Report and Financial Statements

31 DECEMBER 2000



REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2000

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REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2000

OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

DIRECTORS

P J Davies S Amato

I Ball (appointed 1 January 2000) T Ballard (appointed 1 January 2000)

N Brewin L Jovic C O'Sullivan

SECRETARY

S Amato

REGISTERED OFFICE

6 London Street Chertsey Surrey KT16 8AA

BANKERS

Bank of Scotland PLC 38 St Andrew Square Edinburgh EH2 2YR

SOLICITORS

Pitmans Gouldens
47 Castle Street 10 Old Bailey
Reading London
Berkshire EC4M 7NG
RG1 7SR

Rawlinson & Butler Griffin House 135 High Street Crawley West Sussex RH10 1DQ

AUDITORS

Deloitte & Touche Chartered Accountants Columbia Centre Market Street Bracknell Berkshire RG12 1PA

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2000.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The company's principal activities are the building and selling of residential homes.

BUSINESS REVIEW

In 2000 the company sold 301 houses (1999-214).

FUTURE PROSPECTS

The company continues to focus on brown-land sites such as Caterham Barracks and obsolete waterworks etc. This demonstrates that the company is well placed to take advantage of the long term trends for housing and in part, less susceptible to delays in obtaining planning permission.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The results of the company are set out on page 6. The company made a profit on ordinary activities after taxation of £3,584,000 (1999 -£1,706,000).

An interim dividend of £273,000 (1999:£254,000) was paid. The directors do not propose a final dividend (1999: £487,000).

PARENT COMPANY

On 25 October 2000, the ultimate parent company, Linden Limited (formerly Linden PLC), was acquired by Linden Holdings PLC (formerly Nednil PLC).

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS

The directors listed on page 1 held office throughout the year, except where noted.

No director had any interest in the shares of the company at any time during the year.

The beneficial interests in the ordinary shares of the ultimate parent company, Linden Holdings PLC, were as follows:

| | 31 December 2000 | 31 December 1999 |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Number | Number |
| L Jovic | 100,001 | 142,300 |
| S Amato | - | - |
| I Ball | - | - |
| T Ballard | • | - |
| N Brewin | - | - |
| C O'Sullivan | - | - |

The comparative figures for 1999 relate to the ultimate parent company at that date being Linden PLC.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS (CONTINUED)

In addition the details of share options held by the directors in the previous ultimate parent company were as follows:

| | 1 January | Exercised/ | 31 December |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2000 | lapsed | 2000 |
| | | during year | |
| | Number | Number | Number |
| S Amato | 7,500 | 7,500 | - |
| S Amato | 2,500 | 2,500 | |
| I Ball | 2,500 | 2,500 | - |
| T Ballard | 5,000 | 5,000 | - |
| T Ballard | 2,500 | 2,500 | - |
| N Brewin | 10,000 | 10,000 | - |
| L Jovic | 20,000 | 20,000 | - |
| C O'Sullivan | 5,000 | 5,000 | - |

All share options were bought out on the acquisition of Linden Limited by the ultimate parent company, Linden Holdings PLC.

The interests of P J Davies in the ultimate parent company, Linden Holdings PLC, are disclosed in the accounts for Linden Limited.

DONATIONS

During the year, the company made charitable donations of £4,706 (1999 £2,951).

POLICY ON PAYMENT OF CREDITORS

It is the company's normal practice to make payments to suppliers in accordance with agreed terms provided that the supplier has performed in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions. At 31 December 2000 the number of days credit taken for purchases by the company was 40 days (1999: 49).

AUDITORS

A resolution for the reappointment of Deloitte & Touche as auditors of the company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the Board of Directors and Signed on behalf of the Board

Secretary

21 May 2001

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LINDEN HOMES SOUTH-EAST LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 6 to 13 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 8.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 4 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which are required to be prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdon law and accounting standards. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdon auditing standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs at 31 December 2000 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

DELOITTE & TOUCHE

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Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

21 May 2001

Brocknell

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT Year ended 31 December 2000

| | Note | 2000 £'000 | 1999 £'000 |
|--|------|---------------|---------------|
| TURNOVER | 2 | 60,045 | 35,943 |
| Cost of sales | | (49,965) | (29,420) |
| GROSS PROFIT | | 10,080 | 6,523 |
| Administrative expenses | | (3,544) | (2,742) |
| Other operating income | | 6 | |
| OPERATING PROFIT | 3 | 6,542 | 3,781 |
| Interest receivable and similar income | | 11 | 9 |
| Interest payable and similar charges | 4 | (1,426) | (1,331) |
| PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES | | | |
| BEFORE TAXATION | | 5,127 | 2,459 |
| Tax on profit on ordinary activities | 6 | (1,543) | (753) |
| PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES | | | |
| AFTER TAXATION | | 3,584 | 1,706 |
| Equity dividends paid and proposed | 7 | (273) | (741) |
| PROFIT RETAINED AND | | | |
| TRANSFERRED TO RESERVES | 13 | 3,311 | 965 |

All amounts derive from continuing operations.

There are no recognised gains or losses for the current and prior years other than as stated above.

BALANCE SHEET 31 December 2000

| | Note | 2000 £'000 | 1999 £'000 |
|--------------------------------|------|-----------------|---------------|
| FIXED ASSETS | | | |
| Tangible assets | 8 | 48 | 114 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Stocks | 9 | 36,456 | 34,460 |
| Debtors | 10 | 1,071 | 1,759 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | [^] 77 | 3 |
| | | 37,604 | 36,222 |
| CREDITORS: amounts falling due | | | |
| Within one year | 11 | (28,725) | (30,720) |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | 8,879 | 5,502 |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT | | - - | |
| LIABILITIES | | 8,927 | 5,616 |
| CAPITAL AND RESERVES | | | - |
| Called up share capital | 12 | 10 | 10 |
| Profit and loss account | 13 | 8,917 | 5,606 |
| EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS | 14 | 8,927 | 5,616 |

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 21 May 2001.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

CO'Sullivan CTOS

) Directors

S Amato

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Year ended 31 December 2000

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The particular accounting policies adopted are described below.

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

Turnover

Turnover relates to the sale of houses (recognised on the financial completion of the sale of a house) and of land (recognised on the unconditional exchange of contracts).

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided in equal instalments over the estimated useful lives of the assets and is calculated on the cost of the assets.

The following rates are used:

| Office equipment, fixtures and fittings | 33% |
|---|----------|
| Plant and machinery | 33% |
| Motor vehicles | 20 - 25% |

Stocks

Stocks of land, materials and work in progress are valued at the lower of invoiced cost and net realisable value. Work in progress comprises direct site costs including materials and labour.

Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided on timing differences, arising from the different treatment of items for accounts and taxation purposes, which are expected to reverse in the future, calculated at rates at which it is estimated that tax will arise.

Leases

Operating lease rentals are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred.

Pension costs

The company participates in a Group Personal Pension Plan. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the Plan for the year.

2. TURNOVER

A segmental analysis of turnover between housing developments and land sales is set out below.

All turnover arose within the UK.

| | £'000 | 1999 £'000 |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------------|
| Housing Developments Land Sales | 60,045 | 35,321 622 |
| | | |
| | 60,045 | 35,943 |
| | | |

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS Year ended 31 December 2000

3. OPERATING PROFIT

| | | 2000 £'000 | 1999 £'000 |
|----|--|---|---------------|
| | Operating profit is after charging/ (crediting) | | |
| | Depreciation of tangible fixed assets | 84 | 65 |
| | Rentals under operating leases-other assets Auditors' remuneration | 143 | 150 |
| | - Audit fees | 35 | 23 |
| | - Other services | 8 | 19 |
| | Rent receivable | (6) | |
| 4. | INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES | | |
| | | 2000 | 1999 |
| | | £'000 | £'000 |
| | Group interest paid on intercompany balance | 1,406 | 1,291 |
| | Bank loans, overdrafts and other loans | 20 | 40 |
| | | 1,426 | 1,331 |
| 5. | INFORMATION REGARDING DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES | | |
| | | 2000 | 1999 |
| | | £'000 | £'000 |
| | Directors' remuneration | | |
| | Directors' emoluments (including benefits in kind) | 419 | 476 |
| | Company contributions to money purchase schemes | 19 | |
| | | 438 | 495 |
| | Emoluments of highest paid director | 116 | 70 |
| | | | |
| | Directors included in money purchase scheme | Number 5 | Number |
| | Directors included in money purchase scheme | J ≃ | 4 |
| | | Number | Number |
| | Average number of persons employed (including directors) | | |
| | Administration and management | 33 | 33 |
| | Construction | 41 | 34 |
| | Sales and marketing | 14 | 15 |
| | | 88 | 82 |

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Year ended 31 December 2000

5. INFORMATION REGARDING DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES (continued)

| | Employees costs during the year (including directors) | 2000 £°000 | 1999 £'000 |
|----|--|---------------|---------------|
| | Wages and salaries | 3,098 | 2,622 |
| | Social security costs | 304 | 255 |
| | Other pension costs | 83 | 66 |
| | | 3,485 | 2,943 |
| 6. | TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES | | |
| | | 2000 £'000 | 1999 £'000 |
| | United Kingdom corporation tax at 30% | 1,033 | 763 |
| | Group Relief | 529 | - |
| | Adjustment to prior years' provisions | (4) | (10) |
| | | 1,558 | 753 |
| | There is no unprovided deferred tax (1999-nil). | | |
| 7. | DIVIDENDS | | |
| | | 2000 | 1999 |
| | | £'000 | £'000 |
| | Interim paid - £27.30 per ordinary share (1999:£25.40) | 273 | 254 |
| | Final proposed - £nil per ordinary share (1999:£48.70) | | 487 |
| | Dividends on ordinary shares | 273 | 741 |
| | | = | |

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS Year ended 31 December 2000

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

9.

10.

| | Office equipment, fixtures and fittings 2000 | Plant and machinery 2000 £'000 | Motor vehicles 2000 £'000 | Total 2000 £'000 |
|---|--|---|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Cost at 1 January 2000 | 157 | 77 | 8 | 242 |
| Additions | 2 | - | 16 | 18 |
| Disposals | (88) | (77) | | (165) |
| Cost at 31 December 2000 | 71 | - | 24 | 95 |
| Depreciation at 1 January 2000 | 67 | 58 | 3 | 128 |
| Charge for the year | 60 | 19 | 5 | 84 |
| Disposals | (88) | (77) | <u>.</u> | (165) |
| Depreciation at 31 December 2000 | 39 | | 8 | 47 |
| Net Book Value at 31 December 2000 | 32 | | 16 | 48 |
| Net Book Value at 31 December 1999 | 90 | 19 | 5 | 114 |
| STOCKS | | | 2000 £'000 | 1999 £'000 |
| | | | | |
| Land | | | 26,358 | 23,623 |
| Work in progress | | | 8,818 | 10,431 |
| Part exchange properties | | | 1,280 | 406 |
| | | | 36,456 | 34,460 |
| The replacement cost of land and work in prog | ress is not materially | different to the | original cost. | |
| DEBTORS | | | | |
| | | | 2000 | 1999 |
| | | | £'000 | £'000 |
| Amounts owed by group companies | | | 7 | 89 |
| Other debtors | | | 1,064 | 1,670 |
| | | | | |

All debtors are due within one year.

1,759

1,071

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Year ended 31 December 2000

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

| | 2000 £'000 | 1999 £'000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Bank overdraft | - | 803 |
| Trade creditors | 7,442 | 3,990 |
| Amounts owed to parent company | 7,857 | 17,268 |
| Amounts owed to fellow subsdiary undertakings | 583 | 157 |
| Current corporation tax | 295 | 457 |
| Group Relief | 528 | - |
| Other creditors | 436 | 699 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 11,584 | 7,346 |
| | 28,725 | 30,720 |
| Other Creditors Include: | | |
| | 2000 | 1999 |
| | £'000 | £'000 |
| Taxation and social security | 111 | 140 |

The bank overdraft is secured by a floating charge over the assets of the company and a first legal charge over the land owned by the company.

12. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

| | 2000 £'000 | 1999 £'000 |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Authorised | | |
| 10,000 ordinary shares of £1 each | 10 | 01 |
| Called up, allotted and fully paid | | |
| 10,000 ordinary shares of £1 each | 10 | 10 |
| | —————————————————————————————————————— | |

13. STATEMENT OF MOVEMENT ON RESERVES

| | Profit and Loss Account £'000 |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| At 1 January 2000 Profit for year | 5,606 3,584 |
| Equity dividends paid | (273) |
| At 31 December 2000 | 8,917 |

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Year ended 31 December 2000

14. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

| | 2000 £'000 | £'000 |
|------------------------------------|---------------|-------|
| Opening shareholders' funds | 5,616 | 4,651 |
| Profit for the year | 3,584 | 1,706 |
| Equity dividends paid and proposed | (273) | (741) |
| Closing shareholders' funds | 8,917 | 5,616 |

15. OPERATING LEASES COMMITMENTS

At 31 December 2000 the company was committed to making the following payments during the next year in respect of operating leases:

| | 2000 £'000 | 1999 £'000 |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| OTHER | | |
| Leases which expire | | |
| Within one year | 103 | 149 |
| Within two to five years | 83 | 107 |
| | 186 | 256 |
| | · | |

16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Uberior Investments PLC is a related party by virtue of its 29.9% shareholding in Linden Holdings PLC. Uberior Investments PLC is owned by the Bank of Scotland PLC, the Company's bankers. All transactions and balances are disclosed in the financial statements above.

17. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The ultimate parent company and controlling party is Linden holdings PLC (formerly NEDNIL PLC), a company incorporated in Great Britain. The immediate parent company and controlling party is Linden Limited (formerly Linden PLC) which prepares Group accounts. Copies of the Group financial statements of Linden Limited are available from 6 London Street, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 8AA.