

Company registration number: 03285642
Charity registration number: 1074448

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 November 2024



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Helmsley Walled Garden Limited
Year ended 30 November 2024

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 30 November 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Trustees

C L Lawton & J A Batty (Joint Chairs)
J A Batty (Treasurer)
V Aston
S Barstow
D Brewster
E Hook
N Saunders
N Holroyd (resigned 25th July 2024)
A Roberts (resigned 27th August 2024)

Company registration number: 03285642

Charity registration number: 1074448

Registered office

Helmsley Walled Garden
Cleveland Way
Helmsley
York
YO62 5AH

Objectives and Activities

Our Charitable objects are contained within the Articles of Association as approved by the Charities Commission and filed at Companies House and they are as follows;

"To advance the education of the public in all matters relating to horticulture, gardening skills and therapeutic horticulture through the development and maintenance of an historic walled garden, providing a supportive therapeutic space for volunteers and enhancing the physical and emotional health and wellbeing of everyone who uses and visits the garden." To this end, Helmsley Walled Garden continues to realise the vision of its founder, Alison Ticehurst, supporting its community through horticulture.

The Trustees can confirm that the charity's activities are conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 and the fulfilment of the Public Benefit provision and guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Regular Board Meetings are conducted throughout the year, combining face to face meetings with the use of Zoom and/or Teams. The Board meet once each year for an Away Day to focus on strategic planning, finance and the sustainable growth of the organisation.

Structure, governance and management

Changes to the Board of Trustees were the resignations of the Chair, Nick Holroyd and of Trustee, Andy Roberts. Claire Lawton and John Batty were appointed Joint Chairs on the 25th July 2024, with unanimous trustee and Members' support.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

The Board continues to maintain the ability to appoint specific groups where a need is identified. Going forward, a new Fundraising Group, consisting of Trustees and the Executive Director will be overseeing our future fundraising activity regarding the need to develop and maintain our buildings and garden.

The Board works closely with the Executive Director to agree strategic planning, discuss any issues that may arise, consider new projects and any operational developments for the garden. It is the role of the Executive Director to ensure that the Board remains fully informed of all activities in the garden.

We are a Charitable Company, limited by guarantee with a voting membership. Our current group of Members have voting rights at the Annual General Meeting and are responsible for receiving and adopting the Annual Report and Financial Statement as well as confirming the appointment of new Trustees.

Our constitution also provides for the appointment of Garden Ambassadors. This is an honorary role for those people who are judged to have made a notable contribution to the Garden. The role allows them to attend garden events by invitation and to help promote the garden as a therapeutic space. We currently have 12 Garden Ambassadors.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Succession planning is an ongoing activity, and the recruitment processes we use will continue to be reviewed and updated so that we attract potential Trustees from as diverse a range of backgrounds and experience as possible. In particular, we shall continue to work towards ensuring the best possible balance of gender, ethnicity, disability and age. All Trustees have a role description and participate in a regular review of their contribution to the Garden and the effectiveness of the Board.

Trustees (who are also Board members), are appointed for a period of nine years, thereby ensuring rotation and succession. The skill mix of Board members reflects the main priorities of the Garden as identified in the Business Plan.

A profile of our staff and Board members can be found on our website.

www.helmsleywalledgarden.org

Staff

Further to a new staffing structure, proposed by the Executive Director in October 2024, the garden now employs 9 members of staff, equating to 5 full time posts, the most recent appointment being a new Garden Manager in March 2025.

This new structure will enable the Executive Director to have a more focused role and work more effectively with the Trustees to run the charity. Our four volunteer coordinators support a team of over 100 volunteers and now report directly to the Garden Manager. In addition, we appointed two new part-time temporary kiosk posts to alleviate the pressure on the shop and kiosk staff during the increasingly busy summer months. A new staff-room has been provided through the addition of a garden room adjacent to the polytunnel where staff are able to take breaks in private. This space also gives the opportunity to have staff meetings and more informal social interaction, both of which are becoming increasingly important with a growing team.

Staff (continued)

One part time and one full time post are currently fully funded and the plan, going forward, is to establish continuation funding for our volunteer coordinator and volunteer development worker roles.

The Garden in 2024

The Garden continues to be developed to a very high standard whilst maintaining delivery of benefit to our local community. We continue to recognise the issues caused by climate change and to do as much as possible to minimise its carbon footprint and enhance biodiversity. We regularly update and improve our activities to ensure we conform to the most recent recommendations in achieving this goal.

New areas for 2024 included the recreation of our Silver Gilt award winning alpine garden from Harrogate Spring Flower Show and ever-changing annual planting in our cutting garden. Our plant propagation area is developing well with around 60 different types of perennials for sale to our visitors. A new informative labelling system is now in place to ensure that our own plants are presented as professionally as possible, and this has been quickly mastered and employed by our garden staff.

The Garden is now home to two National Plant Collections, namely Rosebud Pelargoniums and the North Yorkshire Apple Collection. Both collections will continue to be maintained and developed by our volunteers, working with our staff, and are of great interest to our visitors.

In the Spring of 2024, we offered free tours of the garden, run by some of our volunteers. These have proved extremely popular with visitors, and we have extended this to two tours per month, on a Wednesday and a Saturday.

The Garden remains a very popular RHS partner garden, with RHS members visiting for free on a Wednesday and for the whole of the month of October. Tour operators are continuing to return following the pandemic in 2020/2021 and our group bookings are steadily increasing as the popularity of the Garden grows. The Garden was visited in May 2024 by Dan Walker and Helen Skelton and was featured in their 'Yorkshire Walks' program later in the year.

We work closely with other local gardens and attractions, and have a positive reciprocal arrangement with the Yorkshire Arboretum, whereby our staff and volunteers are able to visit free when the arboretum is open.

Our Volunteers

Our volunteers are crucial to the work we do and benefit from the support of our charity.

This continues to be the mission of the garden and we have supported over 100 volunteers with 12 new volunteers joining us during 2024. We currently have a waiting list of 13 additional volunteers who are keen to join the garden which is frequently re-visited and volunteers recruited from the list whenever possible.

We run six 3-hour volunteering sessions every week, with an average of 12 volunteers attending every session. Our newly introduced propagation session, on a Wednesday afternoon, is now running extremely well and we are seeing an extremely positive impact of the project on some of our more vulnerable volunteers. The project, 'Learning to Grow', is linked to our National Community Lottery Award and we are continuing to recruit new volunteers on to the programme.

Our Volunteers (continued)

Two of our existing volunteers have been given the opportunity to be involved in our garden traineeship, employed by the garden 6 hours per week, to gain further experience and build confidence. This initiative will run until 2027, giving one more volunteer the chance to work at the garden in our Learning to Grow project. A new, recently added, Friday afternoon session has allowed us to bring in volunteers from our waiting list and we are in the process of developing a new Therapeutic Horticulture course on a Tuesday afternoon.

We run regular social events for volunteers, particularly in the Winter months, and all volunteers have been given the opportunity to purchase our new uniform at cost price. There is a real sense of camaraderie and community within our volunteering groups with volunteers arranging social events amongst themselves and working together as teams. This was clearly evident with the execution of the Harrogate Show Garden. Volunteers were able to work together on a demanding and time sensitive project, achieving a very high standard of presentation at the show.

Funding and awards

In December 2023 we were successful in being awarded Community Lottery funding for our project, 'Learning to Grow'. The funding itself is for three years, paying for one four-days per-week post, our garden traineeship, a percentage of overheads and a range of equipment. The funding supports our Wednesday afternoon session, working with our more vulnerable volunteers on a series of educational and challenging propagation techniques. The plants propagated from these sessions are consequently sold to our visitors with a label that emphasizes the work we do in our community. Ultimately the revenue from these activities will sustain one member of staff beyond the three years of the funded programme.

Other funding throughout the year includes The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust for a pilot project that preceded 'Learning to Grow' and funding from Ryedale District Council for the 'Beyond the Secret Garden' project - the development of our soft fruit area in the garden. Helmsley Town Council and North York Moors Parks Authority continue to support the Garden with funding towards workshops and, more recently, towards the design and manufacture of new interpretation boards.

The Garden was delighted to have been successful in achieving a King's Award for Voluntary Service in 2024 and recently welcomed the Lord Lieutenant for North Yorkshire, Jo Ropner, to the garden for an awards ceremony with our volunteers. This award is a significant milestone for the garden and an important recognition for our funders and stakeholders of the extremely high standards we meet in terms of volunteer support and development.

The Garden continues to attain an excellent standard in our 'Visit England' assessment made annually at the start of the season. Upholding a score of 85% overall, many of the areas mentioned, for example the welcome visitors receive and the presentation of our shop, are seeing scores of 90% or more.

Kiosk, shop & visitors

We are a significant tourist attraction in the North York Moors and Ryedale area and, together with our partners at the Vine House Café, we attract visitors from far afield aided by welcome publicity at national and local level in the media. 2024 proved to be an extremely busy year, with around 23,000 visitors during the season.

Kiosk, shop & visitors (continued)

Installed in January, our new Vennersys ticketing system is proving to be extremely useful in processing both day tickets and passes for visitors. Our new annual pass, which can also be purchased online, has proved to be very popular, although a good number of visitors do continue to buy day tickets.

We have had a number of events throughout the year, including our Easter Trail and Willow Weaving workshops that continue to be very popular with our visitors. Although not a high revenue generator in themselves, the workshops, events and exhibitions we facilitate, encourage new visitors to the Garden and increased spending in our shop and plant centre.

The garden shop continues to be busy throughout the season, selling a large number of plants and attractive local gifts and produce. There are indications at the start of 2025 that our sales, ticket entry and memberships continue to grow steadily, keeping pace with rising overhead costs for the organisation.

Our Buildings

Some remedial repairs and decorative work have been carried out on both the garden bothy building and café toilets. The garden is now linked to the mains sewage system which has solved many of the problems caused by the original old septic tank.

We continue to develop our plans for the entrance, shop and Orchard House areas of the garden, with a view to seeking planning permission in 2025. This will be for an extension of the shop and offices and complete refurbishment of the glass house, providing better facilities for both staff and volunteers.

Our favourable financial position has enabled us to set aside funds in a Designated Reserve as security against future commitments and the need to regularly maintain and repaint our glasshouses and other buildings.

Working with our Local Community

In addition to supporting our volunteers (many of whom live locally), we also provide 20 low cost potager plots made available to Helmsley residents to grow their own vegetables.

The Garden continues to work closely with Helmsley Arts Centre, Countryside Learning, Ryedale Special Families and a number of other local charities. Welburn School continue to bring a small group of students to the Garden weekly during term time. Countryside Learning regularly bring local primary schools to the Garden to enjoy outdoor activities during term time – a further four outdoor lessons are planned for 2025.

We hold two free event days annually and a number of reduced entry community days which have proved to be extremely popular.

Financial Review

Helmsley Walled Garden's Income derives from a range of sources. Grants do form a proportion of our income, but primarily, this is derived from the Entrance fees into the Garden as well as the sales of the plants, many of which we have home- propagated and our Garden shop which stocks an attractive range of quality products, with appeal to the full spectrum of our visitor demographic.

Financial Review (continued)

The results for this financial year show our total income from all sources increased to £372,808 compared to £302,447 in 2023 with an overall surplus of £2,058 (2023: £8,964).

Despite the poor weather over the Summer months, the numbers visiting the garden remained robust during the period, bolstered by the introduction of the Annual Pass for entry into the Garden as well as the widening scope and appeal of the Garden as a visitor destination through the continued collaborative marketing through multiple media channels.

The accessibility of the Shop, with its widening range of attractive stock and plants without the requirement to enter the garden has continued to increase its sales year on year too, with income increasing to £77,839 from £68,147 in 2023. The hosting of one-off events in the Garden in the year, including a Winter pre-Christmas opening have contributed to the additional sales income in this financial period.

The level of admission fees continues to be constrained by competition from other attractions in the vicinity; they are reviewed keenly on an annual basis in line with gardens of a similar size and quality to ensure we continue to remain attractive to visitors, feeling that they are still getting value for money from every visit that they make to the garden with a constant watching brief by the Trustees of the impact that the cost of living crisis in the economy is having on household disposable income and the risks associated with this for the overall income of the garden.

Our continued close symbiotic relationship with the Vine House Café and its proximity to the garden, undoubtedly continues to enhance the overall visitor experience.

During the year, the Trustees have Designated a further £10,000 (2023: £20,000) from the Unrestricted Reserves which has been set aside to support the on-going maintenance, upkeep and rolling repairs associated with the historical buildings and glasshouse assets. The balance in this Designated Fund at the end of the financial year was £82,218 compared to £95,095 in 2023. Note 18 on page 24 provides additional information of this designated purpose and the utilisation of funds in this reserve during the financial year on its designated purpose.

At the Balance sheet date, the Total Funds of the Charity were £324,954 compared to £322,896 in the previous financial year Charity; of these, the Unrestricted Funds were £223,079 compared to £229,314 at the end of the prior year. These are funds which are expendable at the Trustee's discretion in furtherance of the objects or administration of the Charity.

Almost all of our operating costs are covered by income from our Friends and visitors to the Garden, corresponding Gift Aid to this revenue, sales from the shop and plants and rental income from the café and the Garden with the remainder of any income from gifts, bequests, and grant funding.

Our financial model continues to be rigorously evaluated to ensure that the financial well-being of the Charity and the solidity of its current level of resources are sustained and operationally maintainable for the future.

Reserves Policy

The aim of our Reserves Policy is to;

- to provide a level of working capital that protects the continuity of our core work
- to provide a level of funding for unexpected opportunities
- to provide cover for risks such as unforeseen expenditure or unanticipated loss of income resulting from adverse period of weather or other unforeseen circumstances

Reserves Policy (Continued)

To achieve these aims, the charity looks to hold reserves of a minimum of five months running costs at the end of our accounting year in November. Seeking to build additional income streams through the winter months, we would also look to achieve a financial safety net at the start of the season in March of a further three months running costs into the summer.

Helmsley Walled Garden, in addition to being a popular tourist destination during the summer months, is an essential resource for its nearby community. It is imperative that we retain enough reserves from our summer visitors through these months to support the ongoing work of our volunteers in the winter months. Not only do we need to cover the costs of our staff to support volunteers through the winter, but we also have expenses, garden tools and materials that continue to be ongoing costs for us from November through to March with limited visitor income. Our position, financially, highlights the fact that Helmsley Walled Garden exists through our volunteers – the garden itself providing solace and therapeutic activity for those individuals 11 months of the year.

In addition to the picture we see in November, we also look to hold a balance in the Spring that enables us to ensure the purchase of stock for our shop and plant sales, the replanting and restoration of some areas of the garden on an annual basis and the supply of new tools and equipment for our volunteers if required. The revenue from our visitor sales fluctuates greatly due to weather conditions throughout the summer months and, although our visitor numbers (and consequently revenue) may be greatly reduced by poor weather, our volunteers continue to enjoy their activities in the garden in even the inclement weather of an English Spring.

To enable the charity to achieve its objectives, we continue in our endeavour to maintain at least £141,000 of Unrestricted reserves. Our performance in this financial year has once again been reassuringly positive and these currently stand at £223,079, being the combined sum of General and Designated funds.

Total funds at the year-end amount to £324,954 (2023: £322,896) of which £101,875 (2023: £93,582) is Restricted and can only be used for particular restricted purposes as stipulated by the donors. The assets and liabilities attributable to the various funds are shown in note 18 and 19 which also describe the various funds of the Charity.

The Trustees are mindful that to meet our existing and ongoing obligations for the next financial year, new income streams projects and funding will continue to be vital to ensure our sustainability and our ability to service our community, members and the wider public with what the garden offers. Our primary focus continues to be an unwavering endeavour to sustain the reserves in excess of the minimum operational level set.

The Board of Trustees continually review the above criteria with reference to the charity's Annual Plan and evaluate their strategy and target level of free reserves to meet these requirements.

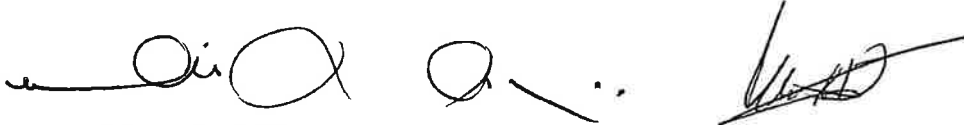
Plans for Future Periods

The Garden is in a strong financial position as a result of the hard work and commitment of our staff, volunteers and trustees. The comments we receive from our visitors about the Garden continue to be complimentary. We have significant building repairs to consider and have ambitious plans for the development of the garden entrance, and the Orchard House to create a space to enhance our visitor experience and the wellbeing of our volunteers. We have recognised the need to ensure that we have sufficient staff resources in place to support our volunteers and ensure the smooth running of the Garden.

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited
Year ended 30 November 2024

The financial statements have been delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on **31.07.25** and signed on its behalf by:



C Lawton & J Batty
Chairs - Helmsley Walled Garden Trustees

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Helmsley Walled Garden Limited for the purposes of company law) 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year 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 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 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Helmsley Walled Garden Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 November 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

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 statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited
Year ended 30 November 2024

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Saffery LLP'.

Sally Appleton
ICAEW
Saffery LLP
10 Wellington Place
Leeds
LS1 4AP

14 August 2025

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited
Year ended 30 November 2024

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 30 November 2024

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total 2024 £ | Total 2023 £ |
|------------------------------------|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Income and Endowments from: | | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 3 | 30,331 | - | 30,331 | 29,113 |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 264,659 | 39,000 | 303,659 | 235,326 |
| Investment income | 5 | 2,480 | - | 2,480 | 494 |
| Other income | 6 | 36,338 | - | 36,338 | 37,514 |
| Other trading activities | | - | - | - | - |
| Total income | | 333,808 | 39,000 | 372,808 | 302,447 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| Raising funds | | (1,020) | - | (1,020) | (3,872) |
| Charitable activities | 8 | (328,771) | (29,851) | (358,622) | (278,643) |
| Governance costs | 10 | (11,108) | - | (11,108) | (10,968) |
| Total expenditure | | (340,899) | (29,851) | (370,750) | (293,483) |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | (7,091) | 9,149 | 2,058 | 8,964 |
| Transfer between funds | | 856 | (856) | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (6,235) | 8,293 | 2,058 | 8,964 |
| Reconciliation of funds | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 229,314 | 93,582 | 322,896 | 313,932 |
| Total funds carried forward | 18 | 223,079 | 101,875 | 324,954 | 322,896 |

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 18.

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited
Year ended 30 November 2024

(Registration number: 03285642)

Balance Sheet as at 30 November 2024

| | Note | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|---|------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fixed assets | | | |
| Tangible assets | 13 | 103,527 | 101,752 |
| | | <u>103,527</u> | <u>101,752</u> |
| Current assets | | | |
| Stocks | 14 | 25,629 | 35,259 |
| Debtors | 15 | 13,286 | 7,500 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 241,644 | 232,740 |
| | | <u>280,559</u> | <u>275,499</u> |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year | 16 | <u>(30,432)</u> | <u>(20,236)</u> |
| Net current assets | | <u>250,127</u> | <u>255,263</u> |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | <u>353,654</u> | <u>357,015</u> |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year | 17 | <u>(28,700)</u> | <u>(34,119)</u> |
| Net assets | | <u>324,954</u> | <u>322,896</u> |
| Funds of the Charity: | | | |
| Restricted funds | 18 | 101,875 | 93,582 |
| Unrestricted funds | 18 | | |
| General | | 140,861 | 134,219 |
| Designated | | <u>82,218</u> | <u>95,095</u> |
| Total funds | | <u>324,954</u> | <u>322,896</u> |


For the year ended 30 November 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies:

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

The financial statements on pages 14 to 26 were approved by the Trustees, authorised for issue on 31 July 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



C Lawton
Trustee

J Batty
Trustee

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024

1. Charity status

The charity is a charity limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

2. Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

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) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

Going concern

The financial statements are drawn up on the going concern basis which assumes the Charity will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

In assessing the lasting impact of financial pressures brought about by rising inflation and consequent price increases as well as the scheduled increase in Employers National Insurance alongside the National economic Cost of Living Crisis, the trustees have considered all the matters described in the Trustees' Report when making this evaluation.

The charity substantially relies on income from its members, Friends for Life, visitors to the Garden and associated income from its plant and shop sales along with rental income from the café on site as well as the hire of the garden for outdoor events.

The Trustees continue to maintain a constant watching brief on the Charity's cash flow and budget predictions with financial projections updated quarterly and reforecasts fine-tuned on alternative assumptions to evaluate the predicted outcomes, and these reviewed at Trustee meetings.

New income streams are continually being evaluated and pursued to balance against any future disruptions to the normality of the usual trading pattern and cycle to strengthen the Unrestricted Reserves and boost the Charity's resilience.

The Trustees forecasts indicate that the Charity will be able to maintain liquidity for a period of at least one year following the date of signing these financial statements and sustain its operational

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

existence during the next 12 months and accordingly, the Charity accounts are appropriately prepared under the going concern basis..

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due. Interest income is recognised as it is received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel and payroll costs which support the Trusts activities. The breakdown of these support costs is set out in note 8.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit or independent exam, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph I Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part I I of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £100 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Within the other debtor balance in the accounts there is amounts held in relation to development costs that are yet to be capitalised. These are to be included within the tangible fixed asset balance once development has started.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Buildings and Glasshouses | straight line over the remaining useful life of the lease |
| Plant & equipment | 15% reducing balance |
| Fixtures & fittings | 15% reducing balance |
| Computer equipment | 3 years straight line |

Plant & equipment, fixtures and fittings and computer equipment are all included within Fixtures and Fittings in note 12.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited
Year ended 30 November 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

3. Income from donations and legacies

| | Unrestricted funds General | Restricted funds | Total 2024 | Total 2023 |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Donations and legacies | 10,000 | - | 10,000 | 200 |
| Donations from individuals | 20,331 | - | 20,331 | 28,913 |
| | <u>30,331</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>30,331</u> | <u>29,113</u> |

4. Income from charitable activities

| | Unrestricted funds General | Restricted funds | Total 2024 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Entrance fee | 142,929 | - | 142,929 |
| Garden and shop sales | 77,839 | - | 77,839 |
| Grant | - | 39,000 | 39,000 |
| Other | 43,891 | - | 43,891 |
| | <u>264,659</u> | <u>39,000</u> | <u>303,659</u> |

Included within restricted fund grant income is £39,000 from the National Lottery Community Fund.

Income from charitable activities – previous year

| | Unrestricted funds General | Restricted funds | Total 2023 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Entrance fee | 127,714 | - | 127,714 |
| Garden and shop sales | 68,147 | - | 68,147 |
| Grant | - | 6,900 | 6,900 |
| Other | 32,565 | - | 32,565 |
| | <u>228,426</u> | <u>6,900</u> | <u>235,326</u> |

Included within restricted fund grant income is £4,000 from The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust for the 'Plants, People and Possibilities' project, £2,500 from Ryedale District Council for the 'Beyond the Secret Garden' project and £400 from Helmsley Town Council for 'Willow Weaving'.

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited
Year ended 30 November 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

5. Investment income

| Unrestricted funds | 2024 | 2023 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Interest receivable on bank deposits | 2,480 | 494 |
| | <u>2,480</u> | <u>494</u> |

6. Other income

| | Unrestricted funds General | Restricted funds | Total 2024 | Total 2023 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Rental income | 22,643 | - | 22,643 | 22,343 |
| Gift Aid tax reclaimed | 13,695 | - | 13,695 | 15,171 |
| | <u>36,338</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>36,338</u> | <u>37,514</u> |

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

| | Unrestricted funds General | Restricted funds | Total 2024 |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Garden and shop cost of sales | 48,742 | - | 48,742 |
| Wages and salaries | 160,887 | 18,557 | 179,444 |
| Staff pensions | 3,361 | 194 | 3,555 |
| Repairs and renewals | 46,387 | - | 46,387 |
| Support costs (see note 8) | 64,018 | 7,000 | 71,018 |
| Depreciation and impairment | 3,608 | 4,100 | 7,708 |
| Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets | 1,768 | - | 1,768 |
| | <u>328,771</u> | <u>29,851</u> | <u>358,622</u> |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

Expenditure on charitable activities – previous year

| | Unrestricted funds General | Restricted funds | Total 2023 |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Garden and shop cost of sales | 44,332 | - | 44,332 |
| Wages and salaries | 136,973 | 9,000 | 145,973 |
| Staff pensions | 2,930 | - | 2,930 |
| Repairs and renewals | 24,040 | 2,900 | 26,940 |
| Support costs (see note 8) | 52,768 | - | 52,768 |
| Depreciation and impairment | 1,600 | 4,100 | 5,700 |
| | 262,643 | 16,000 | 278,643 |

The average number of staff during the year was 8 (2023: 8). No member of staff received employee benefits of more than £60,000 in the current or prior year.

8. Support costs

| | Unrestricted funds General | Restricted funds | Total 2024 |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Cleaning | 3,368 | - | 3,368 |
| Rent | 12,695 | 4,000 | 16,695 |
| Rates & Water | 1,975 | - | 1,975 |
| Light, heat and power | 9,652 | 500 | 10,152 |
| Insurance | 3,536 | 1,500 | 5,036 |
| Telephone and fax | 2,478 | - | 2,478 |
| Website and computer | 1,032 | - | 1,032 |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 896 | - | 896 |
| Subscriptions and memberships | 4,727 | - | 4,727 |
| Sundry expenses | 3,157 | - | 3,157 |
| Advertising | 11,105 | 1,000 | 12,105 |
| Bank charges | 5,856 | - | 5,856 |
| Bank loan interest | 925 | - | 925 |
| Travel, fuel and accommodation | 1,755 | - | 1,755 |
| Trustee mileage claims | 317 | - | 317 |
| Trustee meetings and other expenses | 544 | - | 544 |
| | 64,018 | 7,000 | 71,018 |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

Support costs – previous year

| | Unrestricted funds General | Restricted funds | Total 2023 |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Cleaning | 3,418 | - | 3,418 |
| Rent | 14,362 | - | 14,362 |
| Rates & Water | 1,997 | - | 1,997 |
| Light, heat and power | 4,626 | - | 4,626 |
| Insurance | 4,977 | - | 4,977 |
| Telephone and fax | 1,702 | - | 1,702 |
| Website and computer | 408 | - | 408 |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 1,681 | - | 1,681 |
| Subscriptions and memberships | 2,129 | - | 2,129 |
| Sundry expenses | 1,501 | - | 1,501 |
| Advertising | 8,319 | - | 8,319 |
| Bank charges | 4,451 | - | 4,451 |
| Bank loan interest | 1,055 | - | 1,055 |
| Travel, fuel and accommodation | 742 | - | 742 |
| Trustee mileage claims | 576 | - | 576 |
| Trustee meetings and other expenses | 824 | - | 824 |
| | 52,768 | - | 52,768 |

9. Governance Costs of the Charity

| | Unrestricted funds General | Restricted funds | Total 2024 |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Accountancy fees | 5,356 | - | 5,356 |
| Legal and professional fees | 5,752 | - | 5,752 |
| | 11,108 | - | 11,108 |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

Governance Costs of the Charity – previous year

| | Unrestricted funds General | Restricted funds | Total 2023 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Accountancy fees | 5,800 | - | 5,800 |
| Legal and professional fees | 5,168 | - | 5,168 |
| | 10,968 | - | 10,968 |

Accountancy fees include £5,300 (2023: £5,200) payable to the Independent examiner.

10. Trustees remuneration and expenses

Two trustees (2023: three) had expenses reimbursed in the year totalling £316 (2023: £576) for mileage claims. No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any other remuneration from the charity during the year.

11. Taxation

The Charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

12. Tangible fixed assets

| | Fixtures & fittings | Buildings and Glasshouses | Total |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Cost | | | |
| At 1 December 2023 | 26,513 | 804,408 | 830,921 |
| Additions | 11,252 | - | 11,252 |
| Disposals | (7,035) | - | (7,035) |
| At 30 November 2024 | 30,730 | 804,408 | 835,138 |
| Depreciation | | | |
| As at 1 December 2023 | 18,343 | 710,826 | 729,169 |
| Charge for the year | 3,609 | 4,100 | 7,709 |
| Disposals | (5,267) | - | (5,267) |
| At 30 November 2024 | 16,685 | 714,926 | 731,611 |
| Net book value | | | |
| At 30 November 2024 | 14,045 | 89,482 | 103,527 |
| At 30 November 2023 | 8,170 | 93,582 | 101,752 |

Impairment

Other tangible fixed assets

In the year ended 30 November 2018 the Trustees considered the glasshouses to be impaired. The impairment charge was based on a report on the condition of the glasshouses prepared by W R Dunn & Co Limited in 2018. In the current year the Trustees didn't consider any further impairment to be necessary.

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited
Year ended 30 November 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

13. Stock

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--------|-------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Stocks | 25,629 | 35,259 |

14. Debtors

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Trade debtors | 3,206 | 1,099 |
| Other debtors | 10,080 | 6,401 |
| | 13,286 | 7,500 |

Included within other debtors is prepaid development costs of £9,798 (2023: £5,900).

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Trade creditors | 7,125 | 3,167 |
| Other taxation and social security | 7,184 | 6,199 |
| Bank loans | 5,419 | 5,285 |
| Accruals | 10,704 | 5,585 |
| | 30,432 | 20,236 |

16. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Bank loans | 28,700 | 34,119 |
| | 28,700 | 34,119 |

The 10-year bank loan entered into in 2020 is guaranteed by the UK Government under the BBLS (Bounce Back Loan Scheme). There was an initial 13 months where no repayments were to be made and interest at 2.25% is covered by UK Government for the 13 month period under BIP (Business Interruption Payment). Repayments and interest commenced in November 2021.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

17. Funds

| | Balance as at 1 December 2023 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Funds Transferred £ | Balance as at 30 November 2024 £ |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| General | 134,219 | 333,808 | (318,022) | (9,144) | 140,861 |
| Designated | 95,095 | - | (22,877) | 10,000 | 82,218 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 229,314 | 333,808 | (340,899) | 856 | 223,079 |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| BIG Lottery | 30,147 | - | - | - | 30,147 |
| Glasshouses Fund | 63,435 | - | (4,100) | - | 59,335 |
| Other restricted grant funding | - | 39,000 | (25,751) | (856) | 12,393 |
| Total restricted funds | 93,582 | 39,000 | (29,851) | (856) | 101,875 |
| Total funds | 322,896 | 372,808 | (370,750) | - | 324,954 |

| | Balance as at 1 December 2022 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Funds Transferred £ | Balance as at 30 November 2023 £ |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| General | 126,990 | 295,547 | (268,318) | (20,000) | 134,219 |
| Designated | 84,260 | - | (9,165) | 20,000 | 95,095 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 211,250 | 295,547 | (277,483) | - | 229,314 |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| BIG Lottery | 30,147 | - | - | - | 30,147 |
| Glasshouses Fund | 67,535 | - | (4,100) | - | 63,435 |
| Other restricted grant funding | 5,000 | 6,900 | (11,900) | - | - |
| Total restricted funds | 102,682 | 6,900 | (16,000) | - | 93,582 |
| Total funds | 313,932 | 302,447 | (293,483) | - | 322,896 |

Designated funds

During the year, the Trustees have Designated a further £10,000 (2023: £20,000) from the Unrestricted Reserves which has been set aside to support some of the charity's ongoing structural repairs and maintenance. It includes some on-going maintenance, upkeep of the glasshouse assets and funds to support the renovation of the historical buildings. The sum held in the Designated Funds is now £82,218 (2023: £95,095).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

Restricted funds

- **BIG Lottery:** Donations to refurbish the glasshouses which are held in fixed assets.
- **Glasshouses Fund:** Established to refurbish the glasshouses which are held in fixed assets. The expenditure in the year is depreciation.
- **Restricted Grant Funding:** This represents funding given for specific purposes. The balance at the year end was £12,393, with the majority of the restricted funds being used for salaries and other expenditure in the year.

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds £ |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Intangible fixed assets | - | - | - |
| Tangible fixed assets | 14,045 | 89,482 | 103,527 |
| Current assets | 268,166 | 12,393 | 280,559 |
| Current and non-current liabilities | (59,132) | - | (59,132) |
| Total net assets | 223,079 | 101,875 | 324,954 |

Analysis of net assets between funds – previous year

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds £ |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Intangible fixed assets | - | - | - |
| Tangible fixed assets | 8,170 | 93,582 | 101,752 |
| Current assets | 275,499 | - | 275,499 |
| Current and non-current liabilities | (54,355) | - | (54,355) |
| Total net assets | 229,314 | 93,582 | 322,896 |

19. Analysis of net funds

| | As at 1 December 2023 £ | Cash flow £ | As at 30 November 2024 £ |
|--------------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| Cash at bank and in hand | 232,740 | 8,904 | 241,644 |
| Net funds | 232,740 | 8,904 | 241,644 |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

20. Operating lease commitments

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited renewed its lease with its Landlord on 6th December 2016, for a term of 30 years, expiring on 5th December 2046.. Therefore, at the year-end on 30th November 2024, there were 22 unexpired years remaining.

Under the terms of the lease, there are two elements to the rent due; a fixed basic rent and a variable rent linked to admissions income.

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Not later than 1 year – fixed and variable elements | 18,851 | 16,680 |
| Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years | | |
| Fixed element | 2,859 | 2,612 |
| Estimated variable element* | 63,127 | 40,000 |
| Later than 5 years | | |
| Fixed element | 12,151 | 11,763 |
| Estimated variable element* | 268,290 | 180,000 |
| | 365,278 | 251,055 |

In respect of the fixed element of rent, the lease contains a provision for rent reviews linked to RPI every three years. These increases have not been factored into the figures above after 2019, as it is not possible to accurately determine future values for the Retail Price Index.

*The variable rent is linked to admissions income. It is not possible to accurately predict future amounts of variable rent due. However, based upon admissions income over the last three years, the Trustees expect this charge to equate to approximately £15,781 per annum.

21. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the current or prior year that require disclosure.

Helmsley Walled Garden Limited
Year ended 30 November 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 November 2024 (continued)

22. Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

| | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total 2023 £ |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Income and Endowments from: | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 29,113 | - | 29,113 |
| Charitable activities | 228,426 | 6,900 | 235,326 |
| Investment income | 494 | - | 494 |
| Other income | 37,514 | - | 37,514 |
| Other trading activities | - | - | - |
| Total income | 295,547 | 6,900 | 302,447 |
| Expenditure on: | | | |
| Raising funds | (3,872) | - | (3,872) |
| Charitable activities | (262,643) | (16,000) | (278,643) |
| Governance costs | (10,968) | - | (10,968) |
| Total expenditure | (277,483) | (16,000) | (293,483) |
| Net income/(expenditure) | 18,064 | (9,100) | 8,964 |
| Transfers between funds | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | 18,064 | (9,100) | 8,964 |
| Reconciliation of funds | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | 211,250 | 102,682 | 313,932 |
| Total funds carried forward | 229,314 | 93,582 | 322,896 |