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# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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## Annual report and financial statements

for the year ended

**31 March 2022**

Company number 04429778

Charity number 1095919



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# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

( A C H A R I T A B L E C O M P A N Y L I M I T E D B Y G U A R A N T E E )

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## ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

( A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE )

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## CONSTITUTION

The Farming Community Network ("FCN") is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association dated 2 May 2002. In the event of the organisation being wound up each trustee agrees to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution. The company is also registered with the Charity Commission for England & Wales. Charity number 1095919. Company number 04429778.

## DIRECTORS

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The directors serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Mark A E Suthern (Chairman)  
Sally Steadman  
Giles Bowring  
The Revd Canon Barbara Clutton  
Peter Havers  
David Lodder (Treasurer)  
Bishop Mark Rylands  
Olivia Seccombe  
Sir Mark Hudson  
Bishop Dr Helen-Ann Hartley (resigned 26 January 2022)  
Robert D Walrond (appointed 28 January 2022)  
Barbara A A P Bray (appointed 1 March 2022)

## SECRETARY

Deborah Roe

## REGISTERED OFFICE AND OPERATIONAL ADDRESS

Manor Farm  
West Haddon  
Northamptonshire  
NN6 7AQ

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

Guest Wilson Chartered Accountants  
8 Wolverton Road  
Snitterfield  
Stratford upon Avon  
Warwickshire  
CV37 0HB

# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

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## STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT

**“The Objects of the Charity** are the relief of hardship and distress, amongst persons living and working in the agricultural, horticultural and related communities, by the provision of pastoral and practical support underpinned by a Christian ethos.”

All services are made available to those in need from all faiths and none in a non-judgemental, non-proselytising but supportive way.

### Public Benefits

1. **National Helpline:** The national confidential helpline is open from 7 am to 11 pm every day of the year, staffed by a team of volunteers. Talking with someone who understands farming but is not directly involved in the situation can be a real support in itself, but when appropriate, callers are offered a visit from an FCN volunteer by referral through the co-ordinator local to the caller
2. **Volunteers:** Around 400 volunteers who are ‘in sympathy’ with the Christian ethos, suitably experienced and in-touch with rural and farming issues, are recruited, DBS checked and appropriately trained to ‘walk with’ farmers and their families through times of stress and personal difficulty. Referrals to individual volunteers are made through the local FCN County Co-ordinator who is also responsible for the co-ordination and training of volunteers within their Group and liaison with their Regional Director and Head Office for all administrative and policy issues.
3. **Christian ethos:** The Charity has a clear Christian ethos which is inherent within its foundation, board of trustees and charitable objects, which is reflected in its published Vision and Ethos Statements, whilst sustaining the principle that all services are made available to those in need from all faiths and none in a non-judgemental, non-proselytising but supportive way.
4. **Partnerships:**
  - To ensure national coverage, and to respect the territories of other independent farming and rural support services, FCN has ‘memoranda of understanding’ with those organisations that facilitate cross referrals of clients, access to the FCN Helpline, sharing of expertise and experience and consortia bidding from national funding sources
  - ‘Farming Help’ has been established and underpinned with a ‘memorandum of understanding’ between the FCN, Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI), Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RASBI) and the Addington Fund, to ensure that the specialist remits of each charity are fully recognised, cross referrals can flow easily, joint funding proposals to national bodies can be co-ordinated and clients are exposed to a seamless service of support.
5. **Uptake:**

The demand for FCN’s services fluctuates with the level of causal factors within the industry, so that through a national crisis such as the foot and mouth epidemic in 2001, the scale can be almost overwhelming. However the nature of farming is such that even when the industry is operating under ‘normal’ conditions, individual businesses and families will experience periods of significant stress because of circumstances specific to the family or business so that a steady demand on FCN volunteers to manage between 1,500 and 2,500 cases per year is typical.

Further statistical details of uptake, nature of the difficulty and routes of referral are described later in this document.

Details of FCN’s services, operations and policies are available on the website at:

[www.fcn.org.uk](http://www.fcn.org.uk)

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# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

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## Introduction from FCN's Chairman – Mark Suthern

UK agriculture is undergoing some of the most significant changes it has seen in the last fifty years. Change is often scary, challenging and takes considerable time to implement. But change is also exciting – it is how we innovate, create new opportunities and adapt to changing circumstances.

Over the last couple of years we have all been reminded of the importance of reliable supply chains and systems of food production. Labour shortages, high input costs and the growing energy crisis to name but a few have put significant pressure on farmers from across all sectors. We especially feel immense sadness for our friends in Ukraine and other countries impacted by war. We hope and pray for an end to this conflict and for the safety and health of all those affected. The way our industry looks ten years from now could be considerably different from how it looks today. We must work together to ensure agriculture and its associated professions attract the best talent, and is seen as being a desirable, profitable and rewarding industry to work in.

There should be a place for everyone in agriculture, including those taking their first steps into farming and those who have farmed for many years. Generational family farms remind us all of the strong farming tradition across the UK, and the ongoing legacy many families are continuing to build upon. In addition, new entrants should be empowered to enter our industry and mentored and equipped with the skills and knowledge required to succeed and flourish.

We are delighted in FCN to be playing our part in creating a more inclusive and accessible industry in the work that we do. We are championing diversity and inclusivity within our charity; we are making conscious efforts to work with a wide range of people from different walks of life; and we are actively involving ourselves in schemes and initiatives to bring people into our industry who may not be from farming backgrounds. Greater education of the public and further collaboration is necessary in creating a thriving agricultural industry that is respected and understood by all.

Connecting and empathising with others is a significant part of what we do within FCN. Our dedicated volunteers are trusted to 'walk with' farmers, who let us into their lives and share with us the pressures they may be under. We are privileged to be in the position we are in and have been described as a 'lifeline' by those we have helped.

I would like to sincerely thank all of those who work with our charity, as well as everyone who supports us and raises awareness. As we continue to grow as a charity, we hope that you will continue to walk alongside us on this journey, helping to ensure that our essential industry is able to thrive now and in the years to come.

**Mark Suthern**  
27 June 2022

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# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

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## A positive approach to change - FCN CEO, Dr Jude McCann

I am delighted by the extraordinary support for The Farming Community Network we have seen this year. In a period of rapid change for our industry, people within our farming community are having to think about the future, make difficult decisions and find ways of ensuring their businesses are sustainable in the months and years to come. There is arguably a greater need for charities like FCN than ever before, providing support and a vital listening ear, and we must all do our part to support our nation's farmers through this challenging time. Our work within FCN is proactive and we adopt a positive approach to change. We understand that farming can be tough and has unique occupational challenges - but at its heart, there is no industry more essential, and farming is often an incredibly rewarding way of life. We all rely on farmers three times a day; we shouldn't overlook the integral role farmers play in producing our food, looking after livestock and cultivating and tending to our beautiful countryside.

On a clear-skied day, when we have recently seen the incredible contrast of blue and yellow from the oilseed rape blanketing our many fields in rural areas across the country, we cannot help but be reminded of our friends in Ukraine, who provide such a vital supply of food and resources to many parts of the world. We continue to hope and pray for those impacted by this terrible war. As we look to the future, we recognise that farmers across the globe are indispensable; and must be empowered and supported to live and farm well.

I would like to give my sincere thanks to all our dedicated volunteers, staff and board members for their time, effort and vital support for our charity. I would also like to thank our generous donors and funders; without your support, FCN simple would not be here today. We are grateful for everything you do in support of our world-class farmers and our most essential industry.

I hope you enjoyed reading this report. Take care and stay safe.

**Jude McCann**

27 June 2022

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# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

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## DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors, who are also the trustees, present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022.

### OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide pastoral and practical support to the farming community.

### OUR APPROACH

We offer independent, objective and personal support to build resilience and stay strong through changing times. We aim to provide help before problems arise, as well as supporting those who are experiencing difficulty or crisis.

We do this in four ways:

1. Through our confidential Helpline, open every day from 7am – 11pm
2. Through our wide network of local volunteers and partners
3. Through our FarmWell initiative – an information resource on all aspects of personal and farm business resilience
4. Through highlighting the issues being experienced by our farming communities and increasing awareness of FCN

### OUR ETHOS

FCN is a voluntary organisation and charity founded on Christian principles. We walk with farmers and members of the farming community in times of difficulty. We are here to support and work with everyone who seeks the help of FCN.

### Our strategic priorities

#### Helping to improve the health and wellbeing of our farm community

This year FCN has helped to support the health and wellbeing of the farm community in a wide variety of ways.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW 2021-22

This past year has seen the devastating war in the Ukraine impacting the entire world, a continuing rise in the cost of living and covid-19 still prevalent in the UK, highlighting how crucial the need is for Charities.

At the beginning of this financial year, we were unsure how the year would progress; however, it was another positive year for FCN with an end of year surplus of £198,603. This was achieved in the main by the very high level of legacy income during the year and the inability to run a full events programme owing to continuing covid restrictions resulting in a decrease of anticipated and actual expenditure.

Now into our third year of our 5-year strategy we are seeing an increase in the demand for our services. Additional training programmes have been created both for our corporate partners and individuals, designed to help those who work within the farming community build resilience for ongoing challenges.

FCN has no endowment income and is reliant on the income it can raise each year, of which the legacy income is the most unpredictable. With the increase in its reserves generated during the year the trustees have set aside a sum of £500,000 to ensure the continuing future of FCN.

### Income

Income for the year 2021-22 reached £966,279, an increase of approximately 23% based on the previous year.

Income from legacies has been the most significant increase this year, most of which, residual income from an ongoing legacy. In total FCN received £375,096 during the year. It is important to note that legacy donations are extremely unpredictable.

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# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

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As lockdown restrictions were lifted, we saw further increases from external groups with income reaching £100,648. Church donations reached £45,150 and corporate income reached £79,329.

A further increase came in public funding of 6% based on the previous year, with FCN receiving £134,608.

FCN saw decreases in income from events and activities with a fall of 10% compared to the previous year (£63,351 received), individuals saw a fall of 13% (72,439 received) and trust funding fell in the year by 74% (£82,185 received).

## **Expenditure**

As society began to return to a more normal, pre-covid existence, with lockdown restrictions being eased and people wanting to reconnect with one another, expenses increased for FCN by 28% compared to the previous year. FCN has also had a restructure which has resulted in more resources being directed toward local and regional support.

The result in the increase in income and expenditure, is that FCN finished with a net income of £198,603 for the year. This positive result combined with previous years produced a cash balance of £809,921, and £546,620 invested. Some of that surplus is allocated to restricted funding and to designated projects. FCN has a policy of protecting core activities to ensure that it can continue to provide support, even if the project funding falls short of expectations.

While the improvement of FCN's financial position is appreciated, and we are extremely grateful to all donors for their continued generosity, this must not lead to an over reliance on certain funding streams. FCN will still need to continue to generate funding to enable it to operate. Reconnecting events held during this year are beginning to connect with those most difficult to reach in our farm communities and in turn raise awareness of our Charity.

## **Governance**

Over the past few years, the trustees have been strengthening the governance of FCN with the formation of committees dealing with Governance, Audit and Risk, Nominations, and Investment with each committee being authorised to make recommendations to the Board.

## **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

The Farming Community Network is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association dated 8 May 2013. In the event of the organisation being wound up each trustee agrees to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution. The company is also registered with the Charity Commission for England & Wales.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The company limited by guarantee now known as The Farming Community Network took over the assets and activities on 1 June 2002 of the unincorporated charity Farm Crisis Network which was founded in 1995 by the Arthur Rank Centre and Agricultural Christian Fellowship.

The Memorandum of Association states:

“The objects of the charity are the relief of hardship and distress, amongst persons living and working in the agricultural, horticultural and related communities, by the provision of pastoral and practical support underpinned by a Christian ethos.”

The activities of FCN are available to all in the agricultural and related spheres of life providing the following services:

- Pastoral and practical support, care and listening to people in crisis (by phone, face to face or through the internet)
- Information and networking service to people, primarily through on-farm visiting with a holistic approach to both farm household and business



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- Advocacy on behalf of such people (e.g. for tenant farmers in discussion with landlords' agents or for farmers in discussion with banks, creditors or regulatory agencies)

### APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

The maximum number of directors is 12. The Articles of Association were amended by Special Resolution on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019 to reduce the maximum length of continuous service to 9. One of the directors should be nominated by the Agricultural Christian Fellowship and 1 nominated by the Arthur Rank Centre. One third of the Board of Directors should retire at each Annual General Meeting.

### DIRECTOR INDUCTION AND TRAINING

New directors undergo training as to their legal obligations under charity and company law and are presented with copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association as well as FCN policy documents which have been approved by the Board. The induction process involves meeting the national staff and other directors. Directors are encouraged to attend training events every 3 years.

### ORGANISATION

The Board of Directors meets quarterly to administer the charity and receive reports on finance, activities and fundraising. Other items are reported as necessary. Day to day management of FCN is delegated by the Board to the Chief Executive.

### RELATED PARTIES

FCN has no related parties; however close working relationships are maintained with the Arthur Rank Centre and the Agricultural Christian Fellowship. One director is nominated by ARC and one by ACF for representation on the Board of FCN.

### RISK MANAGEMENT

The Board has undertaken a review of risk and the identified causes have been categorised as relating to:

People  
Property & finance  
Reputation

The review of risks has led to the implementation of policies aimed at lowering the risks to which FCN is exposed as well as designated procedures should an incident occur. The Risk Management policy document is reviewed regularly and updated to ensure it is as up to date as possible.

### LOOKING AHEAD: OUR FUTURE STRATEGY 2020-2025

FCN is currently developing a five-year strategy for the organisation. While there is little doubt that the farming community will continue to experience significant change and restructuring, FCN remains steadfast in supporting those who need help in the farming community. While farming families will have to adapt and change so too will FCN. Together we face the future with hope, optimism and a renewed commitment to serve those who seek our support.

#### Our strategic priorities:

##### External:

- Improve the health and wellbeing of the farming community
- Support farm businesses through change and build resilience
- Connect the farming community to appropriate support
- Inform future policy decisions by being a champion for the farming community

##### Internal:

- Develop the skills, support and duty of care for volunteers delivering our front-line services
- Build awareness and engagement of FCN in the agricultural community
- Ensure the financial sustainability of FCN
- Refine our operations and organisation to stay relevant in a changing industry

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# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

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Be a catalyst for shaping future agricultural support services in the UK

## **DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE ACCOUNTS**

The Directors are required to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those accounts the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and other applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

## **GOING CONCERN**

After making enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in note 1 of the financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the Directors on 27 June 2022.

**D Roe**  
Secretary

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# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT** **to the Trustees of The Farming Community Network**

I report on the financial statements of The Farming Community Network for the year ended 31 March 2022 on pages 9 to 17.

This report is made solely to the company's members as a body, in accordance with the Companies Act 2006. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in our 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 company and the company's members as a body, for our examination work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

As described on page 8 the company's directors (Trustees) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Charities Act 2011, s.144(2) ("the 2011 Act") and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination, being a qualified member of ICAEW.

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

- Examine the accounts under s.145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.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 statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 s.386; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006, s.396 and the methods and principles of FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**NAME: NEIL WILSON**

**RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION OR BODY: ICAEW**

*8 Wolverton Road, Snitterfield, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 0HB*

*27 June 2022*

# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

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## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	General Unrestricted funds £	Designated Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>INCOME</b>						
<b>Donations and legacies</b>	3	713,371	-	181,715	<b>895,086</b>	705,397
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>						
Resourcing programmes		63,351	-	-	<b>63,351</b>	70,087
<b>Income from other trading activities</b>						
Investment income		7,842	-	-	<b>7,842</b>	11,437
<b>Total income</b>		<b>784,564</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>181,715</b>	<b>966,279</b>	786,921
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	6					
Cost of raising funds		36,524	-	15,946	<b>52,470</b>	51,059
Charitable activities		229,516	-	269,188	<b>498,704</b>	410,607
Governance		134,606	-	81,896	<b>216,502</b>	139,341
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>400,646</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>367,030</b>	<b>767,676</b>	601,007
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>383,918</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(185,315)</b>	<b>198,603</b>	185,914
Net transfers between funds		56,423	(56,423)	-	-	-
Realised and unrealised gains/(losses) on investments		4,448	-	-	<b>4,448</b>	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>444,788</b>	<b>(56,423)</b>	<b>(185,314)</b>	<b>203,051</b>	185,914
Fund balances brought forward	15	623,200	294,563	242,361	<b>1,160,124</b>	974,210
<b>FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD</b>	15	<b>1,067,988</b>	<b>238,140</b>	<b>57,047</b>	<b>£ 1,363,175</b>	£ 1,160,124

# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

## BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	10	28,774	5,634
Investments	11	546,620	-
		<b>575,394</b>	5,634
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	12	18,455	13,850
Bank and cash balances		809,921	1,171,401
		<b>828,376</b>	1,185,251
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>	13	<b>(40,595)</b>	(30,761)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>787,781</b>	1,154,490
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,363,175</b>	1,160,124
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	14	-	-
		<b>£ 1,363,175</b>	£ 1,160,124
<b>INCOME FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds			
General	16	1,067,988	623,200
Designated	16	238,140	294,563
Restricted funds	16	57,047	242,361
		<b>£ 1,363,175</b>	£ 1,160,124

The Trustees have acknowledged their responsibilities for: selecting suitable accounting policies and then applying them consistently; observing the methods and principles in the Charities SORP; making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; stating whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and preparing the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015)" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), effective 1 January 2015 and the Companies Act 2006. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Directors on 27 June 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

**M A E Southern**  
Director

# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

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## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

at 31 March 2022

### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### ***Company and charitable status***

The Farming Community Network, a public benefit entity, is incorporated in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital. Each member has undertaken to contribute to the assets in the event of winding up a sum not exceeding £1. The charity is a registered charity. The registered office is given on page 2.

#### ***Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern***

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015)" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), effective 1 January 2015 and the Companies Act 2006.

In preparing the accounts, the Directors have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required. At the date of transition in applying the requirements of FRS 102 no adjustments were required.

The Directors consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. Free unrestricted reserves of FCN at the year-end amount to £1,091,128. After consideration of the current business plan to 2021/22 and with a balanced budget planned for the next two financial years, the Trustees consider there is a reasonable expectation that FCN has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees are also satisfied with the controls in place for monitoring and flexing the budget throughout the year. There are no material uncertainties that would impact on the charity's ability to continue. Accordingly we continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing this annual report and financial statements.

#### ***Investments and investment income***

Investments are stated at fair value (market value) at the balance sheet date. Any gains or losses on the revaluation are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and opening market value (purchase date if later). Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the market value at the end of the year and opening market value (or purchase date if later). Realised and unrealised gains are not separated in the Statement of Financial Activities. Investment income is accounted for on the basis of amounts received during the year. Interest on cash balances is accrued to the accounting date.

#### ***Funds***

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Directors in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Directors out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

#### ***Incoming resources***

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The value of unpaid voluntary services provided by individuals has not been included.

#### ***Resources expended***

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they are allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

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## **Taxation**

FCN is a registered charity and is not subject to taxation on its income so long as this is used for its charitable activities.

## **Fixed assets and depreciation**

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided on all fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value based on prices prevailing at the date of acquisition, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life as follows:

Office equipment                      -                      3 years straight line

## **2 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY**

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, which are described in note 1, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The Directors do not consider there are any critical judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty requiring disclosure beyond the accounting policies listed above.

## **3 INCOME – DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	General Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Voluntary income</b>				
From churches	42,707	2,443	<b>45,150</b>	32,645
From individuals and other organisations	133,532	39,555	<b>173,087</b>	153,207
Legacies	374,087	1,010	<b>375,096</b>	15,775
Gift aid tax refunded	5,632	-	<b>5,632</b>	5,616
Grants received (see note 4)	157,414	138,707	<b>296,121</b>	498,154
	713,371	181,715	<b>895,086</b>	705,397

# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

## 4 GRANTS RECEIVED

	General Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
DEFRA and Regional Development Agencies	-	133,000	133,000	75,000
Mercer Family	40,000	-	40,000	-
EWG Charitable Trust	10,000	-	10,000	-
Hutchinson Charitable Trust	8,000	-	8,000	8,000
P D Hook Ltd	7,500	-	7,500	-
Hook 2 Sisters	7,500	-	7,500	-
Prince's Countryside Fund	2,435	4,100	6,535	6,111
HR Department	6,206	-	6,206	-
AB Connect	5,133	-	5,133	-
Agri	4,000	-	4,000	-
Anonymous	3,673	-	3,673	515
Bagshaws	3,600	-	3,600	-
Ricardo	3,375	-	3,375	-
Wales – North Coop Local Community Fund	3,343	-	3,343	-
Leicestershire Coop Local Community Fund	3,140	-	3,140	-
Procam	3,000	-	3,000	-
The Worshipful Company of Farmers	2,750	-	2,750	2,750
Northamptonshire Coop Local Community Fund	2,546	-	2,546	-
Hunt Forest Group	2,440	-	2,440	-
Betty Lawes Foundation	2,000	-	2,000	5,000
Forest Hill Charity	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
The Paget Charitable Trust	2,000	-	2,000	-
Hendix Genetics	2,000	-	2,000	-
NSF Safety & Quality	2,000	-	2,000	-
Frontier Agricultural	1,823	-	1,823	-
Purple Patch	1,500	-	1,500	1,320
Crediton Mill	1,250	-	1,250	-
Genus plc	1,250	-	1,250	-
Cumbria PCC	-	1,120	1,120	-
Yeo Valley Farms	1,000	-	1,000	3,425
Garth Charities	1,000	-	1,000	-
Shakespeare Martineau	1,000	-	1,000	-
Stella Symes Charitable Trust	1,000	-	1,000	-
Pilgrims	1,000	-	1,000	-
Oxfordshire Ag Soc Trust	1,000	-	1,000	-
The Fulmer Charity	900	-	900	750
Market Bosworth & Hinckley Farms	705	-	705	-
Read Agriserves	550	-	550	-
Bailey	550	-	550	-
NFU Mutual Charitable Trust	-	-	-	200,000
National Lottery	-	-	-	50,000
Westminster Foundation	-	-	-	33,304
Wates Foundation	-	-	-	20,000
Arla	-	-	-	13,655
Nuffield	-	-	-	7,500
Huggate Wold Farms	-	-	-	6,000
NFU	-	-	-	5,000
Anonymous	-	-	-	5,000
Cumber Family Charitable Trust	-	-	-	5,000
Tanner Trust	-	-	-	5,000
Blacks of Bacton	-	-	-	3,500
The Ticket Shop	-	-	-	3,293
NSF Safety & Quality	-	-	-	2,875
AHDA	-	-	-	2,234
Hampshire Farmers Benevolent Trust	-	-	-	2,000
Leicestershire CMF	-	-	-	1,844
Bletsoes	-	-	-	1,768
Frome Lions Club	-	-	-	1,750
Savills	-	-	-	1,500
Warwickshire County Council	-	-	-	1,126
Giving.com	-	-	-	1,081
Cornus Trust	-	-	-	1,000
C P Thackray Trust	-	-	-	1,000
Bristol Corn & Feed Association	-	-	-	963
Leicestershire Co-Op Community Fund	-	-	-	924
Rickerbys Charitable Trust	-	-	-	750
Colman	-	-	-	560
Other grants ≤ £500	14,245	487	14,732	14,656
<b>Total grants per Note 3</b>	<b>157,414</b>	<b>138,707</b>	<b>296,121</b>	<b>498,154</b>



# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

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## 5 UNPAID VOLUNTARY SERVICES

The value of unpaid voluntary services provided by individuals has not been included within the Statement of Financial Activities as either income or expenditure. In the year under review that value is calculated as £182,142 (2021 - £178,6380), representing entirely caseworker costs (please refer to Trustees' Report for further information). If this value was included the Statement of Financial Activities would be revised with both income and expenditure increasing by £182,142.

6 EXPENDITURE	GENERAL UNRESTRICTED				RESTRICTED	2022 £	2021 £
	Local activity & supporting volunteers £	Publicity £	Training £	Direct costs £	Local activity & supporting volunteers £		
<b>Costs of generating funds</b>							
Staff costs (note 7)	-	-	-	30,932	15,946	<b>46,878</b>	41,317
Travel	-	-	-	1,594	-	<b>1,594</b>	-
Communications	-	-	-	632	-	<b>632</b>	710
Fundraising materials	-	-	-	596	-	<b>596</b>	5,776
Room hire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal & professional	-	-	-	2,770	-	<b>2,770</b>	3,256
	-	-	-	36,524	15,946	<b>52,470</b>	51,059
	36,524						
<b>Charitable activities</b>							
Staff costs (note 7)	-	159,248	-	-	199,887	<b>359,135</b>	287,867
Travel	1,170	2,199	-	-	14,124	<b>17,493</b>	5,238
Communications	7,730	667	-	-	6,550	<b>14,947</b>	16,079
Legal & professional	1,226	-	-	-	-	<b>1,226</b>	2,227
Room hire and refreshments	4,463	1,208	-	-	2,228	<b>7,899</b>	58
Publicity & training materials	1,767	47,229	-	-	46,400	<b>95,396</b>	97,524
Insurance	2,608	-	-	-	-	<b>2,608</b>	1,614
	18,964	210,551	-	-	269,189	<b>498,704</b>	410,607
	229,515						
<b>Governance</b>							
Staff costs (note 7)	-	-	-	39,197	79,468	<b>118,665</b>	86,946
Travel costs	-	-	-	20,051	-	<b>20,051</b>	745
Communications	-	-	-	20,276	2,428	<b>22,704</b>	18,263
Legal & professional	-	-	-	22,280	-	<b>22,280</b>	11,081
Insurance	-	-	-	5,246	-	<b>5,246</b>	4,707
Audit & accountancy	-	-	-	2,040	-	<b>2,040</b>	5,000
Premises and depreciation	-	-	-	25,516	-	<b>25,516</b>	12,596
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	-	-	-	134,606	81,896	<b>216,502</b>	139,341
	134,606						
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>18,964</b>	<b>210,551</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>171,131</b>	<b>367,030</b>	<b>767,676</b>	<b>601,007</b>
	400,646						

7 STAFF COSTS	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	<b>436,963</b>	398,946
Social security costs	<b>35,124</b>	26,699
Other pension costs	<b>21,739</b>	18,798
	<b>493,826</b>	447,443

The average number of employees, including part-time, during the year was 22 (2021: 17). One employee earned in excess of £60,000 (2021 - Nil). The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The charge for the period was £20,034 (2021 - £18,798). There were outstanding contributions of £3,537 at the year end (2021 - £2,341).

# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

## 8 NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:	2022 £	2021 £
Directors' emoluments (travel expenses)	236	-
Independent Examiner's remuneration	2,040	5,000
Depreciation	16,190	4,200
Directors' indemnity insurance	2,192	1,614

## 9 DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

No remuneration was paid to Directors for their services, and £236.26 was paid as reimbursement of travel and other expenses.

## 10 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment £
<b>Cost or valuation:</b>	
At 1 April 2021	83,775
Additions	39,330
At 31 March 2022	123,105
<b>Depreciation:</b>	
At 1 April 2021	78,141
Charge for the year	16,190
At 31 March 2022	94,331
<b>Net book value</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2022</b>	<b>28,774</b>
At 1 April 2021	5,634

## 11 INVESTMENTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Market value at 1 April 2021	-	-
Acquisitions at cost	542,172	-
Sales proceeds from disposals	-	-
Gain/(loss) in the year – realised	-	-
Gain/(loss) in the year - unrealised	4,448	-
Market value at 31 March 2022	546,620	-

Investments at market value comprised:

Rathbone Unit Trust Management Core Investment Fund for Charities Income Fund	227,098	-
Cash	319,522	-
	546,620	-

Historical cost as at 31 March 2022	542,172	-
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## 12 DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	11,000	1,073
Prepayments and accrued income	1,167	1,166
Gift Aid tax refund	6,288	11,611
	18,455	13,850

# THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

<b>13 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	14,039	10,518
Other taxes and social security	16,102	9,815
Other creditors	3,537	2,342
Deferred income (see also Note 13)	-	-
Accrued expenses	6,917	8,086
	<b>40,595</b>	<b>30,761</b>

<b>14 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Deferred income	-	-

<b>DEFERRED INCOME</b>		<b>£</b>
At 1 April 2021	-	-
Income deferred in year – for release within one year	-	-
Income deferred in year – for release after more than one year	-	-
Amount released in year	-	-
At 31 March 2022	-	-

<b>15 FUNDS ANALYSIS</b>	General Unrestricted fund £	Designated Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	<b>2022</b> £	<b>2021</b> £
Tangible fixed assets	575,394	-	-	<b>575,394</b>	5,634
Current assets	533,189	238,140	57,047	<b>828,376</b>	1,185,251
Liabilities	(40,595)	-	-	<b>(40,595)</b>	(30,761)
Net assets	1,067,988	238,140	57,047	<b>1,363,175</b>	1,160,124

<b>16 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	At 1 April 2021 £	Transfers £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	At 31 March 2022 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Voluntary income	242,361	-	181,716	(367,030)	<b>57,047</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
Designated	294,563	(56,423)	-	-	<b>238,140</b>
General	623,200	56,423	789,011	(400,646)	<b>1,067,988</b>
	1,160,124	-	970,727	(767,676)	<b>1,363,175</b>