

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2015

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COMPANY INFORMATION

COMPANY NUMBER

5214585

CHARITY NUMBER

1127029

REGISTERED OFFICE

Watchtree,
Great Orton,
Carlisle
CA5 6NL

DIRECTORS

F.J. Mawby	B. Bowe,
W. Little	P. MacDonald
R.W. Bushby	W.J. Knowles
Dr. E.A. Still	C. Tinker (Treasurer)
R. Timmins	S. Griffin
R. Speirs	

BANKERS

The Co-operative Bank PLC
P.O. Box 101,
1 Balloon Street,
Manchester
M60 4EP

AUDITORS

N.B. Lancaster and Co.,
Chartered Accountants,
and Registered Auditor,
6 Brunswick Street
Carlisle CA1 1PN

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COMPANIES HOUSE

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE LIMITED
DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Directors present their eleventh Annual Report together with the Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2015.

<u>Trading Results and State of Affairs</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
(Loss)/Profit on Ordinary Activities Before Tax	(47,672)	130,271
Taxation	-	-
Profit on Ordinary Activities After Tax	(47,672)	130,271
Appropriations	-	-
<u>Unappropriated Profit</u>	<u>(47,672)</u>	<u>130,271</u>

The Directors consider the Company's State of Affairs to be satisfactory.

In 2014 the Directors transferred £100,000 from the Company Profit and Loss Account into the Project Reserve Fund in order that this can be drawn down in later years for Capital Projects.

Principal Activities

The Company's Principal Activity is the provision of environment services to D.E.F.R.A., including the management of a Nature Reserve.

Directors and Trustees

The persons serving as Directors and Trustees during the year were as follows:-

Francis J. Mawby – Chairman	Brian Bowe
William Little	Patricia MacDonald
Robert W. Bushby	William J. Knowles
Dr. Elizabeth A. Still	Clive Tinker
Robert Timmins	Samuel Griffin
Joan Markwell (Resigned 30.9.2014)	Richard Speirs

Staff

Tim Lawrence – Nature Reserve Manager (Left March, 2015)
 Ryan Dobson – Access and Recreation officer

AUDITORS

Although the Company is entitled to exemption from the requirements to have an Audit under the provisions of Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and no Audit has been undertaken the company's Auditors, Messrs. N.B. Lancaster and Co., Chartered Accountants, have been appointed and a resolution re-appointing them as Registered Auditors will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE LIMITED
DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 25th August, 2004 as amended by a Special Resolution 20th November, 2008.

Constitution

Company limited by Guarantee and not having Share Capital.

Trustee Selection Method

Appointed by the Trustees

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable Objects

- (i) to maintain, improve or provide public amenities
- (ii) to promote for the public benefit the Watchtree site in Cumbria and its environs, in particular by associating local community organizations in a common effort to advance education, to relieve poverty, need and hardship to provide facilities for leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare, and to conserve and improve the environment.

Activities undertaken for the Public Benefit

In planning the activities for the year the Trustees had regard to the guidance on Public Benefit issued by the Charities Commission, activities included:-

Developing Watchtree Nature Reserve as a local community asset managed for and by local people in co-operation with the site owners (Defra) and their Facility Management Company (Interserve) who manage the "Operational" aspect of the FMD carcass disposal site.

The provision of public access and quiet enjoyment of the site and its wildlife by people of all ages and abilities

Provide opportunities for local school and education establishments to use the site for curriculum related studies.

Manage and maintain the created habitats as set out in the habitat establishment plan

Recruiting volunteers to help with the running of the site and its management.

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE Ltd – Annual Report for year 2014-2015 (1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015)

On behalf of the Directors of WNR LTD I am pleased to present my tenth annual report on the work and progress of Watchtree Nature Reserve Ltd.

Watchtree has undergone a remarkable transformation since it was created in 2002 on the former Great Orton wartime airfield (1942) and Foot and Mouth disease carcass disposal site (2001) between those years much of the land was in intensive agricultural use. Given the incredible upheaval the land has endured it is the more remarkable that in just 12 short years it has become a diverse wildlife habitat of some importance in the area and a significant visitor attraction. Notwithstanding that the site is still 'operational' and we continue work alongside Defra's facility managers to achieve this transformation.

Perhaps our main achievement is marrying the wildlife interest with an equally diverse public use of Watchtree. We have over the years encouraged people to use the site and there is no doubt in my mind that public use has had no discernible impact on the wildlife.

Our visitor numbers continue to grow with a total recorded 14,536, which is similar to the figure reported for the previous year. That total comprised:

General Visitors..... 33%

Cyclists 33%

Under 16's 28%

Schools/Education..... 6%

Watchtree Wheelers has improved both in the number of people using the facility and the funding which the project has attracted to the reserve. Notably Watchtree celebrated the opening of the new cycle track and training facilities on the 6th of August 2014, the event was attended by approximately 500 people including Paralympian Karen Darke and many local dignitaries.

Schools made extensive use of Watchtree and the site offers all that any teacher needs to fulfil current curriculum needs from nursery through to 6th form studies. At the higher education level we continued to offer Watchtree as a site with much potential for course related studies.

The Membership scheme continues to grow and the total number of members in 2014/15 was 142. This consisted of 96 families, 38 individuals and 8 groups. Financially the membership scheme is worth in excess of £3000 and is set for considerable increase in 2015/16.

Volunteers continued to provide an invaluable contribution. The Estate and Habitat management team achieved a remarkable work programme doing all but those jobs that need machinery. Wheelers too relies heavily on a core of well-trained people. Visitor reception is becoming ever reliant on volunteers. I thank them all because we could not function without them.

Access for all at Watchtree has become a keystone of our success as a place where anyone of any ability can explore 'Garden Linx' project demonstrates. With European Social Funding through the WEA our Nature Reserve Manager developed a special project for people 'furthest away from the workplace'.

The Nature Reserve has developed into an important wildlife resource and now has the benefit of 10 years of monitoring of Birds, Butterflies, Moths, Odonata, Bats, Amphibians and grasslands. It is a site record that would be the envy of any nature reserve manager. The surveys are informing our management and management plan objectives. We see some birds moving as the new plantations develop and the woodland structure changes. New moth species are recorded every year. However, we are well aware that the original objective for the grasslands is going to take decades to achieve. Woodland plantations are at a stage where we perhaps need to commence management and to consider if they can be managed to yield a small income without compromising the invertebrate fauna. Unfortunately Grey Squirrels have come in, which was not unexpected given how they have colonised surrounding woodlands. We coordinate culling them in conjunction with the Solway area Red Squirrel group who meet at Watchtree. We remain hopeful that one day Red Squirrels will take up residence.

Our iconic mammal the Brown Hare continues to maintain a strong population as does our treasured amphibian the Great Crested Newt. The Dingy Skipper butterfly continues to thrive and our captive bred Marsh Fritillary butterflies provide Butterfly Conservation and Natural England with a public focus, along with nearby Finglandrigg Wood NNR for the habitat conservation and reintroduction programme of this very rare butterfly. We have now recorded 116 species of bird at Watchtree and were delighted to see Reed Warbler back for a second year but our Starling 'murmuration' during the autumn was the key attraction with over 20,000 coming to roost, a spectacle many of our visitors marvelled at.

Future Strategy Our Defra funding ends in March 2016 and with day to day running costs far exceeding income, despite the many generous donations the Directors were challenged to make some far reaching and unfortunate decisions during the year. After a long and exhaustive review their decision was that we had little alternative but to cut staffing costs. The outcome was that we decided to create a single new post of Access and Recreation officer to reflect the fact that this is our main income area. After due process our Nature Reserve Manager Tim Lawrence was the staff member who left as we re-focus on wider public access to Watchtree. Tim has given Watchtree almost nine years of dedicated service and we wish him well for the future. We shall be redeveloping our educational service, opening hours, nature reserve management and public access. If we are to maintain seven days a week opening we shall need more volunteers to help with visitor reception and admin duties.

Supporters of Watchtree Nature Reserve

Many achievements through the year would not have been possible without the donations and gifts from many of our supporters. The general donations box raised £1038.54 whilst the many small donations totalled £5602.73.

Thanks go to several people who have given us donations in cash and kind most of whom are listed below. Thanks also go to the many people who have written to support fund-raising efforts.

Jane Cullen – Lands' End to John O'Groats - £2630

Amanda Kirtley's Lakeland 50 - £1260

Reeds Printers – Printing Newsletters to value of £1000

Austin Friars St Monica's School fundraising £755

Janice Philips Laps of Watchtree - £100

Stephen Jopson of Jopsons Jewellers ran the Cumbria Run to raise a three figure sum.

Ryan Dobson raised £70 riding from Silloth to South Shields in a day.

Mr and Mrs Chris Ball £50

Cycle Donations

Barnadoes Carlisle

Ian Ludlam x 2

Alan Roberts

Grants

Santander Community Fund - £4500

Northern Rock Foundation – Leadership Masterclass Training for RD

European Social Fund for Garden Linx project £5,573

Calendar Sponsorship.

West House

David Evans (agricultural contractor)

Aikton Arms

Chrysalis

Poltross WildBird foods

H & H Reeds

Openspace Ecological Consultancy

Jill's Jams

Orton Grange Café and Gifts

D Tolson and Sons

Hesketh Ecology

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE LIMITED
DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Policy on Reserves

The Trustees have agreed that any excess funds should be set aside in interest bearing accounts to build up reserves for when the funding from DEFRA ceases in March, 2016.

As far as possible the Watchtree Wheelers project is independent of the Defra contract funding and relies on various conventional fund raising. Some of the "Reserve Income" may be used as matched funding against this and other initiatives that the Trustees are developing.

£105,230 is invested in a Guaranteed Investment Account with the Co-operative Bank which will be reviewed every 6 months.

£102,293 is invested in a 40 day notice account with Cumberland Building Society.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Report

Signed 

Full Name Francis J. Mawby

Signed 

Full Name Clive Tinker

28TH MAY, 2015

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE LIMITED**STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company 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
- 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 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.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD



F.J. Mawby

28TH MAY, 2015

DIRECTOR

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE LIMITED**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2015****AS AT 31.3.2014****COMPANY NO. 5214585 (REGISTERED IN ENGLAND AND WALES)****ASSETS EMPLOYED****FIXED ASSETS**

17,434

Tangible Assets (Note 7)

21,822

CURRENT ASSETS

1,069

Debtors (Note 5)

672

367,652

Cash at Bank and In Hand

316,039

368,721

316,711

LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES

850

Creditors Falling Due Within One Year (Note 6)

900

367,871

NET CURRENT ASSETS

315,811

385,305

TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES

337,633

DEDUCT CREDITORS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

385,305

NET ASSETS

337,633

REPRESENTED BY:-**CAPITAL AND RESERVES****RESERVES:-**

170,000

Project Reserve Fund (Note 8)

170,000

215,305

Profit and Loss Account (Note 8)

167,633

385,305

CAPITAL EMPLOYED

337,633

For the period ending 31st March, 2015 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors Responsibilities:-

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

APPROVED BY THE DIRECTORS ON 28TH MAY, 2015**AND SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD BY:-**

F.J. MawbyDIRECTOR

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE LIMITED**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2015****Y.E. 31.3.2014**

111,543	<u>TURNOVER</u> (Note 1(b))	125,956
8,263	<u>Less</u> Cost of Sales	11,022
103,280	<u>GROSS PROFIT</u>	114,934
125,717	<u>Add</u> Other Income (Note 2)	83,105
228,997		198,039
100,235	<u>Less</u> Administrative Expenses	247,565
128,762	<u>OPERATING PROFIT / (LOSS)</u>	(49,526)
1,509	<u>Add</u> Interest Received (Note 3)	1,854
130,271	<u>PROFIT/(LOSS) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAX</u>	(47,672)
-	<u>TAXATION</u> (Note 4)	-
130,271	<u>PROFIT/(LOSS) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAX</u> (Note 8)	(47,672)
=====		=====
<u>NOTES:-</u>		
1. <u>Continuing Operations</u>		
None of the Company's Activities were acquired or discontinued during the above Financial Periods		
2. <u>Total Recognised Gains and Losses</u>		
The Company has no recognised Gains or Losses other than the Profit and Loss for the above Financial Periods.		

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Preparation

The Company's Financial Statements have been prepared under the Historical Cost Convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective 2007).

(b) Turnover

Turnover represents the value of Invoiced Receipts after provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts.

(c) Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on Tangible Assets at the following rates in order that the cost of assets may be reduced to their estimated residual value over their estimated useful lives:-

Fixtures and Fittings	-	25% Reducing Balance
Plant and Equipment	-	25% Reducing Balance
Motor Vehicles	-	25% Reducing Balance

2. OTHER INCOME

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Grants – Sport England	50,000	-
Grants – Peoples Millions	-	50,000
Grants – Northern Rock	-	26,276
Grants - Other	9,387	36,042
Other Funding, Memberships and Donations	14,844	5,631
Rural Payments Agency	<u>8,874</u>	<u>9,768</u>
	<u>83,105</u>	<u>125,717</u>

3. INTEREST RECEIVED

Bank Interest – Current Account	301	432
Project Reserve Fund Account	386	951
Cumberland Building Society	<u>1,167</u>	<u>126</u>
	<u>1,854</u>	<u>1,509</u>

4. TAXATION

The Company is a Company Limited by Guarantee and is also a registered Charity and consequently no tax liability arises.

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE LIMITED**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

5. <u>DEBTORS</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Trade Debtors	-	-
Other Debtors (VAT Repayment)	672	1,069
	<u>672</u>	<u>1,069</u>
	=====	=====

6. CREDITORS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Trade Creditors	-	-
Accruals	900	850
Other Creditors	-	-
Provision for Corporation Tax	-	-
	<u>900</u>	<u>850</u>
	=====	=====

7. <u>TANGIBLE ASSETS</u>	<u>FIXTURES AND FITTINGS</u>	<u>PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>COMPUTER EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Cost As At 31 st March, 2014	42,969	18,225	3,906	65,100
Additions	-	10,214	1,448	11,662
Disposals	-	-	-	-
<u>Cost As At 31st March, 2015</u>	<u>42,969</u>	<u>28,439</u>	<u>5,354</u>	<u>76,762</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Depreciation As At 31.3.2014	36,476	8,656	2,534	47,666
Provision for Year	1,623	4,946	705	7,274
Disposals	-	-	-	-
<u>Depreciation As At 31.3.2015</u>	<u>38,099</u>	<u>13,602</u>	<u>3,239</u>	<u>54,940</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<u>Net Book Value As At 31.3.2014</u>	<u>6,493</u>	<u>9,569</u>	<u>1,372</u>	<u>17,434</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<u>Net Book Value As At 31.3.2015</u>	<u>4,870</u>	<u>14,837</u>	<u>2,115</u>	<u>21,822</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

8. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT OF RESERVES

	<u>PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT</u>	<u>PROJECT RESERVE FUND</u>
<u>Balance</u> as at 31 st March, 2014	215,305	170,000
<u>Less</u> Losst after Tax for the Financial Year	(47,672)	-
<u>Balance</u> as at 31 st March, 2015	<u>167,633</u>	<u>170,000</u>
	=====	=====

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

WATCHTREE NATURE RESERVE LIMITED

We report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st March, 2015 which are set out on pages 1 to 8. Charity No. 1127029.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- (a) examine the accounts under section 1453 of the Charities Act
- (b) to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 (5) (b) of the Charities Act); and
- (c) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions give 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 the 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
 - (i) to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act and
 - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have 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.

28TH MAY, 2015

I.C. Lancaster, F.C.A.
N.B. Lancaster and Co.,
6 Brunswick Street,
Carlisle CA1 1PN