

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 327021

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

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WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number	327021
Address	c/o 25 Hough Lane Leyland Lancashire PR5 2SB
Trustees	K A Beardmore P Connolly M J Clarke G H Lee
Committee	K A Beardmore P Connolly G H Lee M J Clarke G F Berkley (Chairman) J C Bicknell M M Evans (Hon Treasurer) L F Norton P H Taaffe E J Sarti C Hughes (Hon.Secretary)
Hon Treasurer	M M Evans
Hon Secretary	C Hughes
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc City Office 22 Castle Street Liverpool L69 2BE
Independent Examiner	D J Hudd FCA Livesey Spottiswood Registered Auditors & Chartered Accountants 17 George Street St Helens Merseyside WA10 1DB

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

The Trustees present their report together with financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023.

Objectives and Organisation

West Lancashire Mark Charity Fund was established by a Declaration of Trust dated 2 June 1985 and is registered with the Charity Commission No. 327021.

The object of the Fund is to raise funds for the benefit of such Masonic charities or other charitable institutions, societies and objects, as the Committee shall from time to time direct.

The management of the Fund is under the control of the Committee.

Committee and Trustees

Members of the Committee at the end of the year are listed below:-

K A Beardmore
P Connolly
G H Lee
M J Clarke
G F Berkley (Chairman)
J C Bicknell
M M Evans
E J Sarti
L F Norton
P H Taaffe
C Hughes

The Hon Treasurer during the year was M M Evans and the Hon Secretary was C Hughes.

The Trustees are K A Beardmore, P Connolly, M J Clarke and G H Lee.

The charity is administered by the Committee who meet regularly throughout the year.

All Committee members retire by rotation each year and may stand for re-election. Election of Trustees and Committee members is by existing Trustees and Committee members.

Within the Committee and Trustees there is a wide range of expertise and experience.

Financial Review and Statement of Policies

The attached financial statements show the current state of the finances, which the Trustees consider to be sound.

The Charity had incoming resources of £29,533 (2022: £32,893) and outgoing expenditure of £27,562 (2022: £30,053), excluding unrealised gains/(losses) on investments, resulting in net incoming resources of £1,971 (2022: £2,840). The resources expended comprised £21,325 (2022: £26,032) of grants and donations made to other charities in accordance with the Charity's objectives, and £1,584 (2022: £1,321) on its management and administration.

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023 (continued)**

Investment Policy

The committee meets regularly to consider the charity’s funding position and throughout the year funds have been held in interest bearing accounts with the charity’s bankers, yielding a return of less than 1%. In addition, there is a portfolio of investments managed by Investec on behalf of the Charity.

Public Benefit

The Trustee’s Report and the Financial Statements are prepared having due regard to the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit and demonstrate how the organisation’s objectives, activities and performance meet these requirements.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charity to hold reserves in its unrestricted funds in order to establish an appropriate level of working capital and to protect the future operations of the charity from the effects of any unforeseen and material variations in its income streams, as part of a policy of good financial management.

Risk Management

The Trustees continue to be aware of their responsibility regarding risk management and meet regularly to continue to profile risks, examine controls already in place and embed controls to mitigate significant risks.

Trustees’ Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the charity during the year and of its financial position at the year end. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- 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 charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and regulations there under. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

.....
K A Beardmore
Trustee

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

I report on the accounts for the year ended 30 September 2023, set out on pages 5 to 10.

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(2) of the Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is required.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under charity law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given 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 you as 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 statements below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- i. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records
 - to comply with the applicable requirements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008have not been met; or
- ii. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

David Hudd BA FCA
Livesey Spottiswood Chartered Accountants
St Helens Merseyside
WA10 1DB

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice; Accounting and reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties arising about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Incoming Resources

All donations are included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable.

Investment income is recognised when receivable.

Expenditure

Expenditure is allocated between:

- expenditure incurred directly to the fulfilment of the charity's objectives (direct charitable)
- expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (fundraising);
- expenditure incurred in the management and administration of the charity

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Grants and Donations

Grants and donations are made in accordance with the charity's objectives. Applications for grants are invited for the purchase of specific capital expenditure from mainly locally based charities, and if considered appropriate, are then approved by the Committee before the grant is made.

Fund Accounting

The general fund is considered to be unrestricted and comprises all incoming resources received or generated for expenditure on the general objectives of the charity.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at the balance sheet date.

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Unrestricted Funds 2022
Income		£	£
Incoming resources			
Voluntary income – donations		25,424	28,730
Activities for generating funds	1	2,584	3,079
Investment income	2	<u>1,525</u>	<u>1,084</u>
Total incoming resources		<u>29,533</u>	<u>32,893</u>
Expenditure			
Resources expended			
Charitable activities: grants and donations	3	14,325	21,032
Merchandising costs	1	4,653	2,700
To Benevolent account		7,000	5,000
Management and administration	4	<u>1,584</u>	<u>1,321</u>
Total resources expended		<u>27,562</u>	<u>30,053</u>
Net incoming resources		1,971	2,840
Other unrecognised gains/(losses)			
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	6	<u>7,199</u>	<u>(25,169)</u>
Fund balances brought forward at 1 October 2022		<u>191,309</u>	<u>213,638</u>
Fund balances carried forward at 30 September 2023		<u>200,479</u>	<u>191,309</u>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND
BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Fixed Assets			
Investments	6	182,700	174,008
Current Assets			
Cash at bank		<u>17,779</u>	<u>17,301</u>
		<u>200,479</u>	<u>191,309</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds – General funds		<u>200,479</u>	<u>191,309</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on behalf by:

and signed on the Trustees'

K A Beardmore

Chairman

M M Evans

Treasurer

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

1 Activities for Generating Funds

Income from the sale of merchandise has been reported net in the statement of financial activities. Gross results were as follows:-

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross proceeds	2,584	3,079
Direct expenses	(4,653)	(2,700)
	<u>(2,069)</u>	<u>379</u>

2 Investment Income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank Interest	32	2
Investments held by Fund Manager	<u>1,493</u>	<u>1,082</u>
	<u>1,525</u>	<u>1,084</u>

The Investments held by Fund Manager comprises £4,235 income less Management Charges of £2,742.

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

3 Direct Charitable Expenditure – grants and donations

	2023	2022
	£	£
Royal British Legion – Poppy Appeal	1,675	832
Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS	-	400
Northwest Blood Bikes	1,000	1,000
Blackpool Victoria Hospital	-	600
Chorley Mental Health	-	1,100
Mark Benevolent Fund (in memoriam)	4,400	10,200
Mark Benevolent Fund (Ukraine)	-	5,000
Mark Benevolent Fund Jewels	100	-
The Sparkle Bean Trust	-	1,800
St Lawrence Church PCC	-	-
Prince Setanta Matched	350	-
The Space Centre Preston	500	-
Cerebral Palsy – Stick n Step	250	-
Caroline Allen High School	1,000	-
ICLE Test – G Berkley	2,150	-
Almoners Distribution Fund	2,000	-
Leyton Methodist Forward Po	<u>900</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>14,325</u>	<u>21,032</u>

4 Management and Administration Expenditure

	2023	2022
	£	£
Printing, stationery and postage	509	160
Accountancy fees	1,050	996
Other administration expenses	<u>25</u>	<u>165</u>
	<u>1,584</u>	<u>1,321</u>

5 Payments to the Trustees, Committee and Connected Persons

No Trustees or member of the Committee or person with a family or business connection with a Trustee or member of the Committee, received remuneration or expenses in the year, either directly or indirectly, from the charity.

WEST LANCASHIRE MARK CHARITY FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

6 Investments

	2023	2022
	£	£
<u>Held by Investment Manager</u>		
Market Value at beginning of year	174,008	198,095
Additions to investments at cost	1,493	1,082
Net loss on revaluation	<u>7,199</u>	<u>(25,169)</u>
Market Value at end of year	<u>182,700</u>	<u>174,008</u>

8 Contingent Liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities at 30 September 2023 and 30 September 2022.

9 Capital Commitments

The charity had no capital commitments at 30 September 2023 and 30 September 2022.