TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 28TH FEBRUARY 2023

Registered company number: SC372685 Scottish charity number SC041614

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 28th February 2023

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees annual report	1
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating Income and Expenditure account)	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes	7

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

28th February 2023

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 charitable company for the year ended 28th February 2023. The financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and 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).

Structure, governance and management

The overall management and policy decisions of the company are the responsibility of the board of directors (trustees) who are elected under the terms of the company's Articles of Association.

Objectives and Activities

The principle objects of the charitable company are: to manage community land and associated assets for the benefit of the community and the public in general; to provide or assist in providing recreational facilities for the community and public at large; to advance community development; and to advance environmental protection or improvement. The company was formed to benefit the community of Lower Strathglass, Inverness-shire, defined by the postcode units IV47AD, IV47AE, IV47AF, IV47AG, IV47AQ, IV47EY, IV47JJ, IV47JN, IV47JR, IV47JT, IV47JU and Eilean Aigas, and those parts of the Kilmorack Community Council area not covered by the preceding list of postcodes.

Achievements and performance, and plans for future periods

During the year ended 28th February 2023, ACF's contractors moved towards completion of the clear-felling at Torr a' Bhealaidh, which had been delayed due to weather issues and the Covid Pandemic. Following Storm Eunice in February 2022, which caused considerable damage to a 10ha area in the northwest of the forest, an exercise was carried out by our volunteers and contractors to tidy up that area. During the year, ACF received a grant from the National Restoration Fund of £6,460. This was applied towards the restoration of an area of bogland and included the establishment of wildlife refuges including a 'dipping' pond, other smaller ponds, paths, landscaping and the purchase and sowing of wildflower seeds. Other projects, involving our volunteers, supervised by our Forest Manager, included the completion of a bridge on the Laid path, the completion of a roof and store for the cabin, completion of a new toilet, continued work on the development of the path network and continued planting of native species. Significant purchases of equipment during the year included a new all-terrain vehicle and a winch for the tractor. A successful Open Day was held in September 2022. Further work continued on the perimeter fence project, including the installation of a cattle grid.

Since the year end, work has continued on developing the path network and re-surfacing the forest roads. A considerable volume of aggregate was extracted from our quarry by contractors to assist with this and future maintenance of the roads and paths network. A new information cabin has been built beside the forest carpark and a map will be added in the near future, for the benefit of visitors to the forest. In autumn 2023, ACF received a Biodiversity Net Gain payment of £19,600 from SSEN (Scottish and Southern Energy Network) for 'biodiversity net gain restoration planting'. Discussions are continuing with SSEN regarding this project and possible similar projects in the future.

Looking ahead, a Vision group has been set up to revisit our original aims and to consider future development plans.

Financial review and Reserves

During the period ended 28th February 2023, the company recorded net income on Unrestricted Funds of £156,239 (2022, £214,468) and net expenditure on Restricted Funds of £Nil (2022 £2,316). Total funds per the Balance Sheet at 28th February 2023 totalled £1,361,491 comprising Unrestricted Funds £594,407 and Restricted Funds of £767,084 (see note 14 of the accounts).

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity at 28th February 2023 and at the current date. The trustees consider that the level of unrestricted funds held at balance sheet date are clearly healthy and adequate to support the continuation of its current activities for the foreseeable future. The board closely monitors the financial performance of the charity and regularly updates cash flow forecasts for future periods to ensure that proposed projects will be adequately funded and that restricted funds will be properly managed.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT CONTINUED

28th February 2023

Reference and Administrative details

Company and Charity details

Registered company number SC372685

Scottish Charity Number SC041614

Registered Office North View Crask of Aigas

Beauly Inverness-shire

Inverness-shire IV4 7AD

Directors

The trustees (directors) of the company who served during the year and up to the date of signing the report were as follows:

Peter Smith (resigned 20th September 2022)

Mark Hedderwick

Russell Ross (resigned 19th September 2022 and re-appointed 27th September 2023)

Phillip Masheter

Neil Valentine (resigned 27th September 2023)
David Garvie (appointed 19th September 2022)
Andrew Leaver (resigned 30th January 2023)

John Graham

Fin Denerley

Madeleine Robinson (resigned 27th September 2023)

Graeme Scott

Hermione Lister-Kaye (resigned 27th September 2023)

Robert Hemingway

Julia Young

Stephen Cotterill (appointed 19th September 2022)
Robert Bull (appointed 27th September 2023)
Greg Jackson (appointed 27th September 2023)

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. The trustees do not receive any remuneration for their services as trustees.

Company Secretary

Andrew Leaver

Advisors

Bankers The Bank of Scotland
PO Box 17235, Edinburgh

PU DOX 17233, EUL

EHI1 1YH

Independent Examiner Rhona Wilson, FCCA

MacKenzie Kerr Limited

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Redwood

19 Culduthel Road

Inverness IV2 4AA

Risk Management

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT CONTINUED

28th February 2023

Statement of Trustees (Directors) responsibilities

The charity trustees (who are also directors of Aigas Community Forest for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the directors (charity trustees) to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- 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 trustees (directors) are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small company exemptions

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

On behalf of the board

John Graham Director

Date: 29th November 2023

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of Aigas Community Forest

I report on the accounts of Aigas Community Forest for the year ended 28th February 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts (Scotland) Regulations. 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 seeks 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of 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 44 (1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations 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.

Rhona Wilson, FCCA
MacKenzie Kerr Limited
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Redwood
19 Culduthel Road
Inverness

alter

29th November 2023

IV2 4AA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

		(INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)	ING INCOME	AND EXPEN	IDITURE ACCC) (IND	
		Q	for the year ended 28th February 2023	ed 28th Februs	ыу 2023		
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Івсоте	Note	ધા	ધ્ય	£ 202	44	ч	F F
Donations and legacies	4	75	ı	75	82	•	\$
Charitable activities	ĸ	183,798	6,460	190,258	235,246	1	235,246
Other trading activities	9	5,484	s	5,484	12,617		12,617
Investment income	7	12,120	1	12,120	10,535	•	10,535
Total income		201,477	6,460	207,937	258,483	1	258,483
Expenditure							
Charitable activities	90	45,238	6,460	51,698	44,015	2,316	46,331
Total expenditure		45,238	6,460	51,698	44,015	2,316	46,331
Net income/(expenditure)		156,239	Ĭ	156,239	214,468	(2,316)	212,152
Reconciliation of funds Total funds brought forward	14	438,168	767,084	1,205,252	223,700	769,400	993,100
Total funds carried forward	14	594,407	767,084	1,361,491	438,168	767,084	1,205,252

BALANCE SHEET

at 28th February 2023

		202	23	202	2
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		874,709		848,269
Current assets					
Debtors	11	3,917		34,947	
Cash at bank and in hand		492,299		330,018	
		496,216		364,965	
Creditors: amounts falling					
due within one year	12	(9,434)		(7,982)	
Net current assets			486,782		356,983
Net assets			1,361,491		1,205,252
Funds and Reserves					
Unrestricted	14		594,407		438,168
Restricted	14		767,084		767,084
Total members' funds			1,361,491		1,205,252

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

For the financial year ended 28th February 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit conferred by Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006; and no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the company pursuant to Section 476 requesting that an audit be conducted for the year.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements 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 its surplus or deficit for the 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 company.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 29th November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Graeme Scott Director

Company registration number: SC372685

Grame Scott

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28th February 2023

1 Status of the company

Aigas Community Forest is a company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. The company is also a public benefit entity and has obtained exemption from using the word limited in its name. The liability of the members is limited and will not exceed £1 in the event of the company being wound up.

2 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2019) — Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Income

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions are met (or are fully within the control of the charity), there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Income is classified into the following categories:

Donations and Legacies - This comprises all income received by the charity that is in substance a gift made to it on a voluntary basis. It includes donations and grants, other than those whose conditions make them similar in economic terms to trading income (see Charitable activities below)

Charitable activities — This comprises all income received, earned both from the supply of goods or services under contractual arrangements and from performance-related grants which have conditions that specify the provision of particular goods or services to be provided by the charity. The activities specified under such contractual arrangements or grant conditions must fall within the charitable purposes of the charity.

Other trading activities - This comprises income from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity.

Investment Income – This comprises income earned from holding assets for investment purposes and includes interest receivable and rental income from a telecommunications mast.

Income from government and other grants, whether capital or revenue in nature, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants are met (or are fully within the control of the charity), it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that the economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of members is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market: a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28th February 2023

2 Accounting policies continued

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified into the following categories:

Raising funds — This comprises all expenditure incurred to raise funds for the charity and includes the costs of all non charitable trading activities.

Charitable Activities — This comprises all expenditure incurred in undertaking activities that further the charitable aims for the benefit of the charity's beneficiaries, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity.

Other expenditure - This comprises the costs of non primary purpose trading

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds - These are funds which the trustees are free to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

Restricted funds — These are funds, which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular purposes or areas of the charity's work.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost or valuation less any residual value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Equipment

20% straight line

Freehold land (comprising the Aigas Community Forest) is stated at cost and is not depreciated.

Capitalisation policy re Equipment – Capital items costing less than £500 are not capitalised.

Depreciation is not provided on assets which are under construction at the year end. This applies to Fencing additions incurred during the years ended 28th February 2020, 2021 and 2022 and carried forward at 28th February 2022.

Debtors and Creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the SOFA.

Pension contributions

The company's contributions to defined pension contribution plans are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which the contributions relate.

3 Taxation

The charitable company is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities.

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28th February 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fands	Total Funds 2022
	44	44	44	4 4	딲	ч
Donations and Legacies						
General donations	75	4	75	85	•	85
	75	1	75	85		90 10
Income from charitable activities						
Timber sales National Restoration Fund grant	183,798	6,460	183,798 6,460	235,246		235,246
	183,798	6,460	190,258	235,246	1	235,246
Income from other trading activities						
Firewood and other processed wood sales	5,484	• 19	5,484	12,617		12,617
	5,484		5,484	12,617		12,617
Investment Income						
Telecommunications mast income	12,120	1	12,120	10,535	1	10,535
	12,120		12,120	10,535		10,535

9

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28th February 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	ધ્મ	44	£	43	44	41
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Rowart Monoment as land	13.848	,	13,848	7,249		7,249
Forces Manager salary Pension contributions	419		419	217		217
Trought with the state of the s	,	٠	1	90		90 80
Talenhone	118	•	118	109		109
Designating		•	ı	1,714	•	1,714
Felling and other forestry work	•	,	•	9,841	1	9,841
Habitat management – bog restoration	•	6,105	6,105	•	•	*
Direpse of wild flower seeds	439	355	794	•		1
FSC certification	1.000	1	1,000	1,000		1,000
Training	934	1	934	1,256	1	1,256
Repairs, maintenance, fuel and other consumables	5,553	٠	5,553	4,637	1	4,637
	1,650	r	1,650	•	18	
Tostitance	3,488	•	3,488	2,959	1	2,959
Website	105	ı	105	102	•	102
Hall hire	23		83	•	•	1
Subscriptions	81	•		142	1	142
Onen day expenses	424		425	463	•	463
General expenses	168	•	168	33	1	33
Charitable donations	200		700	**		1
Denreciation	16,029	•	16,029	13,390	2,316	15,706
Gain on disposal of equipment	(989)	•	(989)	•		1
Independent Examiner's fee	885		000	815	1	815
	45,238	6,460	51,698	44,015	2,316	46,331

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28th February 2023

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1 (2022 1). No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

Employment costs:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	13,848	7,249
Social Security costs Pension contributions	419	217
	14,267	7,466

No trustee received any remuneration or benefits in kind during the year.

During the year, no trustees were reimbursed for travel expenses while acting as an agent of the charity.

10.	Tangible fixed assets	Freehold Land &	Equipment	Fencing	
		Infrastructure			Total
		£	£	£	£
	Cost				
	At 1st February 2022	769,396	84,584	41,652	895,632
	Additions	-	33,214	13,855	47,069
	Cost of disposals	-	(8,950)	-	(8,950)
	At 31st January 2023	769,396	108,848	55,507	933,751
	Depreciation				
	At 1st February 2022	-	47,363	-	47,363
	Charge for the year	-	16,029	-	16,039
	Depreciation on disposals	-	(4,350)		(4,350)
	At 31st January 2023		59,042	-	59,042
	Net book values				
	At 31st January 2023	769,396	49,806	55,507	874,709
	At 31st January 2022	769,396	37,222	41,625	848,269
	At 31st January 2022	769,396	37,222	41,625	848,269

All fixed assets are used in direct furtherance of the charity objectives.

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28th February 2023

11

Debtors

11 Debtors 2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors 3,206	34,947
Prepayments 711	
3,917	34,947
12 Creditors	
2023	2022
£	£
Amounts falling due within one year	
Other creditors 520	40
Accruals 1,725	840
VAT payable 7,189	7,102
9,434	7,982
Analysis of Net Assets/(Liabilities) between Funds Statement at 28th February 2023	
Unrestricted Restricted	Total
£	£
Fixed Assets 107,625 767,	
Current Assets 496,216	- 496,216
Current Liabilities (9,434)	- (9,434)
Net assets at 28th February 2023 594,407 767,	084 1,361,491
Comparative statement at 28th February 2022	
Unrestricted Restric	ted Total
Unrestricted Restric	£
	£ £ £ 084 848,269
£ \$1,185 767,	£ £ 084 848,269 - 364,965
£ Fixed Assets 81,185 767,	£ £ £ 084 848,269

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28th February 2023

14 Movements in Funds

Statement for year ended 28th February 2023

	Balance Inco	ming Ou	tgoing	В	alance
	b/f at 1st March 2022	Resources	Resources	Transfers	c/f at 28th February 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	438,168	201,477	(45,238)		594,407
Restricted Funds					
Forest purchase fund	765,000		ed .	m m	765,000
Bog restoration project		6,460	(6,460)	-	-
CWA Trail Development fund	2,084				2,084
	767,084	6,460	(6,460)	-	767,084
Total Funds	1,205,252	207,937	(51,698)		1,361,491

Comparative statement for year ended 28th February 2022

Bal	ance Inco	ming Out	going	В	alance
	b/f at 1st March 2021	Resources	Resources	Transfers	c/f at 28th February 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	223,700	258,483	(44,015)		438,168
Restricted Funds					
Forest purchase fund	765,000		•	· ·	765,000
Firewood Processor and assoc. training	fund 2,016	-	(2,016)		200
Forest Signs fund	300	-	(300)		
CWA Trail Development fund	2,084	-			2,084
	769,400	-	(2,316)		767,084
Total Funds	993,100	258,483	(46,331)		1,205,252

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Forest purchase fund

During the years ended 28th February 2014 and 2015, the company received funding of £765,000 towards the purchase (including legal costs) of Aigas forest. This comprised; grants from: Scottish Land Fund, £690,000; the Aigas Trust, £50,000; Scottish and Southern Energy £20,000; and Highland Council Ward Discretionary grants £5,000. These funds were applied in full towards the forest acquisition, completed during 2015 at a cost of £767,312.

Firewood Processor and associated training fund

During the year ended 28th February 2017, Aigas Community Forest was awarded grants of £5,213 from SRDP and £9,972 from The Woodland Trust to fund the purchase of a firewood processor and to train volunteers in its use.

Bog Restoration fund

During the year ended 28th February 2023, Aigas Community Forest was awarded grants of £6,460 from the 'National Restoration Fund' (administered by Highland Council) to assist with the costs of bog habitat restoration within the forest.

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28th February 2023

14 Movements in Funds continued

Purposes of Restricted Funds cont'd

Firewood Processor and associated training fund

During the year ended 28th February 2017, Aigas Community Forest was awarded grants of £5,213 from SRDP and £9,972 from The Woodland Trust to fund the purchase of a firewood processor and to train volunteers in its use.

Forest Signs fund

During the year ended 28th February 2018, Aigas Community Forest was awarded a grant of £1,500 from Highland Council (Ward Discretionary Fund) to purchase 'finger signs' for the forest path network.

CWA (Community Woodlands Association) Trail Development fund

During the year ended 28th February 2020, the CWA provided grant funding to cover the costs incurred by ACF to construct a new section of trail to add to the existing network.

15 Commitments

At Balance Sheet date, the charity had incurred c.£52.5k on a project to construct a fence round the entire perimeter of the forest. Although not governed by a formal contract, the trustees estimate that the total cost of the fence as currently planned will be c.£75k, with c.£22.5k remaining to be incurred at balance sheet date. The fence is expected to be completed in Spring 2024.