# ASHBY & THORNTON PLC STRATEGIC REPORT, REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

\*A3NBGRJT\*
A34 23/12/2014
COMPANIES HOUSE

#480

# CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	Page
Company Information	1
Strategic Report	2
Report of the Directors	3
Report of the Independent Auditors	4
Profit and Loss Account	6
Balance Sheet	7
Cash Flow Statement	8
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	9
Notes to the Financial Statements	10
The following pages do not form part of the statutory financial statements:	
Trading and Profit and Loss Account	16
Notes to the Profit and Loss Account	17

# COMPANY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

**DIRECTORS:** 

Mrs V J Thornton

J D Thornton

**SECRETARY:** 

J D Thornton

**REGISTERED OFFICE:** 

3 Castle Gate Castle Street Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 1HD

**REGISTERED NUMBER:** 

02134049 (England and Wales)

**AUDITORS**:

Wilkins Kennedy LLP Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditor 5 Yeomans Court Ware Road Hertford

Hertfordshire SG13 7HJ

## STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

The directors present their strategic report for the year ended 30 June 2014.

#### **REVIEW OF BUSINESS**

During the year the property at 40 Castle Street remained fully let. The development of the land adjoining Heritage Court commenced at last, and nine of the eleven houses are now sold, leading to further overage payments to the company for rights of access. Property Management services continue to be provided, as well as consultancy for First-Tier Property Tribunal applications and appearances.

The online Newspaper based on electoral wards has been reactivated under the editorship of John Barber, and this will continue until at least the General Election in 2015.

#### POLICY ON THE PAYMENT OF CREDITORS

The company's policy is to pay creditors on or before the due date. If for any reason payment cannot be made the creditor is advised accordingly.

# PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The business' principal financial instruments comprise bank balances, trade debtors, trade creditors and loans to the business. The main purpose of these is to finance the business' operations.

In respect of the bank balances, the liquidity risk is managed by maintaining a balance between the continuity of funding and flexibility through the use of overdrafts at floating rates of interest. All of the business' cash balances are held in such a way that achieves a competitive rate of interest. The business makes use of money market facilities where funds are available.

Trade debtors are managed in respect of credit and cashflow risk by policies concerning the credit offered to customers and the regular monitoring of amounts outstanding for both time and credit limits. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful debtors.

Trade creditors' liquidity risk is managed by ensuring sufficient funds are available to meet amounts due.

Loans comprise loans from directors. The business manages the liquidity risk by ensuring that there are sufficient funds to meet the payments.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

J D Thornton - Director

Date: 22 Drambu 2014

# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 30 June 2014.

#### **DIVIDENDS**

No dividends will be distributed for the year ended 30 June 2014.

#### **DIRECTORS**

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 July 2013 to the date of this report.

Mrs V J Thornton J D Thornton

#### STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable 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 state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

## STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the company's auditors are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

# **AUDITORS**

The auditors, Wilkins Kennedy LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

JD Thornton - Director

Date: 22 Dambi 2014

# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY & THORNTON PLC

We have audited the financial statements of Ashby & Thornton PLC for the year ended 30 June 2014 on pages six to fifteen. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. 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 a Report of the Auditors 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 Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on page three, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

## Scope of the audit of the financial statements

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 Strategic Report and the Report of the Directors 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 state of the company's affairs as at 30 June 2014 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
   and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Strategic Report and the Report of the Directors for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY & THORNTON PLC

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Welking Kennedy Let

Mandy Wilson FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Wilkins Kennedy LLP Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditor 5 Yeomans Court Ware Road Hertford Hertfordshire SG13 7HJ

22 December 2014

# PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	/ 1 : Notes	2014 £	2013 £
TURNOVER	*: <b>2</b> +	127,907	81,605
Cost of sales	Sp. B. P. P.	474	5,140
GROSS PROFIT		127,433	76,465
Administrative expenses	. •	25,298	30,937
		102,135	45,528
Other operating income		479	-
OPERATING PROFIT	4	102,614	45,528
Interest payable and similar charges	5	10,603	12,898
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	3	92,011	32,630
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	6.	20,031	6,602
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	· ·	71,980	26,028

# **CONTINUING OPERATIONS**

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued during the current year or previous year.

## **TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES**

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the profits for the current year or previous year.

The notes form part of these financial statements

# **ASHBY & THORNTON PLC (REGISTERED NUMBER: 02134049)**

# BALANCE SHEET 30 JUNE 2014

		201	4	201	3
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS	_				
Tangible assets	7		-		-
Investment property	8 9		150 412,450	•	150 412,450
Investment property	9	•	412,450		412,430
	÷		412,600		412,600
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	22,163		33,714	
Cash at bank		6,874		7,643	
		29,037		41,357	
CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year	11	330,129		381,027	
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES			(301,092)		(339,670)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			111,508		72,930
CREDITORS Amounts falling due after more than or year	ne - 12		740,453		773,855
•					
NET LIABILITIES			(628,945) =====		(700,925) ======
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called up share capital	13		250,000		250,000
Profit and loss account	14		(878,945)		(950,925)
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	17		(628,945)		(700,925)

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on signed on its behalf by:

D Thomton - Director

# CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

		2014	2013
	Notes	£	£
Net cash inflow			
from operating activities	1	41,219	60,530
Returns on investments and			
servicing of finance	2	(10,603)	(12,898)
Taxation		(5,734)	-
	7	24,882	47,632
Financing	2	(25,651)	(44,678)
(Decrease)/increase in cash in t	he period	<del></del>	2,954
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds	3		
to movement in net funds	<b>3</b>		
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the	e period	<u>(769)</u>	2,954
Change in net funds resulting			
from cash flows		<u>(769)</u>	2,954
Movement in net funds in the pe	eriod	(769)	2,954
Net funds at 1 July		7,643	4,689
Net funds at 30 June		6,874	7,643
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

The notes form part of these financial statements

# NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

# RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING **ACTIVITIES**

3	2014	2013
	£	£
Operating profit	102,614	45,528
Depreciation charges	-	2,318
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	3,800	(7,470)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(65,195)	20,154
Net cash inflow from operating activities	41,219	60,530

#### 2. ANALYSIS OF CASH FLOWS FOR HEADINGS NETTED IN THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	2014 £	2013 •£
Returns on investments and servicing of finance Interest paid	(10,603)	(12,898)
Net cash outflow for returns on investments and servicing of finance	(10,603) ====	(12,898) ——
Financing Amount introduced by directors Amount withdrawn by directors	14,217 (39,868)	8,037 (52,715)
Net cash outflow from financing	(25,651)	(44,678) =====

# 3.

ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS			•
Nick cooks	At 1.7.13 £	Cash flow £	At 30.6.14 £
Net cash: Cash at bank	7,643	(769)	6,874
	7,643	(769)	6,874
Total	7,643	<u>(769)</u>	6,874

The notes form part of these financial statements

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. At 30 June 2014 the company's liabilities exceeded its assets by £628,945 (2013 - £700,925). The company continues to trade because the directors are of the opinion that all long term creditors are due to the directors and directors will continue to offer their financial support to the company.

## Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

#### Turnover

Turnover represents amounts chargeable, net of value added tax, in respect of the sale of goods and services to customers.

#### Tangible fixed assets

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

Other tangible - 25% on cost

#### Investment property

Investment property is shown at most recent valuation. Any aggregate surplus or deficit arising from changes in market value is transferred to a revaluation reserve.

Certain company property is held for the long-term investment. Investment properties are accounted for in accordance with SSAP 19, whereby no depreciation is provided against such properties.

This treatment as regards the company's investment properties may be a departure from the requirements of the Companies Act concerning depreciation of fixed assets. However, these properties are not held for consumption but for the investment and the directors consider that a systematic annual depreciation would be inappropriate. The accounting policy adopted is therefore necessary for the financial statements to give a true and fair view. Depreciation or amortisation is only one of many factors reflected in the annual valuation and the amount which might otherwise have been shown cannot be separately indemnified or quantified.

## **Deferred tax**

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date.

## 2. TURNOVER

The turnover and profit before taxation are attributable to the one principal activity of the company.

An analysis of turnover by geographical market is given below:

	<i>.</i> .	2014	2013
		£	£
UK Sales	•	113,371	67,525
UK Rental		14,536	14,080
		<del> </del>	
		127,907	81,605
•			

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

3. STAFF COSTS	2014 £	2013
	£	
Wages and salaries	8,042	£ 6,000
Other pension costs	1,600	600
•	0.642	6 600
	9,642	6,600
The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:		
	2014	2013
Administration and support	1	1
=	<del></del>	
4. OPERATING PROFIT		
The operating profit is stated after charging:		
	2014	2013
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<del>-</del>	2,317
Directors' remuneration	8,042	6,000
Directors' pension contributions to money purchase schemes	1,600 ———	600
The number of directors to whom retirement benefits were accruing was as foll	ows:	
Money purchase schemes	1	1
money parenage continues	<u></u>	<u>.</u>
5. INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES		
	2014	2013
Double on interest	£	£
Bank loan interest Other interest payable	10,355 248	10,812 2,086
<del>-</del>		
.·	10,603	12,898

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

			•
6.	TAXATION	•	
	Analysis of the tax charge The tax charge on the profit on ordinary activities for the year was as follows:		2042
,		2014 £	2013 £
	Current tax: UK corporation tax (Over)/under provision in previous year	20,107 (76)	7,065
	Total current tax	20,031	7,065
	Deferred taxation	-	(463)
	Tax on profit on ordinary activities	20,031	6,602
7.	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS		Other tangible £
	COST At 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014		9,271
	DEPRECIATION At 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014		9,271
	NET BOOK VALUE At 30 June 2014		
	At 30 June 2013		<del>-</del>
8.	FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS		Shares in
			group undertakings £
	COST At 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014		150
	NET BOOK VALUE At 30 June 2014		150
	At 30 June 2013		150

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

#### 8. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued

Details of the investments in which the company holds 20% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

Undertaking	Holding	Proportion of voting rights and shares held	Principal activity
Ward Times Limited	Ordinary	100%	Online newspaper

The financial period end of Ward Times Limited is 31 March. The profit for the financial period of Ward Times Limited was £nil and the aggregate amount of capital and reserves at the end of the period was £150.

## 9. **INVESTMENT PROPERTY**

	Total
COST At 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014	£ 482,106
DEPRECIATION At 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014	69,656
NET BOOK VALUE At 30 June 2014	412,450
At 30 June 2013	412,450

The investment properties class of fixed assets was revalued on 26 August 2009 by Jonathan Campbell an independent Chartered Surveyor, MRICS at £260,000. The basis of the valuation was the estimated market value for which the property should exchange on the date of the valuation (26 August 2009). This class of assets has a current value of £300,000 (2013 - £300,000).

The directors consider the reduction in market value of the property to that below the original cost to be a temporary fall in value and have therefore not amended the financial statements in this respect. The directors believe that the market value of such properties are likely to appreciate over time.

#### 10. **DEBTORS**

		2014	2013
Amounts falling due wit	hin one year	Ł	£
Trade debtors	······ one year.	3,113	25,963
Other debtors		19,050	-
		22,163	25,963

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

10.	DEBTORS - continued		
10.	DED TOTAL COMMITTEE	2014	2013
	and the second s	£	£
	Amounts falling due after more than one year: Directors' loan accounts		7 754
	Directors loan accounts		7,751 ———
	Aggregate amounts	22,163	33,714
		=	
11.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
		2014	2013
		£	£
	Trade creditors	6,720	5,244
	Taxation	24,844	10,547
	Social security and other taxes	1,642	-
	VAT	1,187	3,921
	Other creditors	284,399	349,978
	Directors' current accounts	8,037	8,037
	Accruals and deferred income	3,300	3,300
	•	330,129	381,027
12.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR		
		2014	2013
		£	£
	Directors' loan accounts	740,453	773,855

The loan from the directors is not repayable by instalments, nor is any interest accruing on the loan. The loan will be repaid when the company has sufficient capital to do so.

The creditors are secured by means of a debenture dated 26 February 2007 which gives a fixed and floating charge over the company's assets.

# 13. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

Allotted, issued	and a	fully	paid:
------------------	-------	-------	-------

Number:	Class:	Nominal	2014	2013
		value:	£	£
250,000	ORDINARY	£1	250,000	250,000

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

14.	RESERVES		
			Profit
		A. C. C.	and loss
		. *-,	account
			£

£

At 1 July 2013

Profit for the year

At 30 June 2014

£

(950,925)

71,980

(878,945)

#### 15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The directors, Mr J.D. Thornton and Mrs V.J. Thornton, are materially interested in the share capital of Ashby & Horner Limited, Hurford Salvi Carr Property Management Limited, Saracen Investments Limited, Heritage Court Management Limited, London Debt Collectors Limited, Church Home Group Resources Limited and HSCPM Management Partnership Limited.

The company made sales to the value of £80,264 (2013 - £29,025) from related parties. These transactions were made on normal commercial terms.

At 30 June 2014 the company was owed £15,301 (2013 - £15,301) by Church Home Group Resources Limited.

The company also owed £61,497 (2013 61,497) to Ashby & Horner Limited, £26,388 (2013 - £16,133) to Heritage Court Management Limited, £33,314 (2013 - £63,314) to Saracen Investments Limited, £76,877 (2013- £85,084) to Hurford Salvi Carr Property Management Limited and £1,666 (2013 - £32,820) to London Debt Collectors Limited.

## 16. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The company is controlled by the directors.

## 17. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	2014	2013
Profit for the financial year	£ 71,980	£ 26,028
Net addition to shareholders' funds Opening shareholders' funds	71,980 (700,925)	26,028 (726,953)
Closing shareholders' funds	(628,945)	(700,925)

# TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

		201	4	2013	1
	Notes	£	£	£	£
TURNOVER	1		127,907		81,605
Cost of sales	2		474		5,140
GROSS PROFIT			127,433		76,465
Administrative expenses					
Establishment costs	3	501		1,101	
Administrative expenses	4	24,652		29,669	
Finance costs	5	145		167	
			25,298		30,937
			102,135		45,528
Other operating income	6		479		-
OPERATING PROFIT			102,614		45,528
Finance costs	7		10,603		12,898
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	i				
BEFORE TAXATION			92,011 ———		32,630

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

# TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

		2014 £	2013 £
1.	TURNOVER		
	Sales	113,371	67,525
	Rental income - 40A castle street	14,536	14,080
		127,907	81,605
2.	COST OF SALES		
	Purchases	-	5,000
	Site running costs	474	140
		<del></del>	
		<del>474</del>	5,140 ———
3.	ESTABLISHMENT COSTS		
	Insurance	501	553
	Repairs to property	•	548
		<del></del> 501	1,101
		===	====
4.	ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
	Directors' salaries	8,042	6,000
	Directors' pension contributions	1,600	600
	Trade subscriptions	35 320	35
	Sundry expenses Bad debt	339 10,607	426 1,162
	Accountancy fees	840	840
	Auditor's remuneration	2,808	2,595
	Legal and professional fees	144	3,480
	Donations	237	12,213
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		0.040
	Other tangible assets		2,318
		24,652	29,669
_	FINANCE COOTS		
5.	FINANCE COSTS Bank charges	145	167
	zam. onargoo	====	
6.	OTHER OPERATING INCOME		
	Sundry receipts	479	
7.	FINANCE COSTS		
	Bank loan interest	10,355	10,812
	Other interest payable	248	2,086
		10,603	12,898

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements