

Treasurer's Report – year ending 31st March 2021

Below is the treasurer's annual report for the Devon Branch of Butterfly Conservation showing income and expenditure for the year 2020/21 and an explanation of some of the main points.

2020/21 was obviously a very unusual year due to the Coronavirus situation which affected the activities of the Branch. Due to lockdowns, social distancing and all the other restrictions, all normal Branch activities were cancelled which obviously affected the financial situation of the Branch and, of course, Head Office.

There were only 3 items of income during the year of which the main source was the Membership subscriptions which increased by £500 on the previous year to £6513. This being due, once again, to an increase in the Branch membership.

The only donations received during the year were those given in memory of Roger Bristow which totalled the sum of £1256. There were no corporate donations.

The only other source of income was grants for the Environmental Management Scheme for maintenance at the Little Breach BC reserve which totalled £176.66.

As expected, there were no sales income due to cancellations of events because of the pandemic.

Our main expenditure is usually the funding of various Butterfly Conservation projects of which the Branch is currently funding the Blackdown Hills Fritillaries project which is being funded jointly with the Somerset Branch. Due to the pandemic, the project has been temporarily deferred. However, to enable preparatory work to be carried out ready for when the project is restarted, the Branch has made a further donation of £460.

Reserve maintenance is the work carried out on the Butterfly Conservation reserves at Little Breach and Lydford by contractors. The combined expenditure on these reserves of £905 were only about half of the previous year again due to coronavirus restrictions.

There were no newsletter expenses during the year due to the newsletter being electronic only during lockdowns etc. The only other expenses incurred were for insurance of computer equipment, our Mapmate licence. and the cost of Zoom meetings.

As there was very little in the way of expenses incurred during the year, the Branch transferred £7000 of its funds to Head Office in order to alleviate some of the financial pressures that they were incurring.

The current year has once again been disrupted by the coronavirus situation with most Butterfly Conservation projects and sources of income being either cancelled or postponed. At the present time there is no way of predicting what the Branch finance situation will be at the end of the current Financial Year. However, the Branch has received the current years membership subscription of over £6000 which will ensure that the Branch can continue funding Butterfly Conservation projects in our area.

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