

Company registration number: 4913460
Charity registration number: 1103123

The Lynchmere Society

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 30 April 2009

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The Lynchmere Society

Contents

Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 4
Independent examiner's report	5
Statement of financial activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the financial statements	8 to 12

The Lynchmere Society
Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name	The Lynchmere Society	
Charity registration number	1103123	
Company registration number	4913460	
Registered office	22 Heath Road Hammer Haslemere Surrey GU27 3QN	
Trustees	H A Adair	(Resigned 8 September 2008)
	R J Dows-Miller	
	C M R Heath	(Appointed 10 October 2008)
	S J Ibbotson	
	N R Mann	
	The Hon L R Ponsonby	(Appointed 9 March 2009)
	C J Pooley	(Appointed 9 March 2009)
	The Hon Lady J R Rous	(Appointed 9 March 2009)
	I M A Russell	
	L A Searight	
	M H Shaw CMG	
Secretary	R J Dows-Miller	
Accountant	Carpenter Keen LLP Grand Prix House 102-104 Sheen Road Richmond Surrey TW9 1UF	

The Lynchmere Society

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2009. The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law and who served during the year and up to the date of this report, are set out on page 1.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26/09/2003 and registered as a charity on 07/04/2004. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Recruitment and Appointment of Management Committee

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law. One third of the trustees are elected each year at the AGM and serve for a term of three years.

Training Induction and Training

Most Trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity having been members. New trustees are given guidance regarding their responsibilities. The guidance is based on Charity Commission publications.

Risk Management

Given the nature of the charities activities the majority of risks arise from activities undertaken in connection with the management of the Commons and all activity undertaken by Volunteers is risk assessed in line with guidance provided by the Charity's insurers, BTCV. All Contractors and Service providers undertaking activities on behalf of the Charity are required to hold suitable insurance.

Organisational Structure

The Lynchmere Society has a Trustees management committee of 10 Trustees who meet six times a year and are responsible for the strategic direction and operational activities of the Charity. The Committee has members from a variety of backgrounds and professions.

Objectives and Activities

The Charity's objects and principal activities are to:

- Promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the area of benefit
- Educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of the area of benefit
- Secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic, environmental or public interest in the area of benefit.

The main activities for the year continued to be educating the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of the area of benefit and securing the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest through the restoration of the heathland of Lynchmere, Stanley and part of Marley Common (this being part of a much wider project across several counties supported and encouraged by Natural England).

The Lynchmere Society

Trustees' Report

Achievements and Performance

As well as the ongoing work on Stanley and Lynchmere Commons we are now engaged on a joint project with the National Trust on Marley Common (since we each own a part of it). We have just fenced it and cattle will begin grazing within the next few weeks. This has the financial support of Natural England. We are also getting financial support to lengthen and renovate a path suitable for wheelchairs on Lynchmere Common.

Educating the public

The renovation of the Commons provides opportunities to engage with the broader community and a range of activities have been undertaken. There are two formal talks a year on suitable subjects, we work with local schools and youth organisations, organising walks and providing nesting boxes and we arrange educational walks for adults on the commons looking at fungi or bats for example, so as to expand their understanding of the richness and diversity of the flora and fauna to be found on our lowland commons.

Securing features of interest

Through the control of scrub and bracken the Charity has continued to promote the regrowth of heather. This has been undertaken through the promotion of traditional management techniques such as grazing and newly developed non chemical controls such as bracken rolling. Lowland heath is amongst the rarest habitats in Europe and the land under the management of the Charity is the 6th largest area of lowland heath in Sussex.

The Charity has also renovated hazel coppices in those areas which were historically managed in this way and created new areas of coppice in areas where the re-establishment of heather is impractical. Traditionally managed hazel coppice is now unusual and therefore the specific habitat it provides is scarce.

The Charity has a group of volunteers who undertake scrub clearance, tree planting and general renovation activities on the commons around 10 times a year on Volunteers work days. Training is provided either 'on the job' or for more specialised activities (such as tree felling) through specific externally accredited and assessed training. We also get valuable assistance from other bodies such as the South Downs Volunteers and Southampton University Volunteers.

Financial review

Principal funding Sources

The principal funding sources of the charity are currently:

- A grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund in respect of the Commons renovation
- Rural England (DEFRA) through their Stewardship and Single payments schemes
- Subscriptions, donations and bequests.

Investment Policy

A significant proportion of the Charity's funds are grants received in advance and having considered the options available, the Trustees invest those funds which are in excess of its immediate needs in a Lloyds Bank deposit account and a Scottish Widows 60 Day Notice account. The Trustees consider the overall return satisfactory given the flexibility and security this offers.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have examined the Charity's requirements for reserves. They have established a policy whereby each year sufficient funds are placed in reserves to provide the necessary funds to replace the fencing at the end of its economic life.

The Lynchmere Society
Trustees' Report

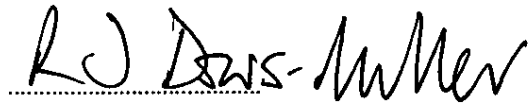
Plans for Future Periods

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board on 14 January 2010 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R J Dows-Miller', written over a dotted line.

R J Dows-Miller
Secretary

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
The Lynchmere Society**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 30 April 2009, which are set out on pages 6 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.


Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charitieshave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


.....
S D Carpenter
Carpenter Keen LLP
Chartered Accountants

14 January 2010

Grand Prix House
102-104 Sheen Road
Richmond
Surrey
TW9 1UF

The Lynchmere Society
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account) for the
Year Ended 30 April 2009

		Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2009	Total Funds 2008
	Note	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Voluntary income	2	20,360	20,360	67,054
Activities for generating funds	4	346	346	5,351
Investment income	5	2,290	2,290	4,812
Total incoming resources		<u>22,996</u>	<u>22,996</u>	<u>77,217</u>
Resources expended				
Costs of generating funds				
Cost of generating voluntary income	6	454	454	392
Charitable activities	6	30,675	30,675	34,203
Governance costs	6	588	588	587
Total resources expended		<u>31,717</u>	<u>31,717</u>	<u>35,182</u>
Net (expenditure)/income before transfers		(8,721)	(8,721)	42,035
Transfers				
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-
Net movements in funds		(8,721)	(8,721)	42,035
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		381,103	381,103	339,068
Total funds carried forward		<u>372,382</u>	<u>372,382</u>	<u>381,103</u>

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

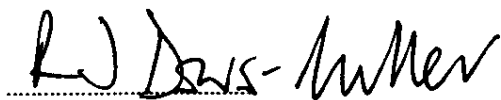
The Lynchmere Society
Balance Sheet as at 30 April 2009

		2009	2008
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	296,088	304,388
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		76,883	92,113
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(588)	(15,398)
Net current assets		<u>76,295</u>	<u>76,715</u>
Net assets		<u>372,383</u>	<u>381,103</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted income funds		<u>372,382</u>	<u>381,103</u>
Total charity funds		<u>372,382</u>	<u>381,103</u>

For the financial year ended 30 April 2009, the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477(1) of the Companies Act 2006; and no notice has been deposited under section 476(1) requesting an audit. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the year and of its income and expenditure for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 394 and which otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2006, so far as applicable to the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Approved by the Board on 14 January 2010 and signed on its behalf by:



R J Dows-Miller
Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

The Lynchmere Society
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2009

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005)', issued in March 2005, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Companies Act 2006.

Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 13.

Incoming resources

Grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Shop income is recognised as earned (that is, as the related goods or services are provided).

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Plant and machinery	straight line over 5 to 10 years
Freehold land	Not depreciated

The Lynchmere Society
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2009

2 Voluntary income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2008 £
Donations and legacies			
Donations and subscriptions	5,355	5,355	27,197
Grants			
Grants - other agencies	15,005	15,005	39,857
	<u>20,360</u>	<u>20,360</u>	<u>67,054</u>

3 Grants receivable

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2008 £
National Heritage Lottery Fund grants	-	-	35,311
DEFRA grants	15,005	15,005	4,546
	<u>15,005</u>	<u>15,005</u>	<u>39,857</u>

4 Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2008 £
Shop etc			
Shop income	72	72	478
Timber sales, hire of tractor etc	274	274	4,873
	<u>346</u>	<u>346</u>	<u>5,351</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2008 £
Interest on cash deposits	2,290	2,290	4,812

The Lynchmere Society
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2009

6 Total resources expended

	Shop etc	Charitable activities	Governance	Total
	£	£	£	£
Direct costs				
Cost of goods sold	454	-	-	454
Restoration and maintenance of commons and pond	-	15,443	-	15,443
Insurance	-	394	-	394
Office expenses	-	240	-	240
Printing, posting and stationery	-	1,643	-	1,643
Meeting costs	-	332	-	332
Accountancy fees	-	-	588	588
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	-	12,623	-	12,623
	<u>454</u>	<u>30,675</u>	<u>588</u>	<u>31,717</u>

7 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

8 Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging:

	2009 £	2008 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>12,623</u>	<u>11,759</u>

9 Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is, therefore, exempt from taxation.

The Lynchmere Society
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2009

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant & machinery £	Total £
Cost			
As at 1 May 2008	256,000	90,643	346,643
Additions	-	4,323	4,323
As at 30 April 2009	<u>256,000</u>	<u>94,966</u>	<u>350,966</u>
Depreciation			
As at 1 May 2008	-	42,255	42,255
Charge for the year	-	12,623	12,623
As at 30 April 2009	<u>-</u>	<u>54,878</u>	<u>54,878</u>
Net book value			
As at 30 April 2009	<u>256,000</u>	<u>40,088</u>	<u>296,088</u>
As at 30 April 2008	<u>256,000</u>	<u>48,388</u>	<u>304,388</u>

No depreciation is provided in respect of freehold land, as this is considered to have an indefinitely long useful life.

11 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2009 £	2008 £
Other creditors	<u>588</u>	<u>15,398</u>

12 Members' liability

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The Lynchmere Society
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2009

13 Analysis of funds

	At 1 May 2008	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 30 April 2009
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Funds					
Commons fund	256,000	-	-	-	256,000
Equipment and capital works fund	48,388	-	(12,623)	4,323	40,088
	<u>304,388</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12,623)</u>	<u>4,323</u>	<u>296,088</u>
General Funds					
Unrestricted income fund	76,715	22,996	(19,093)	(4,323)	76,295
	<u>381,103</u>	<u>22,996</u>	<u>(31,716)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>372,383</u>

Purposes of unrestricted funds:

Commons fund: to record the original cost of land under the Society's management.

Equipment and capital works fund: to record the cost and depreciation of capital equipment and works of a capital nature.

14 Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2009	Total Funds 2008
	£	£	£
Tangible assets	296,088	296,088	304,388
Current assets	76,883	76,883	92,113
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(588)	(588)	(15,398)
Net assets	<u>372,383</u>	<u>372,383</u>	<u>381,103</u>