REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04913460 (England and Wales) REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1103123

# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2018 FOR THE LYNCHMERE SOCIETY

Traviss & Co
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## THE LYNCHMERE SOCIETY CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 April 2018

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2018. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The Charity's objects and principal activities are to:-

- 1) Promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the area of benefit, which is the Lynchmere Civic Parish and some neighbouring areas.
- 2) Educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of the area of benefit.
- 3) Secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic, environmental and 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 and 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 and The South Downs National Park).

#### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

#### **Educating the Public**

Local schools, societies and youth organisations benefit from the Commons restoration with their network of footpaths and bridleways, as well as the circular path for disabled and wheelchair users. We have two formal talks each year on subjects of local interest: in May 2017, we heard a talk from Hilary Hayward, a government bee inspector, on "Bees and Things" and, in the Autumn, Patrick Mannix spoke about "A Voyage of Discovery, Owning and Working in the Surrey Hills AONB".

#### **Securing Features of Interest**

Lowland Heath is one of the most endangered habitats in Europe, and the Commons owned and managed by the Society is the 6th largest area of such habitat in Sussex, and an important link in the South Downs National Park's "Heathlands Re-United" scheme.

Each year the area of heathlands becomes greater, with much work being done on bracken control in late summer, all done by pulling or cutting - and scything where possible. Our flower meadows are also of special interest, never having been ploughed, fertilised or sprayed within living memory. A flower survey was arranged in Summer 2017 in conjunction with The Haslemere Natural History Society.

#### The Commons, the fields and the barn

The Charity had fourteen volunteer days for scrub clearance during the winter months, and the group again included candidates for the Duke of Edinburghs's Award Scheme with their parents. Training is provided "on the job". We also had day-visits from the South Downs National Park Volunteers and a two day weekend visit from the Southampton University Volunteers. The herd of Belted Galloway cattle (a rare breed) are popular with the public, in spite of the tragic accident in January 2019, as well as doing much valuable conservation work for us.

During the summer our volunteers were active in scything the field margins and weed control - no pesticides or herbicides are permitted. Bad weather at harvest time affected the quantity and quality of hay but we managed to harvest enough to cover our costs. The Orchard is well-established, and again produced a good crop of apples.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### Principal funding sources

The principal Funding sources of the Charity are:-

- 1) Natural England and The Rural Payments Agency, through the Higher Level Stewardship and Basic Payments Scheme.
- 2) Subscriptions, donations and bequests.
- 3) SSE through wayleaves.
- 4) Sales of hay bales to cover harvesting costs.

#### The 2017-18 year

The Society recorded a surplus of £31,164 on a total income of £71,441 for the year to 30th April 2018. The grants from the Rural Payments Agency under the Higher Level Stewardship and Basic Payment Schemes again being the dominant feature of the Society's income, amounting to £58,297 or 82% of the total income for the 2017-18 year. Delayed payments continued to come through from the RPA and the total was 39% up on the 2016-17 year. These grants are for our heathland restoration and maintenance work, to support grazing on the Commons and for other environmental work.

The total spending on grazing and the commons amounted to £35,691, a 56% increase on the previous year where work had been constrained because the trustees decided to adopt a cautious approach to spending in view of delays in RPA payments. Spending on management of the commons was increased by 30% to just under £22,000 in 2017-18. As was discussed at the AGM last year, grazing costs had risen from an unsustainably low level and amounted to £13,511 in 2017-18. The Society continued to support Lynchmere Community Grazing, the Community Interest Company established to manage grazing on the Society's commons and elsewhere. The Society had bought the herd of cattle needed to graze the commons in 2016 in the expectation that the South Downs National Park Authority would provide a grant to fund the purchase of the herd by the CIC from the Society. This grant of £14,900 finally came through on 31st December 2018, but the delay did increase the Society's grazing costs during the 2017-18 year. There was a further £1,500 contract from the SDNPA for work on Marley. The strategy for the maintenance of the commons has been to use a small team of individual woodsmen who know the commons well and are much more flexible and cost effective than the larger contractors used by other charities undertaking similar work. The Society is also fortunate to have a loyal and growing band of volunteers who give their time, as well as several other sources of volunteer labour, including the South Downs Volunteers and Southampton University Volunteers.

The Society remains heavily dependent on government grants, many of which currently derive from the EU. There have been reassuring noises from government about the maintenance of farm and environmental grants but, in post BREXIT environment and with huge spending pressures elsewhere, few observers expect an increase in funding for the kind of work undertaken by the Society. Our current Higher Level Stewardship contract runs until January 2019 and we have applied for an extension of this grant. The Commons are both an important environmental project and an amenity used by many local people, who have supported the Society for many years, and so the excellent work done by the team has to reflect the sensibilities of several stakeholder groups, if the funding for the maintenance of this beautiful area, that so many enjoy, is to be sustained into the future.

Other sources of income are also very important for the Society. We were delighted to receive another donation of £3,000 from the Hilary Tangye Trust and we have a loyal base of members and supporters who provide valuable income from subscriptions and donations. Hay and wood sales totalled £2,981, with hay benefiting from better a harvest than in the 2016-17 year.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### Investment policy and objectives

A significant proportion of the Society'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 decided to open a NatWest account to reduce the Society's exposure to the Lloyds Banking group, which now also owns Scottish Widows. Although interest rates are weefully low in the current environment, the Trustees consider the return to be satisfactory given the flexibility and security that this offers.

#### **Reserves Policy**

The trustees monitor the Society's requirements for reserves to ensure sufficient funds are available to provide for any sudden emergencies and to meet longer term commitments, such as the need to replace the fencing and machinery when this becomes necessary. This gives the trustees confidence that the Society's work can continue unimpeded and it has fully adequate reserves to meet its objects.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

The Charity plans to continue the activities outlined above in forthcoming years.

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

#### Governing document

The Lynchmere Society is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26th September 2003 and registered as a charity on 7th April 2004. The company was established under a Memorandum and Articles 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 new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law. One third of the trustees are elected each year and serve for a term of three years, and can be re-elected on the end of this term.

#### Organisational structure

The Lynchmere Society has a Trustees / Management committee 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 experience.

#### Induction and training of new trustees

All 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.

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

#### **Registered Company number**

04913460 (England and Wales)

#### Registered Charity number

1103123

#### Registered office

Shulbrede Priory Lynchmere Haslemere Surrey GU27 3NQ

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

**Trustees** 

R J Appleby

C J Pooley

P R Searight

Mrs L A Scaright

The Hon Lady Rous

I M A Russell

C G Summers

#### **Company Secretary**

I M A Russell

**GU30 7DX** 

#### Independent examiner

M J Traviss FCA
Traviss & Co
Chartered Accountants
Newtown House
38 Newtown Road
Liphook
Hampshire

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 30 January 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

P R Searight - Trustee

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LYNCHMERE SOCIETY

#### Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Lynchmere Society ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 April 2018.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- 1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice
- 4. for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

M J Traviss FCA
Traviss & Co
Chartered Accountants
Newtown House
38 Newtown Road
Liphook
Hampshire
GU30 7DX

30 January 2019

## THE LYNCHMERE SOCIETY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 April 2018

				2018	2017
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds	funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	64,159	-	64,159	54,965
Other trading activities	3	4,481	-	4,481	2,945
Investment income	4	2,801		2,801	424
Total		71,441	-	71,441	58,334
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Restoration and maintenance of commons, fields and					
hay meadows		39,331	-	39,331	27,498
Other		946	-	946	600
Total		40,277		40,277	28,098
NET INCOME		31,164		31,164	30,236
Transfers between funds	13	500	(500)		
Net movement in funds		31,664	(500)	31,164	30,236
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS		•	, ,	,	,
Total funds brought forward		584,092	17,140	601,232	570,996
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		615,756	16,640	632,396	601,232

#### THE LYNCHMERE SOCIETY BALANCE SHEET At 30 April 2018

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				2018	2017
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds	funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	433,851	-	433,851	434,068
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	10	14,900	-	14,900	14,900
Debtors	11	23,047	_	23,047	334
Cash at bank		145,053	16,640	161,693	152,530
		183,000	16,640	199,640	167,764
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(1,095)	-	(1,095)	(600)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		181,905	16,640	198,545	167,164
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT				<del></del>	
LIABILITIES		615,756	16,640	632,396	601,232
NET ASSETS		615,756	16,640	632,396	601,232
FUNDS	13				
Unrestricted funds				615,756	584,092
Restricted funds				16,640	17,140
TOTAL FUNDS				632,396	601,232
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### THE LYNCHMERE SOCIETY BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED At 30 April 2018

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30 April 2018.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2018 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
  - preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as
- (b) at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 30 January 2019 and were signed on its behalf by:

P R Searight -Trustee

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

#### Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

#### Charitable activities

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 and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Land & Buildings - not provided

Plant and machinery - 20% on cost and 10% on cost

The trustees have adopted a policy of not depreciating the freehold land buildings. These are stated at historical cost rather than regular revaluations.

#### Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

#### Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

#### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

#### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Donations and subscriptions Grants	2018 £ 5,512 	2017 £ 12,792 42,173 54,965
	Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:	2018	2017
	Natural England grants Lynchmere Parish Council	£ 58,297 350 58,647	£ 41,823 350 42,173
3.	OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		
	Hay and wood sales Other income	2018 £ 2,981 1,500 4,481	2017 £ 1,745 1,200 2,945
4.	INVESTMENT INCOME		
	Rents received Deposit account interest	2018 £ 2,767 34 2,801	2017 £ 336 88 424

#### 5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

6.	Restoration and maintenance of commons, fields and hay meadows  NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	Direct costs ₤ 39,331	Totals £ 39,331
	Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
	Independent examiner's fee Depreciation - owned assets Hire of plant and machinery	2018 £ 600 217 346	2017 £ 600 932

#### 7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2018 nor for the year ended 30 April 2017.

#### Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 April 2018 nor for the year ended 30 April 2017.

#### 8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM		•	
Donations and legacies	54,965	_	54,965
Other trading activities	2,945	_	2,945
Investment income	424	_	424
Total	58,334	<del>-</del>	58,334
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities			
Restoration and maintenance of commons, fields and hay meadows	27,498	-	27,498
Other	600	-	600
Total	28,098		28,098
NET INCOME	30,236		30,236
Transfers between funds	960	(960)	

8.	COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued			
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		funds	funds	funds
		£	£	£
	Net movement in funds	31,196	(960)	30,236
	RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS		, ,	
	Total funds brought forward	552,896	18,100_	570,996
	TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	584,092	17,140	601,232
9.	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS			
		Land &	Plant and	
		Buildings	machinery	Totals
		£	£	£
	COST			
	At 1 May 2017 and 30 April 2018	431,000	<u> 122,970</u>	<u>553,970</u>
	DEPRECIATION			
	At 1 May 2017	-	119,902	119,902
	Charge for year		<u>217_</u>	217
	At 30 April 2018		<b>120,119</b>	120,119
	NET BOOK VALUE			
	At 30 April 2018	431,000	2,851	433,851
	At 30 April 2017	431,000	3,068	434,068
10.	STOCKS		<del></del>	
			2018	2017
			£	£
	Stock of cattle		<u>14,900</u>	<u>14,900</u>
11.	DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
			2018	2017
			£	£
	Other debtors		22,729	-
	Prepayments		318	334
			23,047	334

12.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE	E YEAR ENDED 30 A) WITHIN ONE YEAR	Drii 2018		
				2018 £	2017 £
	Accrued expenses			1,095	600
13.	MOVEMENT IN FUNDS				
			Net	Transfers	
			movement in	between	20 1 10
		At 1.5.17	funds £	funds £	At 30.4.18
	Unrestricted funds	£	ı	ı.	£
	General fund	150,024	31,381	500	181,905
	Commons fund	431,000	-	-	431,000
	Equipment and capital works fund	3,068	(217)	_	2,851
	•	584,092	31,164	500	615,756
	Restricted funds				
	Reptile Habitat Fund	17,140	-	(500)	16,640
	TOTAL FUNDS	601,232	31,164		632,396
	Net movement in funds, included in the above	are as follows:			
			Incoming	Resources	Movement in
			resources	expended	funds
			£	£	£
	Unrestricted funds		51 441	(40.000)	21 201
	General fund Equipment and capital works fund		71,441	(40,060)	31,381
	Equipment and capital works fund		71,441	$\frac{(217)}{(40,277)}$	$\frac{(217)}{31,164}$
	TOTAL FUNDS		71,441	(40,277)	31,164

#### 13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds				
		Net	Transfers	
	441516	movement in	between	44 20 4 15
	At 1.5.16	funds	funds £	At 30.4.17
	£	£	ı.	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General fund	119,254	31,168	(398)	150,024
Commons fund	431,000	,	-	431,000
Equipment and capital works fund	2,642	(932)	1,358	3,068
	552,896	30,236	960	584,092
Restricted Funds				
Reptile Habitat Fund	18,100	-	(960)	17,140
TOTAL FUNDS	570,996	30,236		601,232
Comparative net movement in funds, included in the a	above are as follow			
		Incoming	Resources	Movement in
		resources	expended	funds
		£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund		58,334	(27,166)	31,168
Equipment and capital works fund		<del>_</del>	<u>(932</u> )	(932)
		58,334	(28,098)	30,236
TOTAL FUNDS		58,334	(28,098)	30,236

#### 13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

#### **Unrestricted Funds**

#### **Commons Fund**

The Commons Fund represents the original cost of land under the Charity's management.

#### Equipment and capital works fund

This represents the cost and depreciation of capital equipment and works of a capital nature.

#### **Restricted Funds**

#### Mare Barn Phase 1

This represents costs of assessing the state of Mare Barn and to provide options for its long term restoration and repair. The Mare Barn was originally left to the Charity in a legacy. 80% of the cost was met through a project grant from Natural England.

#### Reptile Habitat Fund

This represents £10,000 given by Taylor Wimpey UK Limited for the future maintenance of the Lynchmere Land and the welfare of reptiles relocated from one of their building sites.

It also includes an additional payment of £10,000 to be used by the Lynchmere Society for the purpose of improving visitor education at the common and associated habitat management.

#### 14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 30 April 2018.

This document was delivered using electronic communications and authenticated in accordance with the registrar's rules relating to electronic form, authentication and manner of delivery under section 1072 of the Companies Act 2006.