

Irish Peatland Conservation Council
Annual Report &
Financial Accounts 2015

Message from the IPCC Committee of Management



The Irish Peatland Conservation Council's (IPCC) mission is to conserve a representative portion of the peatlands of Ireland for future generations to enjoy. We run the national Save the Bogs Campaign, we own five peatland nature reserves in Kerry, Kildare, Meath and Waterford and we manage the Bog of Allen Nature Centre, which is open to visitors and school groups. We provide an extensive information service on our web site at www.ipcc.ie. IPCC have five members of staff and is supported by 100 volunteers. Four thousand individuals subscribe to our campaign. CHY6829

We are delighted to present the Annual Report and Financial Accounts of the Irish Peatland Conservation Council for 2015.

In this year we completed restoration of 8.5ha of Girley Bog in Co. Meath and drew up a Conservation Action Plan 2016-2025 in partnership with a variety of stakeholders, acquired 10 acres of blanket bog at Coad in Co. Kerry, employed a Campaign Officer and organised over 100 events around the country celebrating bogs.

Our success is due to the support of our donors, volunteers and staff. Thank you all so very much.

Highlights of 2015

- Acquisition of Coad Bog, Co. Kerry
- Girley Bog Conservation Plan

IPCC's voluntary Committee of Management held seven meetings during the year. Our work included regulating IPCC's finances and operations, monitoring health and safety, facilitating an audit of our finances, reviewing the IPCC Strategic Plan, inputting into the Girley Bog Conservation Plan and undertaking staff evaluations. In 2015 we began an internal review of our operations to ensure that we comply with the Governance Code.

Committee of Management IPCC:
Stephen Bray,
Joanne Denyer,
Rachel Kavanagh,
Martin Kelly,
Kate Macnamara,
Miles Newman,
Catherine O'Connell,
Seán Ó Fearghail
and Jennifer Roche

Governance Code
IPCC are delighted to announce that the organisation is committed to adopting and ultimately complying with the Governance Code. This work is being carried out by the Committee of Management and substantial progress has been made in 2015.



Conserving Peatlands in Ireland



Coad Bog, Co. Kerry, a regenerating blanket bog donated by an IPCC supporter.
Photo: P. Crushell

IPCC monitored the population and behaviour of Curlew on **Lodge Bog**, Co. Kildare as part of an all Ireland project on this endangered breeding bird. Three adult birds are present on site. We also monitored the rare Large Heath butterfly on the site recording 26 individuals on a transect walk in June. Restoration of an area trampled by school children was undertaken using the *Sphagnum* transfer method of transplantation. This project was supported by Kildare County Council Community Heritage Grant Scheme.

Caitriona Smyth from University of California Berkeley made a study of the economic value of the education and recreation ecosystem services of Lodge Bog and presented a community talk during Biodiversity week.

Girley Bog, Co. Meath was a priority in 2015. Through participation in "Girley Bog Meitheal" we completed:

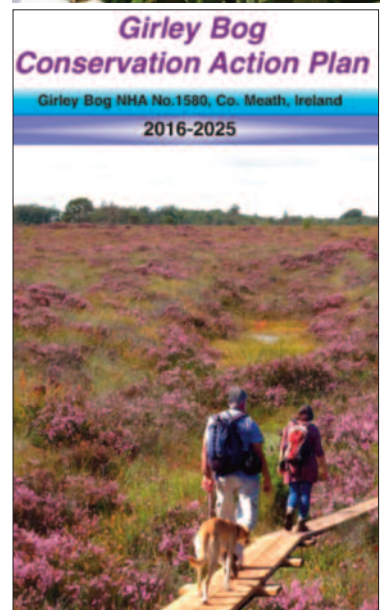
- * a multi-stakeholder and community-based Conservation Action Plan 2016-2020 was drawn up for the site. 131 people responded to an on-line survey about the vision and aims of the plan.
 - * delivered three open days to educate local people.
 - * presented a poster paper entitled "Collaborative Conservation of Girley Bog" to the International Peat Society Conference in Tullamore.
 - * organised 5 volunteer workcamps, and completed our
- drain blocking programme on the 8.56ha of Girley Bog which we own bringing the total number of dams to 53 in a network of drains covering a distance of 1km.
- * monitored water levels on the bog in 32 piezometers during the year.
 - * IPCC's restoration of Girley Bog was featured in "The Zoo" broadcast on RTE Television in May.

Towards the year end IPCC were gifted 10 acres of blanket bog in Co. Kerry at **Coad Bog**. The donation was from a supporter and this site will be the focus of extensive work in 2016.

Fenor Bog: Water levels were monitored by Martin Middleton. Fenor Bog is part of the Copper Coast Geopark and the site will be promoted in this context over the coming years.



Orange Tip Butterfly on Lullymore West Bog



The work on Girley Bog was supported by the Heritage Council and Meath County Council under the community-based Heritage Grant Scheme 2015.

On **Lullymore West Bog** in Co. Kildare IPCC recorded four nests of larvae of the Marsh Fritillary (*Euphydryas aurinia*) butterfly in spring and autumn. A habitat assessment for marsh fritillary was undertaken according to National Biodiversity Data Centre Guidelines and management tasks to improve the habitat for the butterfly will be undertaken in 2016. Twenty two walks of the butterfly transect on the bog were undertaken weekly between April and September. Over the period 854 butterfly individuals were recorded from 19 different species.

Monitoring Peatlands in Ireland



Industrial Moss Peat Extraction on Derrinboy Bog, Co. Offaly



Mount Lucas Wind Farm, Co. Offaly

During 2015, IPCC responded to 10 site issues documented in the table inset. We made submissions to 7 policy documents (see table inset).

An IPCC representative attended four meetings of the Environmental Pillar in 2015. IPCC voted on a wide range of topics including the membership of People 4 Soil, Government principles for public participation, PEACE IV Monitoring Committee, an MOU between the pillar and SWAN, Climate Change Mitigation Policy, Bioenergy Principles and Regional Waste Plans

In addition IPCC liaised with the Public Participation Network representative for Kildare as part of the Local Government Reform programme.

Site Name, County	Issue	IPCC Action/Outcome
Beenansaspuck, Galway	Wind Farm	Submission on EIS Scoping on intact peat and Hen Harrier
Carndonagh, Donegal	Turf Extraction	Submission to NPWS on illegal turf extraction
Carndonagh, Donegal	Turf Extraction	Follow on to Senior Planner in Donegal Council & enforcement team
Cloncreen, Offaly	Wind Farm	Submission on EIS scoping on remnant high bog
Cloonascragh, Galway	Peat/Casing Extraction	Letter to County Council to initiate enforcement proceedings
Duffys Cross, Louth	Clear felling	Letter to County Council to initiate investigation by planning
Edenderry, Offaly	Peat Power Station	Objection to County Council to planning
Esker Lough, Galway	Bog drainage	Letter to County Council to initiate investigation
Meenbog, Donegal	Wind Farm	Observation to An Bord Pleanala
Maighne, Kildare, Offaly, Laois	Wind Farm	Designated Habitats adjacent Objection to An Bord Pleanala Habitats, Amenity Value, Economics

IPCC made submissions to the following Policies and Surveys in 2015

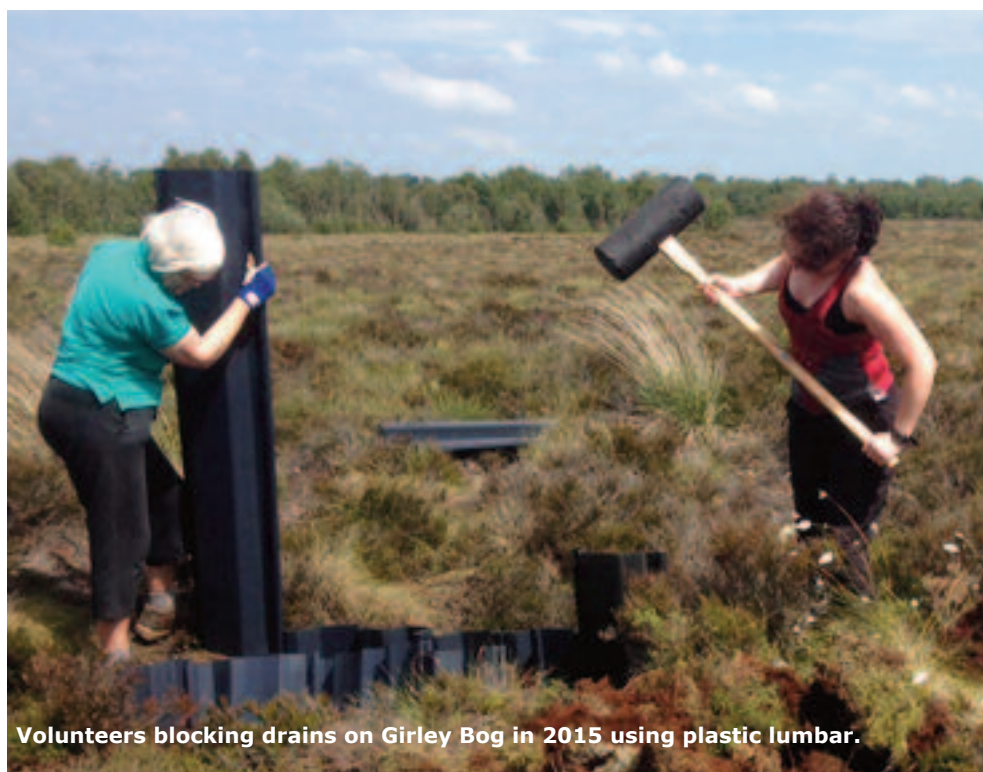
1. Bord na Móna Biodiversity Action Plan
2. Coillte Raised Bog Restoration LIFE project
3. Meath Biodiversity Plan
4. Meath Heritage Plan
5. National Pollinator Plan
6. Roscommon Litter Management Plan
7. Water Framework Directive Significant Water Management Issues Report

IPCC reported cases of dumping for Lodge Bog & Girley Bog in 2015. Cases were reported to relevant County Councils. Rubbish was removed by IPCC staff and volunteers, Coillte staff and the County Council.

IPCC attended 5 meetings of the Peatlands Council and the Raised Bog Steering Committee to contribute to the work of developing a Peatland Strategy for Ireland and a Management Plan for the Raised Bog SACs. We made submissions to the template documents for raised bog site conservation objectives and the restoration plans.

The Peatlands Council Appeals Sub Group held 5 meetings and reviewed 13 turf cutting cases.

Peatland Awareness, Education and Training



Volunteers blocking drains on Girley Bog in 2015 using plastic lumbar.



The Bog of Allen Nature Centre is a portal for IPCC's awareness, education and training programmes. Through our in-house and outreach education programmes we impact on a national audience.

The highlights of the year included:

1. International Peat Society Conference Tullamore. IPCC played a pivotal role in the development and delivery of this conference held in June. We delivered a master class to 100 international peatland experts on Education. Our Chief Executive Dr Catherine O'Connell delivered the welcome

speech to participants together with Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Charlie Flanagan, and we participated fully in field trips fireside conversations about peatlands in Ireland today.

2. Ramsar Wetlands Conference, Ballybay Wetland Centre.

IPCC's Education Officer delivered a key note address on the role of the IPCC in peatland conservation to this conference which was attended by officials from the European Union and the Ramsar Convention.

3. Grow It Yourself Peat-free Garden at the Bog of Allen.

IPCC received an award for a third year from the Grow It Yourself scheme for our vegetable growing

area that is peat free.

4. Bog of Allen Nature Centre Visitor Attraction.

IPCC welcomed 1,700 visitors and 28 groups including schools to the nature centre during the year. We organised 9 events at the centre to co-incide with biodiversity week, world animal day, world wetlands day, environment day, heritage week, International Bog Day and culture night. We delivered one teacher training course for primary school teachers.

5. Outreach Education.

This area of IPCC's work continues to grow from strength thanks to the hard work of Nuala Madigan. We delivered 52 workshops to schools as part of the SEAI



International Award for Tadhg Ó Corcora in peatland research and management.



From the left: John Connolly Coillte, Caitlin Rigney University of Limerick and Catherine O'Connell on the restored Scohaboy Bog in Co. Tipperary.



Learning to identify *Sphagnum* mosses with Dr Catherine O'Connell

Peatland Awareness, Education and Training



Energy Programme, Discovering Primary Science and Math and the Heritage in Schools Scheme. We mounted exhibition stands around the country most notably at the Ploughing Championships, Family Fun Day in Kildare, Fota Island Green Weekend Cork and the Native Species Weekend in Dublin Zoo. We delivered 20 events in liaison with Local Authorities and community groups. We delivered 2 master composter training events with the Stop Food Waste initiative and mounted information stands at the Taste of Cavan and Taste of Monaghan Events. Talks were delivered to the Museum of Country Life and Dublin Food Co-Operative, and training courses on peatlands were delivered in liaison with Ecotourism

Ireland and the National Biodiversity Data Centre.

6. Conservation Award for IPCC's Conservation Officer. Tadhg Ó Corcora was awarded one of the inaugural Allan Robertson Awards for young peatland researchers and managers from the International Peat Society (IPS). The award fund was used to carry out *Sphagnum* moss transplantation on Girley Bog. A poster paper on *Sphagnum* moss restoration was presented to the IPS conference in Tullamore.

7. Coillte Raised Bog Life Conference. IPCC's CEO Dr Catherine O'Connell delivered a talk on Scohaboy Bog in Tipperary to the Coillte Conference marking the end of a LIFE-funded project to

restore active raised bog habitat in Ireland by removing conifer plantations.

8. Flytraps House Restoration. With the provision of a grant from Doherty and Kildare County Council, IPCC organised for the restoration of the greenhouses in the Bog of Allen Nature Centre that house the Flytraps - insect eating plants exhibition. Broken glass panels were replaced after a period of 10 years since the last restoration.

8. Signage to the Bog of Allen Nature Centre. IPCC applied to Kildare County Council for planning permission to erect directional signs in four locations on the roads approaching the Nature Centre. We were successful and signs will be installed early in 2016.



A new education resource developed by IPCC will help students to identify the different ecosystem services provided by peatlands.



Flytraps carnivorous plants exhibition greenhouse restored in 2015

Communicating Peatlands, Volunteers, Fundraising



Tadhg Ó Corcora accompanies presenter Martha Kearney on her Great Irish Journey across the Bog of Allen broadcast on BBC1 television in 2015.

Peatland News and Action for Bogs Magazines

These publications are the corner stone in IPCC's communication and supporter development work. Two printed issues of Peatland News and one virtual issue of Action for Bogs were released in 2015.

Press Releases

IPCC issued 19 press releases during the year on a diverse range of topics as shown in the table inset.

Media Highlights

IPCC would like to highlight two television programmes in which our work featured during 2015. Our Conservation Officer Tadhg Ó Corcora accompanied Martha Kearney on her Great Irish Journey across the Bog of Allen featuring the work of Du Noyer on BBC1.

IPCC's work at Girley Bog was featured on The Zoo programme broadcast in May on RTÉ1 television.

Another highlight was an interview with Dr Catherine O'Connell about *Sphagnum* moss as part of the BBC World War One at Home series (see <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p038f7qq>).

Our Education Officer Nuala Madigan contributed a weekly nature feature in the Leinster Leader.

Web Site and Social Media

IPCC continue to monitor significant increases in the volume of traffic to our web site, you tube channel and facebook pages which is very heartening (see table inset). During the year we maintained and re-

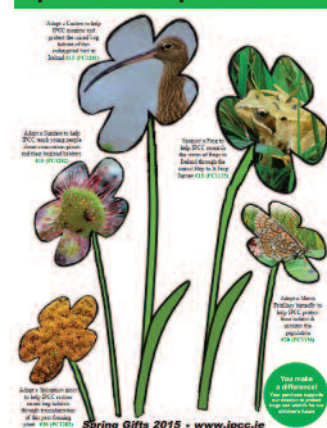
fined the information on our web site and our on-line shop of 99 products. We were in regular contact with our facebook followers and we uploaded one new film to our YouTube channel which brings to 15 the number of programmes available to view there.

Volunteers

Volunteers from our nature reserves team were involved in the conservation management of Girley Bog, water level monitoring on Lodge Bog and Fenor Bog and in the butterfly surveys on Lullymore West Bog. 87 volunteers were trained this year on the Girley Bog project alone. Volunteers continue to play a vital role in IPCC's collectors appeal which saw them sorting through over 100kg of



Species Adoptions 2015



Communicating Peatlands, Volunteers, Fundraising



used stamps during the year.

IPCC's volunteer contribution is valued at the level of five additional full time staff. We are very appreciative of all that they do.

Fundraising

IPCC made 25 successful funding applications in 2015 to the Heritage Council, Local Authorities, Irish Environmental Network, Grow It Yourself and the International Peat Society among others.

We conducted a membership drive in 2015 to increase our supporter base. We received a 7% response to our direct mail campaign. The membership drive will continue into 2016.

We introduced a new product range in our gift shop - species adoptions which allows supporters to help fund our work on particularly endangered habitats and species. Included in the range are the Hare, *Sphagnum* moss, Marsh Fritillary Butterfly, Frog, Curlew and Sundew.

IPCC supporters were very generous during the year supporting our Spring Appeal focusing on the development of a Conservation Action Plan for Girley Bog and the end of year appeal towards the acquisition of Coad Bog in Co. Kerry.

Thanks once again to Flogas for printing the Wild Ireland Calendar 2016.

Press Releases 2015

Get your hands dirty and volunteer in 2015
Feile an Dúlra at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre
A Busy start to Spring at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre
Restoration: Bringing the bogs back to life
'Girley Bog Meitheal' Shortlisted for Sustainability Team of the Year
Peat Free Wildlife Gardens at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre Awarded GIY Get Ireland Growing Funds
Bog of Allen Nature Centre Launch of Biodiversity Week Kildare
Experience practical bog conservation, Celebrate Biodiversity Week, the IPCC Girley Bog Biodiversity Event
Girley Bog Volunteer Day: Help IPCC bring a raised bog back to life
Bog of Allen Nature Centre Celebrate World Environment Day
Young Irish Peatland Conservationist wins international management award
International Bog Day at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre
Lodge Bog Volunteer Day: Help IPCC restore areas of raised bog damaged by trampling
Top bog attraction in Kildare has been restored and to be showcased during Heritage Week
Girley Bog, Co. Meath. Discover the Past, Build the Future
Bog of Allen Nature Centre to Demonstrate Traditional Bread Baking for Culture Night
World Animal Day celebrates the "Big 4" at the Bog of Allen
Take advantage of falling autumn leaves and help save Ireland's bogs
Managing Girley Bog, Planning for the future

On Line Presence	2015	2014	Increase
Web site visits	55,672	49,081	13%
Facebook followers	1,756	1,427	23%
YouTube views	10,316	8,021	29%

www.ipcc.ie

Thank You



Companies, Agencies & Organisations

Abbey Tours
An Féar Gorta
Ballymaloe Cookery School
BirdWatch Ireland
Bord na Móna
Cascade Designs
Causey Farm Experience
Cavan County Council
CJ Wildbird Foods Ltd
Clare County Council
CLÁR ICH
Clean Technology Centre
Cork City Council
Cork County Council
COILLTE
CRH plc
Denyer Ecology
Dublin Institute of Technology
Dublin Zoo
Environmental Protection Agency
FH Wetland Systems Ltd
Flogas Ireland Ltd
Galway City Council
Gill & McMillan
Grow It Yourself
Heritage Council
IEN Irish Environmental Network
Ireland Walk Hike Bike
Irish Peat Society
Jackie & Ed Keilthy Jewellery
Juanita Browne Books
Kildare County Council
Kildare Education Centre
Kildare Leader
Kildare Traveller Action Ltd.
Longford County Council
Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark
Marsh Christian Trust
Meath County Council
Meath Ecotours

Met Éireann
Moin Fhionuireach Development Association
Monaghan County Council
Moondance Productions
Moyle Park Transition Year
National Biodiversity Data Centre
National Parks & Wildlife Service
Native Woodland Trust
Offaly County Council
Ógra Skincare
Queens University Belfast
Roscommon County Council
Smurfit Kappa Group
South Dublin County Council
Sunaura
Sustainable Energy Association of Ireland
The Carnivorous Plant Society
Travel Ireland Ltd
Trinity College Dublin
TÚS
University College Dublin
University of California, Berkeley
Waterford City Council
Westmeath County Council
Wetland Surveys Ireland

Individuals

Dilys Bateman
Daniel Bevans
Michael Bradley
Marie Heaney
Angela Horn
Liam & Geraldine Kenneally
Florence McCarthy
Sandra Molloy
Maire Mulcahy
Seán Ó Fearghail & Gwyn Grace
Diarmuid Ó Suilleabháin
Bernadette Power
Yvonne Rogers

Michael Tubridy
Christine Walker

Legacies and In Memoriam Gifts

Wally Davyduck
Caoimhe Muldoon
Art Muschenheim
Clare O'Halloran
Mary O'Neill
Ann Pratt

Volunteers

Tara Aldock
Stacey & Chuck Anderson
Kate Bismilla
Stephen Bray
Rita Byrne
Sharon Byrne
John Connolly
Jess Corkery
Clara Cullen
Hugh Cushnan
Joanne Denyer
Rebecca Doyle
Tom Doyle
Maurice Eakin
Cait Fagan
Maeve Fanning
John Fearn
John FitzGerald
Terry Flanagan
Kate Flood
Ray Flynn
Wilbert Gelens
Loreto Guinan
Gwyn Grace
Ellen Greaney
Ella Hanley
Sunniva Hanley
Jesmond Harding
Rachel Kavanagh
Killian Kelly
Martin Kelly
Mary Kerr

Annette Lynch
Kate Macnamara
John Madigan
Martin Middleton
Elizabeth McArdle
Tomas Murray
Deirdre Murtagh
Matt Murtagh
Miles Newman
Myles Nolan
Bernadette Power
Micheal Ó Corcora
Mary O'Connell
Eamonn O'Donnell
Seán Ó Fearghail
Pierce O'Flynn
Ciara O'Hara
Paudie O'Neill
Ken Reid
Ann Reynolds
Jenni Roche
Mel Sheridan
Paddy Sheridan
Caitriona Smyth
Alexis Soule
Christina Sweeney
Oliver Usher
Stephen Sheridan
Caitriona Smyth
Steve Waldren
Miriam Whittle

IPCC Staff

Joe Conlon
Katie Geraghty
Martin Lawless
Nuala Madigan
Niall Murray
Catherine O'Connell
Tadhg Ó Corcora
Pauline O'Rourke
Bernie Scanlon

Irish Peatland Conservation Council Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 29th Annual General Meeting of the Irish Peatland Conservation Council will be held in Room B1.18 Level -1, Trinity College Biomedical Institute, Pearse Street, Dublin 2 on Thursday 5th May 2016 at 6.30pm to transact the following business.

Agenda

Ordinary Business

- 1.** Minutes of the 28th Annual General Meeting held in the Hamilton Building, Trinity College Dublin on the 5th May 2015.
- 2.** Resignation of Directors from the Committee of Management
- 3.** Election of new Directors to the Committee of Management
- 4.** Receipt of the Report of the Committee of Management
- 5.** Receipt and Adoption of the Financial Accounts of the Council for the year ended the 31st December 2015
- 6.** Appointment of an auditor for the Financial Accounts to the year ended 31st December 2016

Dr Rachel Kavanagh
Company Secretary

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**Directors' report and
financial statements**

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Contents

	Page
Company Information Page	1
Directors' Report	2 - 4
Independent Auditors' Report	5 - 6
Income and Expenditure Account	7
Balance Sheet	8
Statement of Changes in Equity	9
Statement of Cash Flows	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 - 18

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Company Information

Directors

Catherine O'Connell
 Joanne Denyer
 Martin Kelly
 Miles Newman
 Rachel Kavanagh
 Kate Macnamara (appointed 5 May 2015)

Company secretary Rachel Kavanagh

Registered number 116156

Registered office

Lullymore
 Rathangan
 Co. Kildare

Independent auditors

LHM Casey McGrath Limited
 Chartered Certified Accountants
 Statutory Audit Firm
 6 Northbrook Road
 Dublin 6

Principal Bankers

Bank of Ireland
 Lower Baggot Street
 Dublin 2

Solicitors

Nevan O'Shaughnessy Solicitors
 1 and 2 JKL Street
 Edenderry
 Co. Offaly

Charity Number CHY 6829

Committee Members

Stephen Bray
 Sean O Fearghail

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015.

Principal activities

The company's principal activity continues to be: conservation of a representative sample of Irish Bogs; education and publicity; promoting environmental awareness; provision of information; and encouraging the protection and conservation of our natural heritage for the common good.

Future Developments

Both the level of business and the year end financial position were satisfactory and the directors expect that the present level of activity will be sustained for the foreseeable future.

Results

The surplus for the year, after taxation, amounted to €44,931 (2014 -€739).

Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risk and uncertainty would be the loss of income from donations and the directors are committed to working with the management team to ensure that fundraising strategies are in place.

Political contributions

The company made no political donations during the year, as defined by Electoral Act 1997.

Environmental matters

The company will seek to minimise adverse impacts on the environment from its activities, whilst continuing to address health, safety and economic issues. The company has complied with all applicable legislation and regulations.

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

Directors' responsibilities statement

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with Irish Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland (accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council and Irish law).

Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company for the financial year end date and of the profit or loss of the company for that financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Accounting records

The measures taken by the directors to ensure compliance with the requirements of Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the keeping of accounting records, the employment of competent accounting personnel with appropriate expertise and the provision of adequate resources to the financial function. The company's accounting records are maintained at the company's registered office at Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are directors at the time when this Directors' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and
- that director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

Post balance sheet events

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the year end.

Auditors

The auditors, LHM Casey McGrath Limited, continue in office in accordance with section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

This report was approved by the board on _____ and signed on its behalf.

Catherine O'Connell
Director

Rachel Kavanagh
Director

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Irish Peatland Conservation Council

We have audited the financial statements of Irish Peatland Conservation Council for the year ended 31 December 2015, which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows, the Statement of Changes in Equity, and the related notes. The relevant financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014. Our responsibility is to audit and express our opinion on the financial statements in accordance with Irish law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statement

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Directors' Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2015 and of its results for the year ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland and in particular with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Matters on which we are required to report by the Companies Act 2014

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Irish Peatland Conservation Council

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the provisions in the Companies Act 2014 to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions specified by section 305 to 312 of the Act are not made.

Damien Kealy

for and on behalf of

LHM Casey McGrath Limited

Chartered Certified Accountants

Statutory Audit Firm

6 Northbrook Road

Dublin 6

Date:

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Income and Expenditure Account

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

	Note	2015 €	As restated 2014 €
Income		220,906	162,477
Expenditure		(2,304)	(1,961)
Gross surplus		218,602	160,516
Administrative expenses		(182,838)	(168,215)
Operating surplus/(deficit)		35,764	(7,699)
Interest receivable and similar income	8	9,167	8,438
Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation		44,931	739
Tax on profit on ordinary activities		-	-
Surplus for the financial year		44,931	739
Other comprehensive income for the year			
Transfer from within reserves		-	170,000
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	170,000
Total comprehensive income for the year		44,931	170,739

All amounts relate to continuing operations.

Signed on behalf of the board:

Catherine O'Connell
Director

Rachel Kavanagh
Director

Date:

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2015

	Note	2015 €	As restated 2014 €
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	9	381,446	362,000
		<u>381,446</u>	<u>362,000</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	10	13,929	13,765
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	11	892	932
Cash at bank and in hand	12	626,577	652,110
		<u>641,398</u>	<u>666,807</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(4,907)	(30,021)
		<u>636,491</u>	<u>636,786</u>
Net current assets		<u>1,017,937</u>	<u>998,786</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	-	(26,000)
		<u>1,017,937</u>	<u>972,786</u>
Net assets		<u>1,017,937</u>	<u>972,786</u>
Capital and reserves			
Capital reserve		8,337	8,337
Restricted operational contingency reserve fund		170,000	170,000
Restricted reserve		76,803	76,583
Income & Expenditure account		762,797	717,866
		<u>1,017,937</u>	<u>972,786</u>
Shareholders' funds		<u>1,017,937</u>	<u>972,786</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on Insert date approved.

Signed on behalf of the board:

Catherine O'Connell
Director

Rachel Kavanagh
Director

Date:

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Changes in Equity

As at 31 December 2015

	Capital reserve €	Restricted operational contingency reserve fund €	Restricted reserve €	Income and expenditure account €	Total equity €
At 1 January 2015	8,337	170,000	76,583	717,866	972,786
Comprehensive income for the year					
Surplus for the year	-	-	-	44,931	44,931
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	44,931	44,931
Contributions by and distributions to owners					
Transfer to/from profit and loss account	-	-	220	-	220
At 31 December 2015	8,337	170,000	76,803	762,797	1,017,937

Statement of Changes in Equity

As at 31 December 2014

	Capital reserve €	Restricted operational contingency reserve fund €	Restricted reserve €	Income and expenditure account €	Total equity €
At 1 January 2014	8,337	-	76,180	887,530	972,047
Comprehensive income for the year					
Surplus for the year	-	-	-	739	739
Transfer to / from other reserves	-	170,000	-	-	170,000
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	170,000	-	739	170,739
Contributions by and distributions to owners					
Transfer to/from surplus and deficit account	-	-	403	(170,403)	(170,000)
At 31 December 2014	8,337	170,000	76,583	717,866	972,786

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

	2015 €	As restated 2014 €
Cash flows from operating activities		
Profit for the financial year	44,931	739
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible assets	12,075	11,754
Increase in stocks	(164)	529
Interest received	(9,167)	(8,438)
Increase in debtors	40	1,538
Increase in creditors	(51,114)	1,731
Net cash generated from operating activities	(3,399)	7,853
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(31,521)	-
Interest received	9,167	8,438
Net cash from investing activities	(22,354)	8,438
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(25,753)	16,291
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	652,110	635,819
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of year	626,357	652,110
Cash at bank and in hand	626,577	652,110

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland and Irish statute comprising the Companies Acts 2014.

1.2 Revenue

This represents amounts invoiced to third parties.

1.3 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their estimated useful lives on the following bases:

The estimated useful lives range as follows:

Land & Buildings	-	2% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	-	20% reducing balance
Office equipment	-	20% reducing balance

1.4 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.5 Foreign currency translation

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into euros at rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into euros at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction.

Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Income & Expenditure Account.

1.6 Interest income

Interest income is recognised in the Income and Expenditure Account using the effective interest method.

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Taxation

No tax charge arises due to the exempt status of the company. The company is not liable to Corporation Tax its on accumulated surplus under Section 333, Income Tax Act, 1967, as extended by Section 11 (6), Corporation Tax Act, 1976. Irrecoverable value added tax is expensed as incurred.

1.8 Restricted reserves

The company maintains a restricted reserve of funds specifically designated for the purchase of threatened peatlands. Each year the directors review the amount of reserves restricted for this purpose based on contributions received from fund raising activities and any acquisitions of threatened peatlands made in the year.

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

2. Analysis of turnover

An analysis of turnover by class of business is as follows:

	2015 €	As restated 2014 €
Donations	211,590	154,756
Bog Purchase	-	403
Refund	61	-
Shop Sales	9,255	7,318
	220,906	162,477

3. Surplus

The operating surplus is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2015 €	As restated 2014 €
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	12,075	11,754
Exchange differences	(1,424)	(2,437)

4. Auditors' remuneration

	2015 €	As restated 2014 €
Fees payable to the company's auditor and its associates for the audit of the company's annual accounts	2,480	2,480
	2,480	2,480

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

5. Staff costs

Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:

	2015 €	As restated 2014 €
Wages and salaries	119,364	108,477
PAYE/P.R.S.I	12,988	11,427
	<u>132,352</u>	<u>119,904</u>

Capitalised employee costs during the year amounted to €NIL (2014 -€NIL).

The average monthly number of employees, including the directors, during the year was as follows:

	2015 No.	2014 No.
Directors	1	1
Employees	4	3
	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>

6. Directors' remuneration

	2015 €	As restated 2014 €
Directors' emoluments	44,200	44,200
	<u>44,200</u>	<u>44,200</u>

7. Taxation

No tax charge arises due to the exempt status of the company. The company is not liable to Corporation Tax its on accumulated surplus under Section 333, Income Tax Act, 1967, as extended by Section 11 (6), Corporation Tax Act, 1976. Irrecoverable value added tax is expensed as incurred.

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

8. Interest receivable

	2015 €	As restated 2014 €
Other interest receivable	9,167	8,438
	<u>9,167</u>	<u>8,438</u>

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property €	Fixtures and fittings €	Office equipment €	Total €
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2015	441,660	93,096	69,953	604,709
Additions	30,000	65	1,456	31,521
At 31 December 2015	<u>471,660</u>	<u>93,161</u>	<u>71,409</u>	<u>636,230</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2015	91,346	84,323	67,040	242,709
Charge owned for the period	9,433	1,768	874	12,075
At 31 December 2015	<u>100,779</u>	<u>86,091</u>	<u>67,914</u>	<u>254,784</u>
At 31 December 2015	<u>370,881</u>	<u>7,070</u>	<u>3,495</u>	<u>381,446</u>
At 31 December 2014	350,314	8,773	2,913	362,000
	<u>350,314</u>	<u>8,773</u>	<u>2,913</u>	<u>362,000</u>
	Freehold property €	Fixtures and fittings €	Office equipment €	Total €
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2014	441,660	93,096	69,953	604,709
At 31 December 2014	<u>441,660</u>	<u>93,096</u>	<u>69,953</u>	<u>604,709</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2014	82,513	82,130	66,312	230,955
Charge owned for the period	8,833	2,193	728	11,754
At 31 December 2014	<u>91,346</u>	<u>84,323</u>	<u>67,040</u>	<u>242,709</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2014	<u>350,314</u>	<u>8,773</u>	<u>2,913</u>	<u>362,000</u>
At 31 December 2013	359,147	10,966	3,641	373,754
	<u>359,147</u>	<u>10,966</u>	<u>3,641</u>	<u>373,754</u>

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

9. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

The net book value of land and building may be further analysed as follows:

	2015 €	2014 €
Freehold	370,881	350,314
	<u>370,881</u>	<u>350,314</u>

10. Stocks

	2015 €	2014 €
Finished goods and goods for resale	13,929	13,765
	<u>13,929</u>	<u>13,765</u>

There are no material differences between the replacement cost of stock and the Balance Sheet amounts.

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

11. Debtors

	2015 €	2014 €
Prepayments and accrued income	892	932
	<u>892</u>	<u>932</u>

12. Cash and cash equivalents

	2015 €	2014 €
Cash at bank and in hand	626,577	652,110
	<u>626,577</u>	<u>652,110</u>

13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2015 €	2014 €
PAYE/P.R.S.I	2,907	2,021
Accruals	2,000	2,000
Deferred income	-	26,000
	<u>4,907</u>	<u>30,021</u>

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2015 €	2014 €
Deferred Income	-	26,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>26,000</u>

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

15. Company status

The company is limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Every member of the company undertakes, if necessary during the time they are a member, to contribute to the assets of the company an amount not exceeding €1.27.

16. Incorporation

The company was incorporated on 14th August, 1986 and under a license granted by the Minister for Industry and Commerce the word limited has been omitted from its title.

17. First time adoption of FRS 102

The policies applied under the entity's previous accounting framework are not materially different to FRS 102 and have not impacted the financial statements.

18. Approval of financial statements

The board of directors approved these financial statements for issue on

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

Appendix 1

The following pages do not form part of the audited financial statements.

Projects Grants Received From Public Bodies

The Irish Peatland Conservation Council wish to acknowledge and thank the following groups for expenses and grants received towards the conservation and education projects undertaken in 2015.

	2015	2014
	€	€
Carlow County Council	496	
Cavan County Council	1590	460
Clare County Council	250	496
Cork City Council	498	473
Cork County Council	850	548
Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht (Peatlands Council)	400	400
Department of Education	2,501	-
Department of the Environment (Irish Environmental Network)	19,431	15,583
Dublin Zoo	6,000	-
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	105	-
Environmental Protection Agency	-	3,000
Galway City Council	496	248
Heritage Council (including Heritage in Schools)	6,476	8,537
Kildare County Council	8,117	4,178
Laois County Council	496	-
Longford County Council	-	400
Meath County Council	1,380	3,380
Monaghan County Council	1,244	482
National Biodiversity Data Centre	358	-
Offaly County Council	496	450
Revenue Commissioners	5,470	7,081
Roscommon County Council	495	530
South Dublin County Council	788	430
Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland	5,297	6,852
Waterford City Council	-	1,488
Westmeath County Council	245	691
	<u>245</u>	<u>691</u>
Total	63,479	55,707

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Detailed profit and loss account

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

	2015 €	2014 €
Income	220,906	162,477
Gross surplus	220,906	162,477
Gross surplus %	100.0 %	100.0 %
	220,906	162,477
Less: overheads		
Administration expenses	(182,838)	(168,215)
Establishment expenses	(2,304)	(1,961)
Operating surplus/(deficit)	35,764	(7,699)
Interest receivable	9,167	8,438
Surplus for the year	44,931	739

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Schedule to the Detailed Accounts

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

Income

	2015 €	2014 As reststed €
Donations	210,700	153,187
Bog purchase	-	403
Refunds	61	-
Shop sales	9,255	7,318
Other income	890	1,569
	<u>220,906</u>	<u>162,477</u>

Cost of sales

	2015 €	2014 €
Opening stocks - finished goods	13,765	14,294
Closing stocks - finished goods	(13,929)	(13,765)
Purchases - finished goods	2,468	1,432
	<u>2,304</u>	<u>1,961</u>

Administration expenses

	2015 €	2014 €
Directors salaries	44,200	44,200
Staff salaries	75,164	64,277
Employer's PRSI	12,988	11,427
Supporter recruitment & development and volunteers	1,817	3,554
Travel & conferences	1,000	250
Printing, stationery, telephone and postage	5,911	796
Auditors' remuneration	2,480	2,480
Bank charges	2,872	962
Bad debts	-	19
Difference on foreign exchange	(1,424)	(2,437)
Sundry expenses	5,682	-
General expenses	358	(1,873)
Light, heat and rates	4,382	9,564
Insurances	3,741	3,641
	<u>159,171</u>	<u>136,860</u>
Sub-total carried forward		

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Schedule to the Detailed Accounts

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

	2015 €	2014 €
Administration expenses (continued)		
Sub-total brought forward	159,171	136,860
Depreciation	12,075	11,754
Conservation projects	11,592	19,601
	<u>182,838</u>	<u>168,215</u>

Interest receivable

	2015 €	2014 €
Bank interest receivable	9,167	8,438
	<u>9,167</u>	<u>8,438</u>