



Registered Charity No (England & Wales): No 1162824

**REPORT
And
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Year ended 31st March 2016

Project Seagrass is an environmental charity devoted to the conservation of seagrass ecosystems through education, influence, research and action.

Project Seagrass,
Sustainable Places Research Institute,
33 Park Place, Cardiff, CF10 3BA

www.projectseagreass.org

Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31st March 2016

The directors of Project Seagrass are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2016

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name:	Project Seagrass
Charity registration number (England and Wales):	1162824
Registered Office and operation address:	Sustainable Places Research Institute 33 Park Place Cardiff CF10 3BA

Trustees:

Benjamin Jones
Dr Richard Unsworth
Dr Leanne Cullen-Unsworth
Richard Lilley

Directors: (as at 31st March 2016)

Benjamin Jones
Dr Richard Unsworth
Dr Leanne Cullen-Unsworth
Richard Lilley

Trustees' Report For the year ended 31st March 2016

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO), incorporated on and registered as a charity on 24 July 2015. It is governed by an Association Model Constitution, having been amended following approval by members at an EGM on 2nd May 2015.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The management of the organization is vested in the Trustees who act in a voluntary capacity.

Objectives and Activities

Project Seagrass was created with the mission of turning cutting-edge research into effective conservation action and education schemes, by collaborating with local communities and other stakeholders.

Statement of Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4, Charities Act 2011, to have due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission concerning public benefit.

As a dedicated team of seagrass scientists, we work to protect seagrass, and through seagrass, we support marine conservation more broadly. The charity's main work is in promoting protection of coastal ecosystems and the promotion of sustainable marine resource use.

Each of our programmes are aimed at improving the condition of the marine environment. A healthy marine environment will supply benefits to the public; these are often referred to as marine 'ecosystem services'.

The United Nations' Millennium Ecosystem Assessment recognized three types of ecosystem services called provision, regulating and cultural. Each of these is relevant to the marine environment.

Provisioning refers to society's needs for our seas to supply both the wild caught and farmed fish that are an important part of our diet.

Regulating is important for climate, seagrass is a significant contributor to carbon dioxide sequestration in the form of 'blue carbon'

Culturally, British seas and coasts are well regarded for recreation, ecotourism and appreciation of natural heritage. When the coastal ecosystem is healthy it supplies more of these benefits.

Project Seagrass works not only to increase the extent of these benefits, but also to make them publically available. During 2015/16 the charity promoted interest and learning on the marine

environment through its dedicated SEA (Seagrass Education & Awareness) outreach and education programme and inspired action at the local level through delivery of its SAS (Seagrass Ambassador Scheme) volunteer and community engagement programme.

Achievements and Performance

Following its 2nd anniversary in 2015, Project Seagrass reviewed its success and also evaluated the most pressing threats to coastal seagrass meadows for the coming decade. This led to identification of areas three key areas where Project Seagrass should focus its efforts:

Education

Influence

Research

Action

These were presented on the 9th March 2016 at our 'Official Launch' in Cardiff.

This report presents the highlights and key achievement over the past year that work towards these aims, reflecting the breadth and success of Project Seagrass in protecting our coastal ecosystems.

Trustees' Report **For the year ended 31st March 2016**

Key achievements in the period 2015/16

The past year has seen continued significant levels of action and interest in support of Project Seagrass and our goals for coastal habitat protection.

In the past year alone Project Seagrass:

- **Educated**

In June 2015 we ran a Mission SEA outreach day with the public at Hafan Y Môr Holiday Park in north Wales. We have since signed an MoU. In September 2015 we ran a seagrass monitoring and awareness workshop with students from Swansea university marine biology society. In March 2016 Project Seagrass delivered a Mission SEA outreach day with pupils from Morfa Nefyn School after making the 'Top 5' in an ITV and the Big Lottery Funds list of Welsh "Peoples Projects". We have hosted two interns this year; one from Cardiff University, the other from Glasgow University.

- **Influenced**

In November 2015 Director Richard Lilley presented at the Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation conference in Portland, Oregon. In the same month Director Dr Richard Unsworth attended and advised a Dugong conservation workshop in Colombo, Sri Lanka. In March 2016 we wrote a statement for Scientists in the EU asking for the public not to make the "UK a fish out of water".

- **Research**

In December 2015 we began our seagrass restoration trial at Porthdinllaen in north Wales.

- **Actioned**

Seasonally (4 times per year) we conduct Seagrass-Watch monitoring at Porthdinllaen in north Wales. In March 2016 we launched Seagrass Spotter at our official launch, a smartphone app for engaging the public in citizen science.

And these are just some of the highlights, more detailed information is available on our website, including our move to Scotland from April 2016.

<http://www.projectseagrass.org/apps/blog/>

Thanks to the dedication and commitment of the staff and the many volunteer supporters who give their time and energy all around the country. The plight of our coastal ecosystem is being heard and Project Seagrass is spurring action at all levels to protect our precious seas.

Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31st March 2016

Trustees' Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

1. Select suitable account policies and then apply them consistently
2. Observe the methods and the principles in the Charity SORP
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent and
4. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue on that basis.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply the appropriate legislation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Project Seagrass
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31st March 2016.

Incoming Resources	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2015 Total	2014 Total
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Donations and appeals		145.44	-	145.44	4.63
Commercial trading operations		33.25	-	33.25	-
Investment income		1.65	-	1.65	1.15
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Grant Income		-	9,300.00	9300.00	9550.00
Total Income		180.34	9,300.00	9480.34	9555.79

Resources Expended	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2015 Total	2014 Total
Cost of generating funds					
Fundraising costs		-	-	-	-
Commercial trading operations		-	-	217.51	-
Charitable activities					
Operational programmes		-	7084.40	7084.40	4243.60
Governance costs		-	1463.46	1463.46	111.37
Total Expenditure		-	8765.37	8765.37	4,354.97

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2015 Total	2014 Total
Net incoming/outgoing for the year before transfers (net income for the year)		180.34	534.63	714.97	5200.82
Gains/(losses) on listed investments		1.65	-	1.65	1.15
Gains / (losses) on foreign income		-	-	-	-
Gains / (losses) on disposal of assets		-	-	-	-
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement of funds in year		-	-	-	-
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>					
Total fund brought forward		5.78	5195.04	5,200.82	0.01
Total Funds Carried Forward		186.12	5,729.67	5,915.79	5,200.82

This statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognized in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

**Project Seagrass
Balance Sheet
for the year ended 31st March 2016.**

		2015 Charity £	2014 Charity £
	Notes		
Fixed Assets		-	-
Tangible Assets		-	-
Investments		-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		5,915.79	5200.82
Creditors: amount failing due within one year		-	-
Net Current Assets		5,915.79	5200.82
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		5,915.79	5200.82
Funds			
Unrestricted funds:			
General reserves		186.12	5.78
Designated funds		-	
Restricted funds		5,729.67	5195.04
		5,915.79	5200.82

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) relating to small companies.

Approved by the board of trustees on 27th of June 2016 and signed on its behalf by:



R Lilley
Chairman



B Jones
Treasurer

Charity Number : **1162824**