

# **Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Trust**

Trustees' Annual Report up to 31.03.2022

Charity no: 1190917.

## Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The Trustees present their annual report of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) was registered on 18 August 2020 so this report represent the first full 12-month financial operating period. A financial statement has been prepared and is included in this report.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The purposes of the Trust are:

- To promote for the benefit of the public the recovery, conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting the biological diversity of the chalk streams, blow wells and related features in Lincolnshire focussed around the Lincolnshire Wolds, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire; and
- To advance the education of the public in the recovery, conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of chalk streams, blow wells and related features

In setting our objectives and planning our activities we have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

The main activities during this period have been to establish the LCST as the host body for Nothern Becks Catchment Based Approach (CaBA) as well as to secure Water Environment Improvement Fund Catchment Partnership Grant funding to enable the design of natural flood management interventions on the River Rase.

#### **Achievements and Performance**

Over the last 12 months, the LCST has worked to develop its own identify and branding through the production of a new logo and supporting marketing material together with the development of a new website: <a href="https://www.lincolnshirechalkstreamstrust.org.uk">www.lincolnshirechalkstreamstrust.org.uk</a>

Crucially the LCST has also established itself as the host organisation for the Northern Becks Catchment Based Approach and has also been able to support a graduate volunteer who has worked on branding for the Northern Becks Catchment Partnership as well as the drafting of a new management plan.

The LCST was also able to successfully draw down a Catchment Partnership Grant from the Environment Agency's Water Environment Improvement Fund which has been used to employ professional contractors to design natural flood management interventions for the River Rase.

The LCST established initial fundraising mechanisms through Amazon Prime and Easy Fundraising and have started to promote the LCST more widely now that Covid restrictions have opened up public events again. Trustees attended an event in Market Rasen in conjunction with the Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project and Rivercare which gave the opportunity to talk to the public about the charity and its aims and objectives.

#### **Financial Review**

The balance of the charity accounts at the end of the period was £10,924.

The principal sources of income during the reporting period are restricted funds from the Environment Agency with funding received to support hosting of the Northern Becks CaBA together with a Catchment Partnership Grant from the Water Environment Investment Fund.

Expenditure has primarily been focused on employing external consultants to undertake feasibility work and design as well. Other costs have been incurred as a result of setting up a new website and designing and printing publicity materials such as logos, letterheads and pull-up banners.

For more than the first 12 months of its inception, the LCST was struggling against the backdrop of Covid-19 which limited opportunities for public engagement and therefore for raising awareness of the charity. This has meant that opportunities for fundraising have been limited.

The charity currently holds £3,617 in unrestricted funds and £7,307 in restricted funds. The Trust does not currently have a formal policy for holding reserves and this will reviewed as appropriate in line with reporting before the end of the next financial year.

### Structure, Governance and Management

The Trust is a registered charity, number 1190917, constituted as Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 18 August 2020 and governed by its Constitution.

Trustees are selected annually at the annual general meeting by members of the CIO. The Constitution provides for a minimum of three trustees, to a maximum of seven trustees, with no more than two-thirds of trustees due for re-appointment in any one year. At the quarterly trustees' meetings, the trustees agree the broad strategy and areas of activity for the Trust, including consideration of grant making, fundraising and performance.

#### Plans for the next 12 months

It is intended that a fundraising strategy will be developed for the charity and further opportunities to bring in additional funding will be explored.

Additional Trustees will also be sought, with a particular focus on those with previous experience of implementing fundraising strategies for similar organisations.

Further opportunities for partnership working will also be sought to bid for grants and other funds. In particular, a new chalk streams fund has been developed by the Environment Agency which the LCST is also seeking options to make use of.

## **Reference and Administrative details**

Charity name	Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Trust
Registered charity number	1190917
Charity's principal address	Navigation Warehouse
	Riverhead Road
	Louth
	Lincs
	LN11 0DA
Website	www.lincolnshirechalkstreamstrust.org.uk
Trustees	Sarah Baker (Chair)
	Richard Osmond (Treasurer)
	Luke Benjamin Bamforth (Secretary)
	Clare Samantha Sterling
	Nicholas John Ward
Bank	NatWest
	Market Place
	Louth
	LN11 9NX

Approved by the Trustees on Tuesday 17 January 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Sarah Anne Baker

Trustee