

Registered Charity Number 216438

CONTENTS TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Page No.	
2-3	Reference and Administrative Information
4-8	Treasurer's Report
10-13	Report of the Independent Auditors
14	Statement of Financial Activities
15	Balance Sheet

THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT  
ASSOCIATION  
(TRADING AS THE CONSERVATIVE AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

CONTENTS TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Page No.
Reference and Administrative Information	2- 3
Trustees' Report	4 – 9
Report of the Independent Auditors	10 - 13
Statement of Financial Activities	14
Balance Sheet	15
Notes to the Financial Statements	16 – 21

**THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**

**Founded 1892: Registered Charity Number 216438**

**Reference and Administrative Information**

**Patron**

The Rt Hon Lady (Theresa) May MP appointed October 2020.

**Financial Trustees**

Mr Graham Park CBE - Chairman of Financial Trustees until 26 October 2021

Mr Donald Porter CBE Chairman of Financial Trustees from 26 October 2021

Mr Charles Barwell OBE

Sir Anthony Garrett CBE

Mr Brain Hamill appointment confirmed on 26 October 2021

The Baroness (Emma) Pidding CBE

Mr John Watson OBE

**Officers**

**President**

Sir Anthony Garrett CBE

**Honorary Treasurer**

Mr James Cockram

**Honorary Secretary**

Mrs Sally Smith MBE BA

**Appointed Registrar**

Mr Andrew Varney

**Managing Trustees Elected Annually by Rotation following the adoption of new rules 8 November 2016**

<b>Elected for one year in October 2021</b>	<b>To retire in 2022 (Elected October 2019)</b>
Lady (Lindsay) Brooke	Miss Tricia Gurnett
Mr Geoffrey Harper CBE	Mr Leigh Jeffes
Mr Kenneth Houghton	Mrs Gillian Johnson
Mr Paul Place	Mr Martin Perry CBE
Miss Sarah Sproat	Mr David Surtees
	Mr Andrew Varney
	Mr Gordon Williams

<b>To retire in 2023 (Elected 2020)</b>
Mr James Fuke OBE
Mrs Shirley Mathews OBE
CIlr David Simpson CBE
Mr Peter Smith CBE
Mr P Kevin Thorpe

**Appointed Observer (without voting rights)**

Mr Chris Poole CBE (Past President CABA)

Mrs Marilyn Purcell resigned for health reasons as a Managing Trustee in July 2021 and the casual vacancy was not filled at the AGM in October 2021.

**THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**  
**Reference and administrative information (continued)**

**Appointed Observer (without voting rights)**  
 Mr Chris Poole CBE (Past President CABA)

**Auditors**  
 Cooper Parry Group Limited  
 Cubo Birmingham  
 Birmingham  
 B3 3AX

**Bankers (1)**  
 Lloyds Bank PLC  
 Victoria Street Branch  
 London  
 SW1E 5JL

**Bankers (2)**  
 Royal Bank of Scotland  
 London Drummonds  
 49 Charing Cross  
 London SW1A 2DX

**Investment Managers**

Rothschild & Co New Court, St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8AL

**CABA Registered Office**

4 Matthew Parker Street, Westminster, London SW1H 9HQ

**CABA Postal Address**

37 Winston Close Nether Heyford Northampton NN7 3JX

## THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

### Report of the Financial Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022

The Financial Trustees and Managing Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report for the year ended 31 March 2022. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities effective from January 2019.

#### Structure, governance and management

The Conservative and Unionist Agents' Benevolent Association (CABA), is a charitable trust, constituted as an unincorporated association of members, established for the purpose of affording assistance by donations, grants or otherwise to necessitous and deserving persons who are or who have been Conservative and Unionist Agents or Women Organisers (who are, or have been contributing members of The Conservative Agents' Benevolent Association), and their dependents and the dependents of deceased Conservative and Unionist Agents or Women Organisers.

Under the rules as agreed in 2018 when a vacancy arises in the office of Financial Trustee, the Managing Trustees may fill it at the next Annual General Meeting or earlier, which will then be subject to confirmation at the next Annual General Meeting. Whilst the Association does not operate under a formal trust deed, the operation of the Association is conducted in accordance with the rulebook as adopted by members at Annual General Meetings.

One of the key areas of work in 2021/22 has been to take a very thorough look at the current working practices of CABA. For the meantime though the current rulebook lays down criteria for the approval of grants under the objects of the Association. At the November 2016 AGM rules changes were adopted to restructure the membership of the Management Committee and to offer Free Life Membership to suitably qualified colleagues. Lots were drawn to establish the retirement by rotation of Members following the first election under the new rules. This rotation was completed in 2020 after which seven Managing Trustees will retire annually.

A review of the number of Managing Trustees was planned to be held during 2020 but was delayed owing to the Covid-19 pandemic when face to face meetings were not possible. However, to take account of a planned reduction in the number of Managing Trustees, at the last four AGMs (with the agreement of members present) a number of casual vacancies caused by resignations have not been filled. Work has been ongoing during 2021/22 to finalise a new structure that reflects the current laws and best practice governing charities and a need to streamline our organisation reflecting the decreasing availability going forward to find Qualified Agents who can fill the role of Trustees, modern banking practices, the increasing and changing use of technology for transactions and meetings and the reduction the size of the main committee as the old regional structure of the NSCUA which used to support CABA no longer exists. The Investment Managers and Auditors who are governed by strict codes of practice have been made aware of, and given opportunity to comment on the new proposals.

## THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

### Report of the Financial Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

The Financial Trustees have met every four months when they agree the broad strategy and the areas of activity for the Association, including consideration of grant making, investment, reserves and risk management policies and performance. The day-to-day administration of grants and the processing of and handling of applications prior to consideration by the Managing Trustees is delegated to the Honorary Secretary. The Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer and President form the Emergency Committee to deal with urgent applications between meetings. The skill requirements of the Financial Trustees have been kept under review. They have been recruited from senior members of the Voluntary Conservative Party who have knowledge of the work of the Charity and its client base of Qualified \* and \*\* Agents, and those who have expertise in business and finance. They are appointed to serve at the pleasure of the Managing Trustees. Managing Trustees have been elected by the Life Members of the Association by rotation to serve for three years, except in 2021 when those due to retire were elected to serve for one year only pending the review and no casual vacancies were filled.

In addition to the review of the Structure a decision was taken in the spring 2021 as part of best practice, to undertake a complete review of the Investment Policy which in turn led to the decision to undertake a re-tendering process which in turn led to the appointment of Rothschild & Co as Investment Managers with effect from August 2021. We have now established a very professional and happy working relationship with Rothschild & Co with all the CABA portfolio held in their New Court Fund and some small cash figure in reserves. The New Court Fund is described as a UK holding. It is held and managed from the UK but the Financial Trustees are keen to emphasize that this fund includes world-wide holdings. There will be an update to October 2022 on the value of the Fund and performance at the AGM, which is of course held half-way through the CABA financial year.

The Managing Trustees meet in July, August and November 2021 and March 2022. Every permanent beneficiary's circumstances and grants are reviewed in detail annually at one or other, or sometimes at two of these meetings. The day-to-day work of the Emergency Committee is reported on and the details of every special grant discussed and updated. The committee combines the experiences of retired colleagues with that of several still in post in constituencies. Time is set aside at least once a year to train members in the new procedures for applications and any new regulations relating to the charity sector. The basis for grant making, using nationally available verifiable figures is reviewed and adjusted to suit the needs of CABA annually in July. CABA is grateful to those who give their time to serve as Financial and Managing Trustees and to those who perform the very important role of visiting colleagues to report on their current circumstances.

During 2021 Graham Park having celebrated one of those "big Birthdays" decided that it was a convenient point at which to retire as Chairman of the Financial Trustees. Graham was thanked for his detailed work and long-standing support at the 2021 AGM. His successor Don Porter has taken a very keen interest in the work of the Financial Trustees and led the group through a difficult period of re-adjustment and upcoming changes. He has attended meetings of the Management Committee as an observer and is a much-valued colleague and friend of the Agents.

Brian Hamill was appointed as a Trustee to replace Graham and has settled quickly into his role and we value his contributions as we do the input and commitment of Charles Barwell, Emma Pidding and John Watson. Tony Garrett of course serves as a Financial Trustee as well as being the elected President and has taken a key role in leading the drive for changes during the past year as has Andrew Varney our Registrar tasked with drawing up the new proposed rules.

## THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

### Report of the Financial Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

The offer of one-off discretionary tax-free grants, to those qualified under CABA rules applying to this grant, is considered annually, and it is not guaranteed to be offered. It depends on the value of CABA's investment portfolio and ability to raise cash. All agents qualifying under categories A to D are entitled to apply for any offer made, in writing, including any who may serve from time to time as Financial Trustees of the Association. The opportunity for such an offer is discussed with the Financial Trustees who make a recommendation to the Managing Trustees as to the availability of funds. The proposal to make an offer (or not) is proposed and seconded by two Managing Trustees who do not qualify for or benefit for this grant. All other members present are deemed to have and declare an interest in the decision whether to offer this grant. The grants can't exceed £500 to any one individual and during 2021/22 the offer was made based on £500 to Agents and widows/widowers and to the spouses of living agents. Because of the fall in the Fund value in the spring of 2021 the offer was not made available till November 2021. There was a speedy take up in the pre-Christmas period and the payments and overall increase to £500 was very warmly received as the cost-of-living increases were becoming apparent. Arrangements for 2022/33 should be known by the time of the AGM.

#### Television, Telephone and Newspaper Voucher Schemes

CABA has always ensured that full beneficiaries have a working TV and phone. These two items are now covered by the agreed grant figures, and those receiving grants have been made aware that they must save monies to cover these items. Newspaper vouchers are refunded on application and proof of purchase.

#### Risk Management

The Trustees consider the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and have reviewed those risks via a "traffic light" warning system on an ongoing basis. A new Risk Management Strategy will be reported at the AGM as part of the ongoing review of our structures.

#### Objectives & Activities

CABA has now been using researched and published figures for assessing "Need" for four years. These are updated annually and adapted for our beneficiary group. The main expenditure of the Association can be divided into general and special grants. General grants are awarded annually to our permanent beneficiaries and are paid monthly. The circumstances of each person and their immediate family are enquired into closely at the time of the annual review, to set an appropriate level of grant within our available resources. The Managing Trustees helped by reports from visiting agents take care to devise a package of help to meet both immediate and long-term needs and they continue to monitor how this can be done most effectively. The use of verifiable figures has enabled payments to be simplified and cover a wide range of items for which separate claims previously had to be made. This does require beneficiaries to save some money from the grants to cover these costs. Confidentiality of our beneficiaries limits our ability to describe in detail some of these grants. CABA understands how much need that is in these inflationary days and will be looking at imaginative ways of trying to help within its charitable remit.

The application process has been adapted and the forms have been and continue to be revised to help both the applicants and those assessing them. CABA does not pay for nursing care or for emergency medical treatment but can pay for a one-off private consultation where diagnosis may aid treatment when there are long NHS waiting lists. This may become more frequent. The Committee does not make grants towards direct payment of debts but where there are concerns, CABA may offer some limited advice and alternative charities to approach for those who have debt problems. In several cases of serious debts one annual payment has been made instead of monthly grants, to reduce interest payments and ensure living costs can be met through this approach. CABA continues to consider, on the basis of need and mobility, claims for mobility aids, stair lifts, special beds and chairs. Colleagues are regularly updated with the latest criteria that the Managing Trustees establish, normally through a mailing with a Christmas card at the end of November.

## THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

### Report of the Financial Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

#### Financial Report

Net outgoing resources, before other recognised gains and losses, of £235,306 were achieved during the year (2021: £222,042), the unrealised and realised gains for the year amounted to £153,685 (2021: £403,238), which resulted in net movement in funds for the year of (£81,621) (2021: £181,196) giving total funds at the year-end of £2,070,790 (2021: £2,512,411).

The total investments held at the year-end amount to £2,039,724 (2021: £2,121,563). The purpose of the investments is to generate income to fund a proportion of the Association's expenditure. The main source of income in the year were the Association's investment portfolio.

#### Investment and Investment Policy

Following a complete review of investment policy and a retendering process to appoint new investment managers, Rothschild & Co has been given the management of the available investment funds and reports in writing, now by email, at least four times a year to the Financial Trustees. The new managers were tasked with achieving inflation plus 3% long term. The review had been somewhat delayed due to the Covid-19 restrictions and in person meetings, but was completed in August 2021, with the final transfer of all invested capital being finalised in December 2021. The Financial Trustees keep under review the risk strategy and are content that the Rothschild & Co New Court Fund hosted in Guernsey but with worldwide holdings will satisfy anticipated need.

The capital fund represents an investment which the Financial Trustees expect to increase in value in the long term so as to match changes in real purchasing power and inflation, whilst providing sufficient income to enable the Financial Trustees, together with other income, to make those grants and donations they agree on within the trust's objectives. During the year the Financial Trustees continued to support an Ethical Investment Policy as originally agreed in 2009, which is reviewed annually. Benchmarks and other investment criteria are agreed with the discretionary fund managers and regular reports received from them. Performance is now reviewed on long term basis as CABA has bought into an existing fund. Meetings are held with the fund managers at least three times each year to review performance and the Charity's future requirements.

The rules of the Association set no restrictions, other than the ethical policy requirements, on the investments which may be made and after due consideration of all relevant issues, the Trustees have decided not to place any restriction on the investments which may be made by the fund manager within the discretionary agreement entered into.

#### Reserves Policy

The Financial Trustees have established a policy whereby unrestricted funds held by the Association should be between 3 and 6 months of the resources expended. At this level the Trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the Association in the event of a significant drop in funding which equates to £67,500 to £135,000. Should this occur it would obviously be necessary to consider how funding should be replaced or activities changed. At the moment the reserves amount to approximately £2.1 million, which at the present level of activity, would represent 7.5 years of expenditure.

#### Covid-19

Many of our meetings had to be held by Zoom in 2021/22 but we did hold a face-to-face AGM and lunch and welcomed our new Patron Rt Hon Lady (Theresa) May MP as guest of honour.

## **THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**

### **Report of the Financial Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

#### **Plans for Future Periods**

The Trustees believe that future plans, and consideration of the possible offer of the payment of One-off Discretionary Grants later in 2022/23 are likely to be within the present and future anticipated resources of the Association. However as always it has to be stressed that the One-off Grants must not be considered as a right nor that the offer will be made every year. The Financial Trustees have, in line with the Rules of the Association, and best practice retained an Investment Policy that suits the changing needs of the Association which has an ageing membership. Because of the impact of Covid-19 and the Russo-Ukraine war a more detailed review is planned to take place.

#### **Public Benefit**

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's requirement in respect of Public Benefit. In their view the charity meets, in full, the criteria to satisfy the test. The trustees' annual report describes the activities undertaken to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit.

#### **Bankers and investment Manager**

During the past year Professional services have been provided by Lloyds Bank, Cooper Parry Group Limited, Investec Wealth and Investment and Rothschild & Co with very limited funds held at Drummonds Branch of the Royal Bank of Scotland. CABA thanks all those who support the Associations' work during a time of considerable challenges in the charitable sector.

#### **Working in Partnership with others**

Our Patron has been a great support behind the scenes, taking issues concerning charities such as and particularly ours in relation to the Party to Ministers and Party Officials.

CABA continues to liaise closely with Noel Manns Chairman of the C&UASF (The Pension Fund) and with the staff of Hymans Robertson on matters of mutual interest and the exchange of information permitted under GDPR that is essential to the smooth running of CABA.

CABA thanks all those who support the Associations' work during a time of considerable challenges in the charitable sector. Thanks are also extended from me to the Financial and Managing Trustees and Visiting Agents who work hard on behalf of all colleagues and to James Cockram, Andrew Varney and Sir Anthony Garrett for the time that they give to the organisation.

#### **Fundraising**

The charity is not actively fundraising from the public at present.

**THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**

**Report of the Financial Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

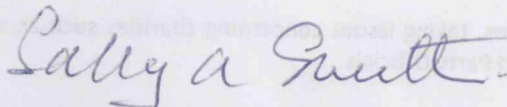
**Statement of the Trustees' Responsibilities**

The Financial Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Financial Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Association will continue in operation.

The Financial Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



**Mrs Sally Smith MBE BA**  
Honorary Secretary

**4 Matthew Parker Street**  
**Westminster**  
**London**  
**SW1H 9HQ**

**Dated : 18 October 2022**

## THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Conservative and Unionist Agents' Benevolent Association

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Conservative and Unionist Agents' Benevolent Association (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources 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 Charities Act 2011.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

## THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Conservative and Unionist Agents' Benevolent Association (continued)

#### Other information (continued)

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

#### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

## THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Conservative and Unionist Agents' Benevolent Association (continued)

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are detailed below:

Our assessment focussed on key laws and regulations the Charity has to comply with and areas of the financial statements we assessed as being more susceptible to misstatement. These key laws and regulations included but were not limited to compliance with the Charities Act 2011, Trustee Act 2000, Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016, taxation legislation, data protection, and anti-bribery legislation.

We are not responsible for preventing irregularities. Our approach to detecting irregularities included, but was not limited to, the following:

- obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Charity and how the Charity is complying with that framework, including agreement of financial statement disclosures to underlying documentation and other evidence;
- obtaining an understanding of the Charity's control environment and how the Charity has applied relevant control procedures, through discussions with management and by performing walkthrough testing over key areas;
- obtaining an understanding of the Charity's risk assessment process, including the risk of fraud;
- reviewing meeting minutes of those charged with governance throughout the year; and
- performing audit testing to address the risk of management override of controls, including the evaluation of the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias.

Whilst considering how our audit work addressed the detection of irregularities, we also considered the likelihood of detection based on our approach. Irregularities arising from fraud are inherently more difficult to detect than those arising from error.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Conservative and Unionist Agents' Benevolent Association (continued)**

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Cooper Parry Group Limited**

Statutory Auditor  
Cubo Birmingham  
Office 401, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Two Chamberlain Square  
Birmingham  
B3 3AX

**Date:**

Cooper Parry Group Limited is eligible to act as an auditor under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	2022 Total Unrestricted funds £	2021 Total Unrestricted funds £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>		
Donations and legacies	4,612	11,820
Other trading activities	6,557	-
Investments	22,026	39,626
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,195</b>	<b>51,446</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Raising funds	12,052	17,260
Charitable activities	256,449	256,228
<b>Total</b>	<b>268,501</b>	<b>273,488</b>
<b>Net expenditure</b>	<b>(235,306)</b>	<b>(222,042)</b>
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>		
Gains on investment assets	153,685	403,238
Net movement in funds	(81,621)	181,196
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>		
<b>Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2021</b>	<b>2,152,411</b>	<b>1,971,215</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2022</b>	<b>2,070,790</b>	<b>2,152,411</b>

The charity has no movements on reserves or recognised gains or losses other than as shown above.

All of the Charity's activities were derived from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

All funds are unrestricted.

The notes on pages 16 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Notes	£	2022	£	2021	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>						
Investments	11		2,039,724		2,121,563	
<b>Current assets</b>						
Debtors	12	347		9,299		
Cash at bank		40,647		31,149		
		<u>40,994</u>		<u>40,448</u>		
<b>Liabilities – amounts falling due within one year</b>	13	<u>(9,928)</u>		<u>(9,600)</u>		
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>31,066</u>		<u>30,848</u>	
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>2,070,790</u>		<u>2,152,411</u>	
<b>Funds:</b>						
Unrestricted funds	15		<u>2,070,790</u>		<u>2,152,411</u>	

Approved by the Financial Trustees on 18 October 2022.

  
 Mr Donald Porter CBE (Chairman)

The notes on pages 16 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

## THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The Conservative and Unionist Agents' Benevolent Association (CABA) is a charitable trust, constituted as an unincorporated association of members.

The registered charity number is 216438 and the registered office is 4 Matthew Parker Street, Westminster, London SW1H 9HQ.

The principal activity of the charitable trust during the period under review was to provide assistance by donations, grants or otherwise to necessitous and deserving persons who are or who have been Conservative and Unionist Agents or Women Organisers (who are, or have been contributing members of The Conservative Agents' Benevolent Association), and their dependents and the dependents of deceased Conservative and Unionist Agents or Women Organisers.

#### 2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### a) 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The Conservative Agents Benevolent Association meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity, and are rounded to the nearest £1.

The charity has taken the available exemption as a smaller charity, to not prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

##### b) Going concern

At the balance sheet date the charity had significant investment and sufficient cash balances. At the time of signing the accounts, the trustees have considered the effect of the Coronavirus pandemic on the going concern position, and consider that the charity will continue to operate for a period of at least 12 months from the date of signing these accounts due to the level of reserves held by the charity, which could support expenditure at present levels for approximately 7.5 years.

##### c) Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investment assets to fair value.

##### d) Subscriptions and donations

Subscriptions and donations are accounted for on an accruals basis. Income tax recovered on deeds of covenant or Gift Aid is credited to the appropriate income account.

##### e) Grants and other expenditure

Grants and other expenditure are accounted for on an accruals basis.

## THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

f) **Investments**

Investments are shown in the balance sheet at mid-market value.

All income from investments is accrued.

Realised investment gains are the surplus of proceeds of realisation over market value at the previous year end or cost of purchase during the year, after charging costs of sale.

Unrealised investment gains or losses are the difference between cost of purchase or carrying value at previous balance sheet date and year end balance sheet value after adjusting for disposals.

g) **Cash**

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

h) **Debtors and Creditors**

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price.

i) **Foreign currencies**

Overseas investments are converted into sterling at the exchange rates ruling at the year end. Cost values are shown at the exchange rates ruling at the date of purchase.

j) **Taxation**

The Association, as a charity, is not subject to tax and is able to reclaim tax deducted at source.

k) **Financial instruments**

The trust only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

l) **Funds**

All funds are unrestricted.

### 3 JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

**Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:**

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The trustees do not believe there are any assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are addressed below.

### 4 INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Members' subscription & other donations	4,612	11,820

**THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

**5 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	2022 £	2021 £
Contributions towards AGM	6,557	-

**6 INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2022 £	2021 £
Listed investments	22,026	39,626

**7 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS**

	2022 £	2021 £
Investment management fees	12,007	16,979
Interest	45	281
	<u>12,052</u>	<u>17,260</u>

**8 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	2022 £	2021 £
Grants made (note 9)	216,327	225,534
Governance cost (note 10)	40,122	30,694
	<u>256,449</u>	<u>256,228</u>

The Conservative Agents' Benevolent Association has taken the exemption under the Charities Act 2011 from disclosing the names of grant recipients.

**THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

**9 GRANTS AWARDED**

All grants awarded in the year have been made to individuals.

The grants awarded during the year can be categorised as follows:

Type of Grant	2022 £	2021 £
Special grants	158,656	147,250
Monthly grants	42,588	58,141
TV licence grants	-	575
First seasonal grants	4,157	3,849
Second seasonal grants	5,099	4,751
Newspapers grants	1,345	2,162
Discretionary grants	4,482	8,806
	<u>216,327</u>	<u>225,534</u>

**10 GOVERNANCE COSTS**

	2022 £	2021 £
Secretarial and office	30,222	21,694
Audit fees	9,900	9,000
	<u>40,122</u>	<u>30,694</u>

Secretarial and office costs includes expenses reimbursed to managing trustees (who are not considered trustees under charity law), elected officers and visiting agents paid in the necessary performance of their duties on behalf of the charity in line with relevant HMRC rates where applicable.

The charity does not have any staff members.

## THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

#### 11 INVESTMENTS – SUMMARY

The Trustees have disinvested in the year from Investec and invested in a single Rothschild & Co New Court Fund, holding 60,778.430 units at a market value of £2,039,724.

	2022	2021
	£	£
Market value at 1 April 2021	2,121,563	1,934,304
Additions	2,327,881	902,896
Disposals	(2,547,904)	(1,076,250)
Movement in capital account	(15,501)	(42,625)
Net realised investment gains / (losses)	253,528	105,518
Net unrealised investment gains	(99,843)	297,720
Market value at 31 March 2022	<u>2,039,724</u>	<u>2,121,563</u>
Historical cost at 31 March 2022	<u>2,139,566</u>	<u>1,605,957</u>
Income and accumulation managed funds	2,039,724	-
United Kingdom listed investments	-	708,479
Overseas listed investments	-	1,319,545
United Kingdom cash deposits	-	15,501
Interest in freehold property	-	78,038
<b>Market value at 31 March 2022</b>	<u>2,039,724</u>	<u>2,121,563</u>

Individual holdings at 31 March 2022 in excess of 5% of the portfolio value was as follows:

Holding	Investment	2022	2021
		£	£
60,778.430			
(2021: Nil)	Rothschild & Co New Court Fund	2,039,724	-
Nil (2021: 840)	Findlay Park Fds	-	100,337

The fund manager's latest factsheet can be found [here](#), which includes a review of historic performance and an analysis of the underlying holdings and allocations of the New Court Fund GBP.

#### 12 DEBTORS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accrued income	<u>347</u>	<u>9,299</u>

#### 13 LIABILITIES – amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals	<u>9,928</u>	<u>9,600</u>

**THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST AGENTS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)**

**14 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss	<u>2,080,371</u>	<u>2,152,712</u>

Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss comprise of cash and cash equivalents and investments in share portfolio.

**15 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN TOTAL FUNDS**

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 April 2021	2,152,411	1,971,215
Net deficit for the year	(235,306)	(222,042)
Gains on investments	153,685	403,238
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,070,790</u>	<u>2,152,411</u>

**16 RELATED PARTIES**

The Financial Trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year (2021: £Nil). The Financial Trustees did not have any expenses reimbursed during the year (2021: £Nil).

There have been no other related party transactions in the reporting period which require disclosure.

**17 TRUSTEE INDEMNITY POLICY**

The Financial Trustees' indemnity insurance policy was in place during the year. The premium payable was £244 and the period of the insurance was from 14 January 2022 to 13 January 2023.