and environmental improvements at Rabbit Ings, Yorkshire and Braeburn Park, Dartford. In addition, the Coastal Revival Fund award to our historic Fort Burgoyne in Dover funded condition surveys to help prioritise future restoration works and record the history of the site (page 20-21). In October we completed the two-year Green Angels training programme at Liverpool Festival Gardens. Nearly 70 people took part in specific courses, and out of those actively seeking work, 24 found employment. A number of participants also established a social enterprise and are now starting to offer environmental and community services (page 15). We are hoping to extend this successful approach to other sites across the country, subject to successful funding applications.

Communications & Awards

With a portfolio of nearly 60 sites, this year we also took the opportunity to update our website, creating an online resource of visitor maps and information about our sites www.thelandtrust.org.uk and have started a programme to build upon our brand by rolling out improved visitor signage across our sites. We were also delighted to have received recognition at a number of external awards including Green Flag Awards at Elba and Greenwich Ecology Park and Highly Commended from RICS North West (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) for the regeneration of Port Sunlight River Park (page 11).

Moving Forward

We continue to have a substantial number of opportunities in the pipeline, extending to over 3,000 ha across the country. In line with our Business Strategy, using our approach to deliver open and green space management around residential developments has enabled greater numbers of people to benefit from well-maintained green spaces. We are already involved with projects throughout the country enabling the delivery of over 7,500 new homes over the next five years, where we will manage the open space. This year we have also increasingly used our experience to assist in long-term green space management with the establishment of further SANG areas in the Thames Basin Heath area and work with local authorities across the country; this is expected to increase further. As our portfolio continues to grow over the coming years, so will the charitable impact we deliver and the benefits to society as a whole.

Management Team

During the year we increased the resilience of our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) by splitting the operations role, giving portfolio management and therefore our charitable impacts greater profile. As a result Alan Carter was promoted to SLT as Director of Portfolio Management. We also recruited our new Director of Business Development, Iain Taylor, who joined us from Peel Developments to lead our site acquisition. Julie Etherington, our Director of Finance, left the Trust at year end and we appointed our Financial Controller, Paul Oberge, as Acting Director of Finance.

Acknowledgements

Finally I would like to thank the committed team of staff, volunteers, Managing Partners and Trustees, without whom none of the achievements in this Annual Review would have been possible. We look forward with confidence to even greater achievements in 2016/17. Thank you.



Euan Hall

Euan Hall
Chief Executive



14,400
DAYS VOLUNTEERED



Managing
370ha
of woodland

Providing
140km
of paths
and trails



Supporting
78ha
of lakes and
wetlands

Environment and Biodiversity

Green spaces are increasingly being recognised for their value, not only to nature, but also to society. The response to the winter floods over the last few years has highlighted the importance of green space in the protection of our communities. As with all well managed green spaces, it's not simply enough to have the space, it's about managing it effectively. Planting and grass cutting regimes can affect the biodiversity and the species that call our spaces home, particularly our vital pollinators. Investment in habitat creation and landscaping can enhance the site for wildlife and people as well as helping society adapt to a changing climate.

Rabbit Ings

Since its creation as a country park in 2011, the former colliery spoil heap, near Barnsley, Yorkshire, has been transformed into a wildlife haven, and has recently been designated as a Local Wildlife Site. This year more than 7,000 trees have been planted on the 76.5 ha site to supplement existing planting and to create new boundary hedges. Enhancements to our Great crested newt pond are also creating a healthy and breeding population of this European protected species.

This year, Rabbit Ings has been part of a pioneering project aimed at reinvigorating wildlife in the tributary of the River Dearne as it passes through the site. The innovative scheme has transformed a stagnant, straight section of the stream into a faster moving s-shaped channel, clearing away sediment and making the water cleaner for local wildlife. The project, headed up by Yorkshire Water, and involving the Environment Agency and many other environmental organisations, will investigate whether restoring river habitat directly impacts water quality. It is hoped the restoration will create a visible increase in indicators of good water quality, such as plants and invertebrates, as well as encouraging freshwater species, such as shrimp, mayfly and Brown trout to return. Four years' worth of data, both before and after the scheme, is being collected in a bid to assess its impact. We have already recorded our first Little egret, along with herons and kingfishers. This work together with the expansion and creation of new areas of reed bed (page 20) will significantly improve habitats for wildlife on the site. This important project has already been visited by World Water Laureate, Rajendra Singh.

SCIENTISTS
NOW SUGGEST THAT
STRATEGIC
PLANTING
OF TREES COULD REDUCE
THE HEIGHT OF
FLOODING
IN TOWNS
BY UP TO
20%



Carr Lodge

Carr Lodge, near Doncaster, is a 35 ha site within the Humberhead Levels Nature Improvement Area (NIA). Formerly bog and fen, it was drained in the mid-18th century for agriculture. Currently not open to the public, we are managing the area to recreate wet grassland, species-rich fen, ponds, and reed-fringed channels. This will, in effect, expand one of the largest inland wetland reserves in the UK.

Improvement works, supported by WREN BAF, have created a mosaic of habitats on site, 5 ha of open water with reed-fringe, 10 ha of species-rich fen and 20 ha of wet grassland. The wet grassland will provide habitat for breeding waders, such as Lapwing and Redshank, the fen will provide excellent habitat for a range of invertebrates and ground nesting birds, such as Snipe and the open water and reed-fringe will provide additional habitat for European protected species like Water vole and Great crested newt, along with warblers and other birds associated with reedbeds.



Canvey Wick

Acquired in 2014, Canvey Wick is a 19 ha Site of Special Scientific Interest on Canvey Island in Essex. Already hailed by Natural England as a 'brownfield rainforest' due to its importance as a haven for wildlife, the site is already home to over 1,400 species of insect, including many that are endangered.



This year work has focused on restoring even more invertebrate-friendly habitat by increasing short sward grassland, creating 4 ha of bare ground and six hibernacula or 'bee banks'. These restored areas are not only welcoming invertebrates, but Canvey Wick now also has a flourishing population of Common spotted orchid and the scarce Round-leaved wintergreen. We are currently working with adjacent landowners and hope to substantially increase the area under management in the coming year.



Warren House Park

With the support of a local school and volunteers, we have planted a 'wildlife orchard' of mixed species native trees, at Warren House Park in Doncaster, thanks to funding from the Northern Horticultural Society. Timed to mark the commemoration of the centenary of First World War in November 2015, the plants provide a 'grow your own' food source for wildlife and local foragers within the community.



the Land Trust
manages more than

270

hectares

of wildflower meadow and
conservation grassland

Silverdale

The 85 ha former colliery site has been confirmed as having the largest breeding colony of rare Dingy skipper butterfly in Staffordshire.

The site has also had rare wildlife sightings for the first time this year including; Black redstart, Six-belted clearwing moth and Grass snake. Volunteers have also counted and recorded over 983 flowering spikes of Common spotted and Marsh orchids - an increase on the 600 seen last year. To support and encourage these valuable species, 3kg of Yellow rattle seed has been planted and swathes of Red bartsia and Eyebright have been created.



"Silverdale Country Park is a stronghold for the Nationally Scarce Species of Six-belted clearwing moth."

Dave Emley
County Butterfly recorder

Health

There is a growing body of research linking green space with improved mental and physical health, as well as mounting evidence demonstrating the increasing costs to society and the health sector from physical inactivity.

Our well maintained green spaces offer easily accessible opportunities for people to lead healthier lifestyles, whether using them as calming spaces to reduce anxiety and stress or as invigorating places to burn calories and improve fitness.

Green spaces offer tangible health benefits. This year we have improved our understanding of the health benefits of spending time in green space, as well as encouraging even more people to take part in health activities on our sites.



Phoenix Park

More than 600 people have participated in organised health activities at Phoenix Park near Barnsley, Yorkshire. With its network of well maintained paths, Phoenix Park has developed a programme of regular health walks, either led by the ranger or by independent groups, and includes a new NHS health initiative 'Walk Well Barnsley'; a weekly 20 minute walk of the site and 'Buggy walks' organised in partnership with the local children's centre. The park is also frequently used by local autism groups who visit the park for organised walks and ranger-led activities.

In June this year, working with local partners, the park hosted the second annual 'Tour De Dearne' cycling event which saw over 360 people of all ages take part in the 3.8 mile cycle ride culminating with a community party at Phoenix Park.

Langdon Lake and Meadow

Langdon Lake and Meadow in Essex is a 16 ha nature reserve within a mainly urban area, comprising a lake, meadows and woodland and providing key habitats for threatened species, such as the Grizzled skipper butterfly. Over the years, it has become an extremely popular destination for the local running club; the Phoenix Striders, who incorporate the beautiful scenery into their runs three times a week.

It's not only the running club that benefits from this lush space. Bob's Ramblers meet weekly, local business employees take in the fresh air for lunchtime walks and runners, cyclists and horse riders regularly use the network of paths as part of their exercise routes.

In the last year, over 2,500 people have taken part in health activities at the reserve. Importantly, a number of these have been local residents joining volunteer work parties, which has helped them to feel less isolated and improved their physical and mental wellbeing.



More than
two million
people across the country
now cycle at least
once a week, an all-time
high according to
British Cycling



Frickley Country Park and Rabbit Ings Country Park

Two of our Yorkshire sites, Frickley Country Park and Rabbit Ings Country Park, have had improvements made to their football pitches. These improvements increase the variety of activities available at our sites, opening up opportunities not only to sports clubs, but to other community users as well, such as youth groups, who may have otherwise not benefited from the park.



NEARLY
15,000
PEOPLE TOOK PART IN
HEALTH ACTIVITIES
ON OUR SITES IN 2015/16,
AN INCREASE OF
OVER 50%

Monkton

One of our North East parks; Monkton Community Woodland, in South Tyneside, is leading change by using public health funding to deliver health programmes in nature, demonstrating how green spaces really can improve our health and wellbeing and potentially reduce the burden on the NHS.

Our Manager Partner; Groundwork, has secured funding through South Tyneside Public Health to deliver a Green Gym programme at the Woodland. Getting local residents engaged in more physical activity in the outdoors helps to prevent or reduce obesity and diet related diseases.

This is helping to support disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and people to tackle and reduce health inequalities across the borough.

People are referred to the programme from their local GP for exercise and weight management, a supporting organisation, or they can self-refer. The main aims are: to reduce future referral to acute NHS services; prevent or reduce both physical and mental health problems within the borough; and help people return to work after long term sickness. So far, it's proving successful!

77.7%
OF PARTICIPANTS HAVE
IMPROVED THEIR
PHYSICAL HEALTH
(Source: Monkton Woodland, 2015/16)

95%
OF PARTICIPANTS SAY
THEY ARE MORE CONFIDENT,
HAPPY AND HAVE
IMPROVED SELF-WORTH
(Source: Monkton Woodland, 2015/16)



"I feel like my life is like swimming underwater – and drowning at times. These sessions are my breathing holes and keep me going."

Local Resident

"I love coming along to the Green Gym sessions – it boosts my confidence and I feel happy."

Local Resident

Health

This year, we commissioned an independent perceptions survey as part of a social value study of our green spaces. Evidence suggests green spaces and the natural environment can play a vital part in the public's health and wellbeing.

There is already substantial evidence linking green space to better physical and mental health. With increased pressures on NHS budgets, we are confident that our free to access sites have a positive benefit to people's mental and physical health and wellbeing. Being able to access our green spaces and the programmes that we run on them help people feel happier, lead more active lifestyles and provide areas of solitude for them to unwind, feel more positive and less anxious and stressed.

The survey asked what visitors used our sites for, with the most frequent uses being exercise, leisure and recreation. However, almost half also used them to regularly walk dogs and a quarter used them to relieve stress. This was reiterated further when asked to use one word to describe the sites, peaceful and relaxing were amongst the most frequently used.

The survey went on to ask visitors about how the site contributed to other aspects of society and 92% of respondents felt that the site helped to encourage them or others to keep fit and healthy. For further information of the survey, see page 22.

Being in green space can improve mood, help decrease blood pressure and help prevent and reduce many chronic diseases.

Source: NHS Forest

Those who live within 500m of accessible green space are 24% more likely to meet recommended levels of physical exercise.

Source: Defra

"Northumberlandia is relaxing, enjoyable and a beautiful place for walking."

Local Resident

Access to green spaces could reduce inequality in mental wellbeing by nearly 50%.

Source: University of Glasgow



Nearly
50%
use our green
spaces to
**WALK
THE DOG**

over **50%** EXERCISE,
use our green LEISURE AND
spaces for RECREATION

"Rabbit Ings has supported me with my fitness and weight loss in a pleasant and safe environment."

Local Resident



Port Sunlight River Park

Port Sunlight River Park in Wirral is a real hub for health. Since opening to the public two years ago, it has become a popular destination for dog walkers, cyclists and runners, with groups using the park on a weekly basis.

The ranger leads weekly health walks which attracted nearly 100 people in the last 12 months. It's not only used for physical activities, but the River Park has become a sanctuary for positive mental wellbeing as well.

Since opening, the park has been managed on a day-to-day basis by Autism Together, a specialist charity working with people with autism. Not only has the park provided its service users with a safe haven to improve their health and wellbeing through daily maintenance tasks, it has become well known as an autism friendly place to visit and as such, is having a positive impact on many social groups.



9 out of 10
PEOPLE FEEL THAT
PORT SUNLIGHT RIVER PARK
ENCOURAGES THEM OR OTHERS TO KEEP
FIT AND HEALTHY

"I joined the health walk to try and improve my stamina and recovery from a hip replacement. Being out in nature, with the beautiful views, in good company, helps to lift your spirits."

Health walk participant



25%
use our green spaces to relieve **STRESS**

"Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park is a nice place to relax and get away from work."

Local Resident



9 out of 10
PEOPLE FEEL THAT
OUR GREEN SPACES
PLAY A POSITIVE
PART IN THEIR
HAPPINESS
AND WELLBEING

"Suffering mild depression and anxiety, I come to Elba Park to walk and jog to let off some steam."

Local Resident

Education and Learning

We aim for our sites to provide an inspirational setting to engage with nature and enjoy the benefits of the outdoors. This year we have developed our approach to signage and are increasingly providing interpretation to help visitors learn about nature and the historic links that many of our sites have. We also encourage the use of our sites for informal and formal educational and training activities, teaching about the benefits of our natural surroundings, providing valuable training and inspiring future generations.



Bentley

Bentley Community Woodlands in Doncaster is a large 93 ha site but historically it has been quite challenging to attract formal education visits to it. However, by incorporating a diverse range of family and educational activities to suit all ages and abilities, we have seen a substantial increase.

We invited local colleges and students in horticulture and environment to work alongside rangers to learn new skills and techniques in bushcraft, habitat management, coppicing and the heritage skill of hedge laying. Students also used the site to learn orienteering skills as part of Duke of Edinburgh's Award schemes. Families and individuals have also enjoyed learning new skills in woodland craft activities with the regular men's bushcraft sessions now joined by a new women only session.



Northumberlandia

Educational opportunities at the impressive landform Northumberlandia, near Newcastle, have increased dramatically this year thanks to our Managing Partner Northumberland Wildlife Trust and local social enterprise Footprints on the Moon. Students from nursery age right through to adult education have enjoyed the site with self-guided visits, ranger-led tours and organised events. This unique site has also inspired visits from engineering and mining students and art and writing groups. With a growing calendar of education events including regular Wild Tots, Wildlife Watch Clubs and numerous events in the school holidays, the site continues to inspire and excite visitors.

"The children had a wonderful time learning about The Lady and how she was made and they took part in some great activities. It was wonderful to see the children enjoying the outdoors and having such a fun time. I am looking desperately for another opportunity to visit as soon as possible! Thank you so much."

Teacher St. Bede's School (Bedlington)



Greenwich

Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park is a green oasis amongst the high-rise developments of the Millennium Village in London. This rare opportunity to experience nature in the heart of the city has developed into a vibrant location for educational visits with more than 1,000 children visiting last year. The Park also provided six work experience placements and 23 reparation sessions with Greenwich Youth Offending Service. Demand is outstripping our current facilities and we have recently received planning permission for our new education classroom, to expand on what we can offer.



OVER 1,500
FORMAL TRAINING ACTIVITIES
TOOK PLACE ON OUR SITES IN 2015/16

Kiveton Community Woodland

Kiveton Community Woodland in Yorkshire is a popular venue for school and college students of all ages and abilities.

REAL Education, an independent school for excluded children and Skillforce, working with teenagers close to exclusion, use Kiveton to help engage students with behavioural and learning needs.

This has been a great success, with students using the orienteering facility to learn basic map reading skills, the forest area to learn fire lighting and campfire cooking and working on their team building skills by building survival shelters. These activities all help to promote teamwork and cooperation, essential skills for them to build on in their own futures.



92% of schools said it improves pupils' health and wellbeing and engages them in learning.

Source: Natural England's Natural Connections Study 2016

Children learning outside in nature helps to improve their developments in the classroom.

Source: Reading University - WWF-UK 2008

79% of teachers said outdoor learning had a positive impact on their teaching practice.

Source: Natural England's Natural Connections Study 2016

Economy

Our green spaces contribute to the economy in a number of ways. The availability of green space is known to increase the desirability of an area, creating attractive places for residents and businesses and increasing economic vitality. In addition, our model of using local Managing Partners means that we support the employment of 38 rangers and site staff along with local contractors. Our spaces can also be ‘outdoor offices’, and benefit many local businesses, such as commercial dog walkers, health and fitness trainers and Forest School practitioners.

Wellesley Woodlands

Following an 18 month programme of works, this 110 ha community woodland in Aldershot was officially opened to the public in November 2015.

The woodlands form important green infrastructure integrated into Grainger’s new community development which will ultimately include 3,850 new homes, schools and refurbished listed buildings. To create this beautiful and accessible green space, this former Ministry of Defence land needed the clearance of rubble and vegetation before new footpaths, fences and car parks could be installed and new trees and hedges planted.

In total our team of local rangers and contractors spent over 1,200 days on-site improvements.



16,000 metres of pathways were planned and mapped at Wellesley



Upton Service Charge

This year the Land Trust acquired the open space management around over 1,000 homes at Upton, Northampton. The estate was designed to incorporate significant areas of green space providing nearly 2km of sustainable urban drainage. These grassy and sometimes flower-filled channels provide valuable green space in the development as well as performing an important role in protecting properties in the area. Funded through our service charge model, each homeowner pays for the upkeep of the play areas, woodland, sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) and open spaces including a town square with fountain.

Green Angels

The Green Angels environmental training programme, at Liverpool Festival Gardens, ended in October 2015 after two overwhelmingly successful years.

67 people attended training courses – with many participants reporting significant improvements in confidence. Nearly half are now employed and, as such, contributing to local and national economies.

Funded by Big Lottery Funds' Reaching Communities programme, Green Angels supported the regional economy by hiring facilities, services and materials from local suppliers and promoting other local environment initiatives, training providers and employers.

We are applying again for Big Lottery funding to roll out this training programme across other sites in the coming years.



67 people attended training courses in countryside management, parks maintenance, business skills, environmental education and horticulture.

Of these 67 people, 54 were actively seeking work.

24 (out of the 54) of our trainees went on to find employment.

8 trainees went on to set up a social enterprise to trade in the skills they learned through Green Angels.

"I may not have got my new job without doing the Environmental Education course you facilitated. You have helped me achieve something I have been trying to do for 4 years."

Louise Mills
Green Angels Trainee

Valuing our green spaces

Our independent social value study (page 22) demonstrated how long-term investment in parks and green spaces contributes to local economies as well as bringing cost savings to society, lessening the burden on the wider economy, businesses, public health and social services.

There are increasing pressures on national budgets from local authorities, policing and health. However, our research indicates that well managed green space integrated within a community can help contribute to economic uplift, attract inward investment, boost house sales and reduce anti-social behaviour and it can be really good for people's health, reducing the need to visit the doctors and cost to the NHS.

Our research shows that by providing people with free access to high quality, well maintained green public open spaces, our activities contribute the equivalent of £94 million to society.

Green spaces are a vital part of the solution.

ONE THIRD
believe that our green spaces help reduce crime and anti-social behaviour

OVER 75%
people interviewed think our green spaces bring communities closer together

9 OUT OF 10 people interviewed felt that our green spaces help make the local area more desirable

"Elba Park is the reason I moved here 2 years ago."



"Because of Port Sunlight River Park, I am now proud to tell people where I live."



Community Cohesion and Volunteering

Our green spaces provide opportunities for communities to get together either as part of organised events or informally through shared interests and activities. From annual fetes to guided walks, thousands of people attended organised weekend or holiday activities in 2015/16.

Many of our sites benefit from teams of dedicated volunteers who help us maintain our sites and provide visitor support on a regular or adhoc basis. In 2015/16 we received the equivalent of over 14,400 days of voluntary support. An impressive 79% increase on the previous year. Thank you to everyone involved.

IN 2015/16
WE RECEIVED
OVER 14,400 DAYS OF
VOLUNTARY
SUPPORT



Pleasley Pit

This 4 ha site near Mansfield includes the former colliery buildings which are now a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Managed on our behalf by the Pleasley Pit Trust, the mining museum and café is supported by a team of dedicated volunteers contributing around 2,500 volunteer days each year. Along with regular guided walks and heritage tours, in 2015/16 the volunteers arranged four community events attracting around 3,500 visitors. The open weekend in September brought together many community groups and was visited by over 2,000 people and only stopped when the café ran out of food!

IN 2015/16
VOLUNTEERS ORGANISED
4 COMMUNITY EVENTS
WITH OVER
3,500
VISITORS



Beam Parklands

As well as being an important flood storage area, Beam Parklands, Dagenham is a much loved community asset, bringing different groups together and having positive impacts on local people.

The park now hosts weekly volunteering sessions, attracting a range of people, some are unemployed, who want to develop their skills and others are retired and enjoy being part of a team.

This year our volunteers have transformed an area of overgrown shrubs adjacent to housing, clearing rubbish and cutting back the plants. It is now cleaner, accessible and providing space to plant wildflowers - making it attractive and welcoming to the community.

Volunteers are a fantastic asset at all of our green spaces, but it isn't just our sites that benefit – many of our volunteers find that the skills they develop have contributed to them finding employment. Sonya Kavanagh, Beam's park ranger began volunteering at the Parklands, as part of her university course. She enjoyed it so much, she continued afterwards. A year later, the ranger role became available and she was the successful candidate.



“Volunteering really helped build my confidence, socially and professionally. I gained so many skills – team building, leadership and people engagement. I have been able to apply them in many situations.”

Sonya Kavanagh
Beam Parklands Ranger

MORE THAN
11,000
PEOPLE ATTENDED
WEEKEND OR
HOLIDAY
ACTIVITIES
IN 2015/16

Corporate Support

In addition to site based volunteering, we are developing our corporate programme of volunteers. This year we have welcomed the generous support of AB Agri and Project Dirt. We are working with AB Agri to provide volunteering opportunities at our sites close to their offices and Project Dirt are helping to put us in touch with various corporate organisations that want to volunteer at our Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park. We also benefit from support from local businesses organised by our Managing Partners. **If you are interested in getting involved please get in touch.**

Port Sunlight River Park

Celebrating two years since its creation from a former closed landfill site, Port Sunlight River Park in Wirral has become a delightful addition to the local community. Managed by Autism Together, our full time ranger was supported by more than 50 volunteers last year, with four contributing over 100 hours each.

The site with its impressive views of the UNESCO Liverpool waterfront is now regionally connected and forms part of the Wirral Way, the Wirral Walking Festival and has a Sustrans bike hub.

Passionately supported locally it has an active 'Friends of Port Sunlight River Park' who fundraise and hold community events and a number of local businesses including Vauxhall Motors and Unilever support the park through volunteering days.



Development pipeline and projects

We are actively seeking new opportunities to provide long-term management of green space. In line with our Business Strategy, this year we have seen exciting growth in the management of public open spaces around residential developments. Our service charge operation now provides services to more than 1,000 homeowners, with many more residential sites expected to be transferred to us in the coming year.

We are proactively working in partnership with a wide range of landowners, developers and housebuilders to provide exit solutions for the long-term management of green space within new communities. We are also working to ensure that residents appreciate the service charge funding model and the benefits of well-managed green space to their community and to the value of their investment.

Our robust opportunity pipeline extends to more than 3,000 ha across the country and we have a plan to add a further 6,500 properties under service charge management in the next three years. This includes a number of strategic residential developments with many thousands of properties and significant areas of green space, which will take many years to fully transfer. In addition, we continue to work with landowners to acquire non-developable land through our endowment approach, helping to provide an exit strategy whilst achieving charitable outcomes.

This year we have acquired the public open space at Upton, Northamptonshire and have seen our first management agreement with a utility company for Davy Down in Essex. We have also acquired Bookhurst Wood in Surrey, Port Clarence, a 6 ha former landfill site in Stockton-on-Tees, and have extended our portfolio of sites in Warrington with a transfer of a small site at Millennium Wood.

Land Trust Residential Services Ltd.

The Land Trust is facilitating the open space management for a residential development at Upton, Northamptonshire, through the collection of a service charge, payable by every homeowner. The site, of over 1,000 properties, will be managed through our wholly owned subsidiary Land Trust Residential Services Limited and includes management of play areas, woodland, sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) and open spaces including a town square with fountain.

The creation of subsidiary companies enables us to effectively manage service charge administration whilst our estate delivery approach remains consistent with the delivery of our core charitable objectives.

It is anticipated that over the coming year, we will further develop the service charge model as more open spaces around residential estates are transferred to us.



Bookhurst Wood

In November we acquired 13.8 ha of ancient woodland in Cranleigh, Surrey. The site, acquired from Linden Homes, is a fabulous example of ancient woodland and provides a stunning backdrop to nearby properties.



“Our partnership with the Land Trust ensures that this beautiful, ancient woodland – which provides a stunning backdrop to our flagship development, Swallowhurst – will be maintained and enhanced for years to come; not only for the benefit of our residents, but also for the wider community of Cranleigh.”

Fiona Davidson
Linden Homes, Guildford

Working with local authorities

With ever tightening budgets, local authorities are increasingly looking to identify ways to manage and protect their parks and green spaces.

The Land Trust is ideally placed to offer solutions around long-term funding and sustainable management. Over the last year we have worked with a number of authorities to provide consultancy advice, funding solutions and alternative management plans.



Wellesley SANG development

This year we celebrated the completion of access works on the 110 ha SANG (Sustainable Alternative Natural Greenspace) for Grainger PLC at Aldershot around their Wellesley development. The former Ministry of Defence site was officially opened to the public in November 2015 and has already resulted in a number of other opportunities to support SANG developments around the Thames Basin Heath.

“Wherever we are working, protecting nature, wildlife and the existing environment is important to everyone at Grainger. Now that the Wellesley Woodlands are open, we are committed to supporting the progress of the SANG with our partners.”

John Beresford
Development Director, Grainger PLC



Fundraising successes in 2015/16

As a charity, we are able to enhance and add value to our sites and the benefits we can deliver to communities and the environment through fundraising.

This year, over £300,000 of grant funded income allowed us to deliver projects across England. This included the completion of an important wetland restoration project, funded by Veolia Environmental Trust, at Rabbit Ings Country Park and the final year of the Green Angels project, based at Liverpool Festival Gardens and supported by Big Lottery Fund.

Health for Life, Countess of Chester Country Park

A new programme of health activities at the Countess of Chester Country Park was funded by grants from Mersey Forest Nature4Health; Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust; Cheshire West and Chester Council; Mersey Forest Green Gym and Clarion Welsby Foundation. The 19 ha country park, adjacent to the Countess of Chester Hospital, was previously a landfill site but now connects the hospital with neighbouring residential areas and provides access to a range of habitats, allowing staff, patients, visitors and local residents to get closer to nature. The new Health for Life and Green Gym programmes are providing regular and manageable sessions at the park, ranging from walking to light jogging circuits with advice and support on everything from preparing nutritious meals to what type of running shoes are best to buy.



OVER **£40,000** SECURED FROM
CORY ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST



Braeburn Park

The Land Trust successfully secured over £40,000 from Cory Environmental Trust to restore grassland habitats at Braeburn Park, in the London Borough of Bexley. Braeburn Park's diverse history has included use as an orchard, Victorian landfill, testing area for shotguns, and more recently as a quarry and waste transfer site. Since the closure of the waste transfer site, habitats have developed which have resulted in the site's designation as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

However, over the last 10 years, prior to our ownership, it had been largely unmanaged, with important grassland habitats being lost to scrub, in turn, affecting flora, invertebrates and birds dependent upon green spaces in this highly developed area. This grant has allowed us to clear scrub from over 10 ha of overgrown grassland habitat, including the purchase of an important piece of machinery to enable us to more easily remove scrub.

Over 80 local volunteers worked hard alongside our Managing Partners, London Wildlife Trust, to clear hard-to-reach areas by hand and training and tools were also provided through the project. The results will start to be seen over summer as grasses and tall herbs regrow, attracting birds, butterflies and other insects back to the Park.





Fort Burgoyne

Fort Burgoyne is a 19th Century Palmerston Fort and Scheduled Ancient Monument located in Dover. This was part of an active military site until 2006 and was acquired by the Land Trust in 2014. Currently on the Heritage at Risk Register, plans to restore and develop the site are underway in order to safeguard it for the future and bring it into public use for the first time in its history.

A grant of over £48,000 from the Coastal Revival Fund has allowed us to undertake surveys to provide essential baseline information. These included a vital structural condition survey to identify conservation priorities; a measured survey of the building which will provide baseline information to be used for specification and design work by architects; and the production of a single reference on the historic development and use of the site to identify the significance of the Fort's different rooms and spaces, helping inform design and conservation decisions.

This will identify and confirm areas needing the most immediate attention and provide direction for future works. It will also provide further insight into the Fort's 'life' and history, building up a vivid picture of this impressive and relatively unknown facility.

A GRANT OF OVER
£48,000
 FROM
COASTAL REVIVAL FUND

Fundraising and grants

The following table shows the main fundraising and grant income received for environmental and community projects over this year.

Supported by	Project	£
Big Lottery Fund	Green Angels	49,414
Veolia Environmental Trust	Reedbed improvements at Rabbit Ings Country Park	19,625
Rethinking Parks	Everton Park	27,221
Cory Environmental Trust	Braeburn Park	43,807
J Paul Getty Jnr Charitable Trust	Everton Park	20,000
Banks Community Fund	Northumberlandia	5,096
Clarion Welsby Foundation	Countess of Chester Health for Life programme	1,000
Mersey Forest Nature4Health	Countess of Chester Health for Life programme	17,500
Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Countess of Chester Health for Life Programme	35,000
Cheshire West and Chester Council	Countess of Chester Health for Life Programme	17,500
Mersey Forest Green Gym	Countess of Chester Green Gym	14,750
Coastal Revival Fund	Surveying at Fort Burgoyne	48,400
Essex Wildlife Trust	Langdon Lakes and Meadow	3,500
Higher Level Stewardship*	Various	23,448
English Woodland Grants Scheme*	Various	22,619
Single Farm Payments*	Various	87,973

*Statutory Grant

Annual Review 2015-16 / the Land Trust

Our green spaces contribute to society

Well maintained, accessible green spaces, with regular ranger presence and organised events and activities, help people lead healthier lifestyles, help them feel safer in their communities, reducing possible crime and anti-social behaviour.

Using financial proxies to calculate the savings to police and healthcare budgets by reduced visits, this study demonstrated the positive social impact our green spaces have on society in financial terms.



“Through involvement with Port Sunlight River Park, my estate has become a community. I am getting to know people I have never spoken to before, even though they are my neighbours.”

OVER 75%
THINK OUR GREEN SPACES
BRING COMMUNITIES
CLOSER TOGETHER

ONE THIRD
believe our green spaces
help reduce
crime
& anti-social
behaviour

9 out of 10
feel that our green spaces
help make the local area
more desirable,
leading to economic uplift

9 out of 10
FEEL THAT OUR
GREEN SPACES
ENCOURAGE THEM
OR OTHERS TO
KEEP FIT
AND HEALTHY

About the Land Trust

Our people

Our team is vital to the Land Trust being able to maintain growth and delivery of our charitable objectives, and has continued to grow in line with our portfolio growth and Business Strategy. New appointments have been made this year to strengthen our Senior Leadership Team. As at 31 March 2016, we directly employed 38 people; 26 full-time and 12 part-time.

We are committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff and visitors and have introduced a staff opinion survey to understand how our colleagues feel about working for the Land Trust, with the aim of improving over the longer term. We have also delivered training in a number of key areas, such as lone working, ordnance identification (primarily as a precaution for former MoD sites, such as Fort Burgoyne and Wellesley Woodlands) and a training programme for all managers and leaders, to strengthen their leadership skills.

Whilst 74% of the team are based at the Head Office in Warrington, with many regional and home based staff, it is important that we come together several times a year for business updates and team building events. As part of our charitable objectives, we hold an annual staff volunteering event on one of our sites.

As a charity committed to education we have benefited from a University of East Anglia Year in Industry graduate placement who has supported and developed skills with our Business Development team and a five-week work placement in the Communications and Marketing team from the University of Chester. We also secured our first corporate volunteer Estate Surveyor.

90% of colleagues feel that the Land Trust is a good place to work

97% understand how their work contributes to the success of the Land Trust

77% feel the Land Trust inspires them with confidence



Our Trustees

Peter Smith

Appointed Chairman of the Land Trust in June 2010, Peter is also Chairman of Savills plc, Templeton Emerging Markets Investment Trust plc; a non-executive director of Associated British Foods plc and of Paris Orleans SCA.

Ian Piper

Ian is Head of Land at the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA). Prior to joining the HCA he was Chief Executive of Forward Swindon.

Lady Garrett

Jane is a former Chief Executive of CL:AIRE and the Brogdale Horticultural Trust and was on the Board of Covent Garden Market Authority. She has had a successful and entrepreneurial career, operating in the commercial, charitable and political sectors.

William Hiscocks

William (Bill) has 30 years' experience of working in financial services, both as an investor, portfolio manager and private banker. He was honorary treasurer of Fauna and Flora International from 1998 to 2000.

Simon MacGillvray

Simon is a Chartered Forester and has had a varied career working in a range of diverse occupations including the banking sector and the NHS.

Walter Menzies

Walter has a wealth of experience in the environment and regeneration sectors. He is a Visiting Professor at the University of Liverpool; Chair of Manchester and Pennine Waterway Partnership (part of the Canal and River Trust) and board member of Atlantic Gateway Partnership.

Jeffrey Moore

Jeffrey is a qualified accountant and previously CEO of East Midlands Development Agency. He is a non-executive Director of Batemans Brewery and Sharing in Growth, an aerospace supply chain development company.

Robert Morley

Robert was a founder Director of the Land Restoration Trust when it was established in 2004 and became a Trustee of the Land Trust when it became a charity in 2010.

Dinah Nichols

Dinah is currently Chair of Keep Britain Tidy and a Trustee of the South West Lakes Trust. She was formerly Director General Environment at Defra, a Crown Estate Commissioner, a non-executive Board member of Pennon Group plc and Chair of the National Forest Company and Groundwork North London.

Sarah Whitney

Sarah is a chartered accountant and former investment banker, having specialised in real estate. She holds a Visiting Fellowship at the Department of Land Economy at the University of Cambridge, where she teaches on planning, regeneration and development.

Tom Keevil

Appointed to the Board of Trustees in May 2016, Tom has a long legal career as a senior executive, working most recently at United Utilities PLC and Barratt Developments PLC.

Our Managing Partners

Our model of working with locally appointed Managing Partners means that local site management contracts are responsible for the employment of a further 38 people, often rangers, who maintain our sites and deliver direct charitable impact. Our approach of awarding five and ten year contracts for our sites gives local organisations the confidence to be able to make staff appointments.

In January 2015 we started the retender process for our South Yorkshire site portfolio after ten years of Forestry Commission management. Following a competitive tender process we have awarded the management of seven sites to The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) and a further site, Warren House Park, to Doncaster MBC. We would like to thank the Forestry Commission for their support over the last ten years. We are also pleased to have appointed the London Wildlife Trust to manage Braeburn Country Park.



“Our Managing Partners do fantastic work across all our green spaces each year and play such important roles within the communities. Our annual awards celebrate their achievement and inspire even greater outcomes to benefit local people and the environment.”

Alan Carter

Director of Portfolio Management

The Land Trust Awards 2015/16

At our annual Managing Partners Conference and Awards we proudly recognised achievement on our sites:

Award	Winner	
Best site of the year	Phoenix Park	
Community space of the year	Pleasley Pit	
Developing space for nature	Silverdale Country Park / Rabbit Ings	
Best space for nature	Canvey Wick Nature Reserve	
Health space of the year	Monkton Community Woodland	
Educational space of the year	Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park	
Most improved space of the year	Frickley Country Park / Beam Parklands	
Ranger of the year	Anne Litherland (Port Sunlight River Park)	
Volunteer of the year	The late Steve Uttley (Pleasley Pit Trust)	

Our members

We are governed by a Board of Trustees and have eight influential organisations as our members. Their expertise and experience encompass a wide variety of sectors.

Our Trustees oversee the work of the organisation, ensuring we stay on track to deliver our charitable objectives and providing scrutiny to our processes and decisions.



Statement of Financial Activities

	Group	
	Year Ended 31/03/2016 £000s	Year Ended 31/03/2015 £000s
Income and endowments from:		
Donations and legacies	9	5
Charitable activities	1,365	2,796
Other trading activities	301	241
Site funding	3,556	3,343
Investments	5,868	4,710
Total Income	11,099	11,095
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds	372	322
Charitable activities	5,964	5,379
Total Expenditure	6,336	5,701
Net gains / (losses) on investments	(8,159)	7,258
Corporation tax	(14)	-
Net Income/(expenditure)	(3,410)	12,652
Other recognised gains/(losses)		
Actuarial (losses) / gains on defined benefit pension scheme	12	(29)
Net Movement in Funds	(3,398)	12,623
Reconciliation of funds		
Total funds brought forward	125,449	112,826
Total Funds Carried Forward	122,051	125,449

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2016

	Group	
	Year Ended 31/03/2016 £000s	Year Ended 31/03/2015 £000s
Fixed assets		
Tangible fixed assets	24	13
Investments	105,058	112,725
Total Fixed Assets	105,082	112,738
Current assets		
Debtors	4,421	918
Cash in bank and in hand	14,514	14,953
Total Current Assets	18,935	15,871
Liabilities		
Creditors: falling due within one year	(2,008)	(3,196)
Net Current Assets	16,927	12,675
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	42	36
Total Net Assets	122,051	125,449
The funds of the charity		
Endowment funds	60,721	65,832
Restricted funds	13,369	10,213
Unrestricted funds	47,961	49,404
Total Charity Funds	122,051	125,449

This financial information has been extracted from the audited full financial statements of the Land Trust for the year ended 31st March 2016 which were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 26 September 2016. The Auditor's Report on the full financial statements was unqualified and contained no statement under sections 498(2)(a), 498(3) of the Companies Act 2006. The full financial statements have been filed at Companies House, The Charity Commission and OSCR. Copies of the full financial statements, the Trustees' Report and Auditor's Report for the year ended 31st March 2016 can be obtained from The Charity Commission. www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission



Peter Smith, Trustee,
September 2016



7 Birchwood One,
Dewhurst Road,
Birchwood,
Warrington,
WA3 7GB

Telephone: +44 (0)1925 852 005

Enquiries: enquiries@thelandtrust.org.uk

www.thelandtrust.org.uk

www.linkedin.com/company/the-land-trust

www.facebook.com/thelandtrust

www.twitter.com/thelandtrust

Registered Company No: 5077263

Registered Charity No: 1138337

Office of the Scottish Charity Register No: SC43833

Our cover image was drawn by **George Turner-Gale**, a year 10 student at Deptford Secondary School. As part of a two-week work placement at Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park, George created the artwork for the Wild Day Out event to highlight the importance of urban nature sites and to emphasise what cities would be like without these breathing places. He produced two fish eye images of the Ecology Park and surrounding area – the one featured, depicting the ideal future development including green roofs, green space and another one depicting the alternative with little or no green space. The birds and animals are representative of those George saw in the park during his placement. Both images can be seen on our website.

