



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 1st APRIL 2020 – 31st MARCH 2021

A LOCAL CHARITY SUPPORTING LOCAL PEOPLE IN NEED

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1110984

CHARITABLE PURPOSE: *The relief of poverty for people in need who reside in Lincolnshire, through the provision of furniture and food.*

ABOUT US

Furnichurch is a registered charity and was founded in August 2005 in Mablethorpe by a group of local Christians with the aim of helping needy people in our community, initially through the provision of items of furniture and later food, in response to demand. In 2011 we opened a second warehouse in Skegness where we remained for six years covering the coastal strip which is also an area of high deprivation. In April 2017 we took the decision to close our operation in Skegness mainly due to the rapidly deteriorating condition of the building and the difficulty in finding committed volunteers. We now work solely out of our Mablethorpe warehouse but we still respond to referrals along the coastal strip. During the pandemic when government restrictions meant that we had to close our furniture section for a total of six months, the Mablethorpe Community Food Larder which is based at and run by Furnichurch became the main focus of our work and it was a lifeline for many local people in need.



OUR SERVICES

- Supply and deliver furniture free of charge to those who are in desperate need
- Supply good quality second-hand furniture to people on low incomes in return for a small donation.
- Supply food parcels which provide a week's food for people who are facing financial hardship.
- Offer a free collection service for furniture which is no longer required.
- Signpost clients to other organisations that can assist them
- Supply sleeping bags to street homeless when necessary



FURNITURE

During the past year, the fact that the furniture section of our charity was only allowed to operate for six months because of government restrictions during Covid 19 seriously affected our business as it is the income we receive from donations for furniture that usually pays our overheads. The income received from donations for furniture the previous year (April 2019 – March 2020) amounted to £43,956.40 but this last financial year, it was just £17,710.00 due to the pandemic. For this reason, we were obliged to seek funding from many different sources to help cover our overheads as well as the purchase of food so that we could keep our premises open and the van running in order to be able to respond to the many requests for food parcels from local people in need. Demand for the Food Larder rose dramatically during the pandemic. In April 2020, we helped 176 people with food parcels which provided 6060 meals. In December, we helped 219 people with parcels which provided 6900 meals, together with toys, sweets and other seasonal gifts.

FURNITURE COLLECTIONS AND DELIVERIES – FACTS AND FIGURES 2020

- **938 households visited** in the course of our work, less than half the number in the previous year due to covid restrictions
- **119 return visits** to the same properties
- **We made 340 deliveries and 499 collections**
- **220** customers collected their own items, which is a growing trend
- We had **13 referrals** and these clients received **78 items of furniture**
- **1508 items of furniture were collected** by us – we were in lockdown for several months
- **1304 items of furniture overall were** found a new home, again, less than half the previous year as we were only able to open the furniture section for six months. Of the items found a new home, 15.5% were given away free

NEW VEHICLE

In the early months of last year, it soon became apparent that our old van was becoming very unreliable as there were various problems with it and on one or two occasions, we had to rent a replacement vehicle to enable us to continue our work as so many people were relying on us to deliver their food parcels during lockdown. After being warned that our next service on the vehicle would cost a lot of money and that repairs would not permanently fix the problem, we decided that we had to try and raise the funds to purchase a newer van before the end of December when the next service was due. We were delighted to achieve this aim.

On the front page of this Annual Report, we have put a photograph of our new (second hand) Peugeot Boxer 333 which we managed to purchase on 5 December 2020 thanks once again to huge local support and to very generous grants from Garfield Weston Foundation who provided us with £5000 and Coastal Community Challenge who gave us £3000. The Alford and Mablethorpe Rotary Club gave us a donation of £250 towards this project and we also had a donation of £200 from Capital One. Locally, we raised over £2200, mainly with the help of local churches and individuals.

We are hugely indebted to all our funders and to every person who contributed to this project in any way. Without this new van, we would not have been able to carry out the mammoth task of delivering every single food parcel requested right to the person's door. That delivery service was absolutely essential during the pandemic as there were many vulnerable people who were unable to leave their homes for many months and who therefore had to rely on our services.

All of us at Furnichurch are most grateful that we now have a more comfortable, efficient vehicle which is also more economical to run. Thank you all for your ongoing help and support.

A full financial report for the year is attached and we would like to express our thanks to our Treasurer for preparing it.

FOOD LARDER



In the past financial year (April 20 – March 21), the Food Larder was exceptionally busy because of the pandemic and as we were in lockdown for many months, all parcels had to be delivered to people's homes. However, we continued to receive tremendous support locally from Coastal Community Challenge who gave us £5,000 for the Food Larder in May, our Town council who gave us a grant of £5000 in December, and the Alford and Mablethorpe Rotary Club gave us £1000. We are also most grateful to our local supermarkets, both Lidl and the Co-Op, all the local churches, particularly at Harvest time and to so many other people in our town who brought in very generous donations of food and others who gave and continue to give regular financial donations.

In addition, we received a total of £5000 funding for food in January/February from the Lincolnshire Emergency Assistance Scheme phase 1 administered by Bishop Grosseteste University and an unrestricted grant of £1800 from the Leathersellers' Company Charitable Fund.

This wonderful support from so many individuals and organisations has enabled us to continue to help an increasing number of needy families and individuals, particularly in the LN12 area. Food parcels now often include frozen and/or fresh products. In addition, we continue to support people with extra items such as hygiene packs, baby packs and pet food where appropriate.

From 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021, we provided:

53,024 meals at a cost of £33,568

129 hygiene packs costing £1,560

20 baby packs (nappies, milk etc) £155

Pet Food - total cost £165

Total cost for meals + extra items £35,448 which helped 1593 people.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

What a year April 2020 to March 2021 has been! Although the previous financial year had been a challenging time for us, nobody could have envisaged multiple lockdowns, huge numbers of people suffering and dying from Covid 19, many small businesses closing down permanently, more people than ever without work and as a result, unprecedented numbers of needy people using our services, but we survived thanks to the phenomenal level of support we received locally, particularly from Coastal Community Challenge who gave us a huge grant of £10,200 to help with overheads at a time when we had no income as government restrictions prevented us from opening our furniture section. We also benefited from a grant of £6000 from the National Emergencies Trust Covid Relief fund administered through Lincolnshire Community Foundation and a further grant of £2000 in January from Lincolnshire County Council.

It is always my great privilege at the AGM every year to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us in any way, whether as individuals, churches, funders or other organisations with whom we work, but this year, it is particularly difficult to find words which are adequate to express our thanks and appreciation to you all.

I would like to thank all our volunteers, trustees and supporters who have continued to work tirelessly for our charity and our community in different ways, offering their gifts and their free time to help others. I would like to say a special thank you to the manager of Furnichurch, Michael Collins, together with Nigel Fereday, our part time Warehouse Supervisor, for going the extra mile day after day at considerable personal cost during the pandemic, to ensure that our Food Larder shelves were stocked and the bags of food ready to be delivered. This was especially difficult when supporting big families who were in isolation – we did have 3 families of 8, together with several pets!! Our team is very small but they are all hardworking and committed to serving our community through the provision of food parcels and furniture, whenever government restrictions permitted. Thanks to the efforts of everyone here, we have been able to achieve our charitable purpose once again and our clients have described our work as a lifeline that has brought them hope and peace of mind in very difficult circumstances.

The pandemic has had a very detrimental effect on our already deprived area and now that the £20 a week uplift to Universal Credit has been removed and the price of energy is increasing, there is still a huge amount of work for us to do and we expect there will be a further increase in demand for our services as the weather turns colder. With your ongoing support, Furnichurch will continue to serve all those in need in our community for years to come.

Sometimes, people feel that those in need are totally responsible for their own problems but the vast majority find themselves in crisis situations through circumstances beyond their control – these might be relationship breakdown, domestic violence, physical illness, mental health issues and so on. However, all our clients are extremely grateful for any help they are given. Recent comments are: 'I wouldn't be able to cope without your help right now, I can't thank you enough.' 'I just didn't know where to turn, then someone told me to phone you. Your help is greatly appreciated.' We are most grateful for the wonderful support we receive from local people, churches, organisations and agencies. Together, we are all making a difference in our community. Thank you so very much.

Dorothea McMillan (Chair of Trustees)

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1 Thanks to the generous grants we received, we managed to purchase our new Peugeot van on 5 December 2020 and this allowed us to carry out our work effectively.**
- 2 We achieved our charitable purpose through the provision of food parcels and extra items to a much higher number of needy people than usual who were obliged to self isolate due to Covid 19. In addition, we were able to support a higher number of elderly folk who had no access to their money but were unable to leave their homes for many months as they were physically vulnerable.**
- 3 Our two employees between them managed to deliver all the food parcels requested right to people's doors during the pandemic.**

OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT YEAR

- 1 To develop further ways of helping our service users solve their problems for the long term.**
- 2 To find more volunteers and trustees, including a secretary.**
- 3 To put our finances on a more secure footing after the pandemic.**
- 4 To put a card system for payments in place.**

TRUSTEES' STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT

Furnichurch operates in an area of high deprivation in and around Mablethorpe and the coastal strip of Lincolnshire, mainly between Mablethorpe and Skegness. Work is mainly seasonal and there is high unemployment which has increased after the pandemic as several of those furloughed have now lost their jobs. There are concerns about income, health and wellbeing, food poverty, limited transport and a lack of amenities. The services we deliver provide a practical short term solution to the deprivation that many local people experience. We work with a number of agencies who make referrals to us for both food and furniture and in response, we deliver good quality second-hand furniture and free food parcels to those in need. Where people are in crisis situations, we provide furniture free of charge or sometimes in return for a small donation towards our work.

As our furniture is second-hand, there is a very slight risk of injury to the client but we make basic checks to see if anything is faulty prior to delivery thus minimising that risk. These days we receive quite a number of electric recliner chairs and sofas so we ensure that they are PAT tested before being passed on to the public. In order to reduce other potential risks, we do not supply second-hand electrical items to our service users or items of furniture which do not have a flame retardant label attached.

RESERVES POLICY

We aim to hold a minimum of £20,000 and a maximum of £30,000 at year end, as in a downturn or an emergency, we need to be able to cover our overheads and any unforeseen costs for at least three months. We also run a large vehicle which may require major repairs and we employ two people, one of whom is part time, so we have two salaries to pay out. At year end, our closing balance and Balance at Bank on 31st March 2021 was £24,161.75.

GOVERNANCE

The charity is run by five trustees and the work is carried out day to day by a team of volunteers who are under the direction of one paid manager, Michael Collins and a paid part time Warehouse Supervisor. The trustees are elected at the AGM by the members of the Charity. No trustee or volunteer receives remuneration for this role.

AGM

This was held on Zoom on Friday 13 November 2020.

All five trustees were re-elected

Dorothea McMillan (Chair)

Earl Dunton (Treasurer)

Tom Mountain

Sharon Harper

Christine Collins

CHARITY DETAILS

Name: Furnichurch

Charity Registration No: 1110984

Registration: 23 August 2005

Address: 97A Victoria Road

Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire

LN12 2AL

Telephone 01507 477007

furnichurch.org.uk

furnichurch@btconnect.com



Incorporating the
Mablethorpe, Trusthorpe and Sutton-on-Sea
Food Larder

Treasurer's Report

And

Annual Accounts

1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

Registered Charity No. 1110984

97 Victoria Road, Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire. LN12 2AL

Treasurer's Report

As you all will appreciate, the period our accounts cover was greatly impacted by the onset and duration of the corona virus. Not only was the furniture side of the charity closed for extended periods, but we also had a very heavy demand on the Food Larder. With social distancing restrictions it meant that the work had to be carried out under very difficult circumstances. Our Manager, Michael Collins, and Warehouse Supervisor, Nigel Fereday gave tirelessly of their time and energy to deliver the high demand on the Food Larder and I wish to add my most grateful thanks to them for their commitment to those in need and the charity. For a considerable period, our volunteers were, on the whole, told to stay at home. However, we do still appreciate their support and particularly the few who we called upon for help at times. Thank you also to our Trustees who sought to keep things going through online zoom meetings.

Because of the shutdown our income suffered greatly. It is, therefore, only right for me to thank the local council and the Coastal Community Challenge for their extremely generous support during this time with several grants to keep us going. Without these we would have been a number in the statistics for businesses that ceased to operate. We are also grateful to the local churches and other organisations who supported us financially when income must have been tight for them also.

Now to the accounts. We, unsurprisingly, finished the year to 31st March 2021 with a deficit of £3,500. Despite our income being up by almost £15,000 as a result of the generous grants we received our expenditure was up by £26,000. Most of this was due to the higher demand for the Food Larder. One other large item of expense was the replacement of our vehicle for which we received two very generous grants, One for £5,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation and another from CCC for £3,000. Other smaller gifts were received to make up the total for we are very grateful.

Looking to the future, our finances are now stable due to the generous grants we have received. Our income from donations for furniture is still down on what it was and we are waiting to see how the situation moves forward, especially through the quieter winter months.

My grateful thanks again go to all our supporters, whether donors, volunteers, Churches Together and individual churches, CCC and Grantscape, the local council and our staff and Trustees. You are all greatly appreciated.

Earl Dunton,

Treasurer to the Trustees of Furnichurch

Furnichurch
Statement of Income and Expenditure
1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

Opening Balance	£	27,668.87
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Income

Food Larder	£	25,800.00
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Furnichurch	£	57,310.00
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Less Refunds	£	(350.00)
	£	56,960.00

Total Income	£	82,760.00
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Expenditure

Combined	£	86,267.12
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Less Defecit for the year	£	(3,507.12)
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Closing Balance	£	24,161.75
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Reconciliation

Balance at Bank at 31st March 2021

Food Larder	£	913.26
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Furnichurch	£	23,248.49
	£	24,161.75

Plus Cash in Hand (Furnichurch)	£	-
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Sub Total	£	24,161.75
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Less uncleared payments (Food Larder)

	£	-
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Total	£	24,161.75
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Income

				Prev Year	
<u>Through the Food Larder</u>					
Donations		£	9,550.00	£	2,050.00
Other Income		£	-	£	84.47
			£ 9,550.00	£	2,134.47
Grants	1	£	16,250.00	£	12,500.00
			£ 16,250.00		
<u>Total Food Larder Income</u>			£ 25,800.00	£	14,634.47

<u>Through Furnichurch</u>					
Donations for Furniture		£	17,710.00	£	43,956.40
Refunds	2	£	(350.00)	£	(325.00)
		£	17,360.00	£	43,631.40
Donations for Delivery		£	200.00	£	75.00
Clientelle Gifts		£	195.00	£	665.00
		£	17,755.00	£	44,371.40
Gifts		£	5,405.00	£	251.68
Other Income		£	2,550.00	£	31.85
		£	7,955.00		
Grants	3	£	31,250.00	£	8,000.00
			£ 31,250.00	£	8,000.00
<u>Total Furnichurch Income</u>			£ 56,960.00	£	52,654.93
Total Income			<u>£ 82,760.00</u>	£	<u>67,289.40</u>

Expenditure

Prev Year

Furnichurch and Food Larder Combined

Building				
Rent	£	6,360.00		£ 6,360.00
£			6,360.00	£ 6,360.00
Utilities				
Electricity	£	406.38		£ 311.66
Gas	£	394.74		£ 486.05
Water	£	224.00		£ 232.00
Phone and Internet	£	628.75		£ 890.02
Waste	£	-		£ 326.94
			£ 1,653.87	£ 2,246.67
Salaries				
Wages	£	27,886.34		£ 28,383.52
PAYE	£	2,825.15		£ 3,887.80
Pensions	£	1,038.48		£ 919.16
			£ 31,749.97	£ 33,190.48
Deliveries & Collections				
Fuel	£	1,350.10		£ 2,395.62
Tax	£	265.00		£ 260.00
Servicing	£	1,035.60		£ 1,528.30
Insurance	£	414.77		£ 417.47
Outsourcing	£	164.00		£ 362.00
Other	£	227.28		£ 12.58
			£ 3,456.75	£ 4,975.97
Serving the Community				
Food	£	31,468.43		£ 10,830.79
Kitchenware	£	-		£ -
Electricals	£	-		£ -
Bedding	£	-		£ -
Toiletries	£	398.48		£ 237.69
Energy	£	-		£ 165.00
Furniture	£	-		£ 148.94
White Goods	£	-		£ 89.00
Fitting	£	-		£ -
3rd Party	£	-		£ -
Other	£	351.87		£ 261.60
			£ 32,218.78	£ 11,733.02
Office				
Insurance	£	741.46		£ 485.28
Stationery	£	128.59		£ 241.27
Sundries	£	207.70		£ 392.39
			£ 1,077.75	£ 1,118.94
Miscellaneous	£	9,750.00		£ 677.27
			£ 9,750.00	£ 677.27
Total Expenditure			£ 86,267.12	£ 60,302.35

Grant Reports

CCC (Coastal Community Challenge)	⁷	Payments	Receipts
Apr-20 Balance Brought Forward			£ 5,000.00
Communities Services	⁸	£ (3,985.00)	
May-20 New Grant			£ 5,000.00
Communities Services Jun-20	⁸	£ (2,010.00)	
Communities Services Jul-20	⁸	£ (2,870.00)	
Communities Services		£ (1,135.00)	
		<u>£(10,000.00)</u>	<u>£10,000.00</u>
			<u>£ -</u>

GrantScape	⁹	Payments	Receipts
01-Apr-20 Balance Brought Forward			£ 4,099.38
Apr-20 Account Adjustment		£ (1.00)	
Balance of Furnichurch share			£ 312.50
May-20 Salary - April		£ (883.34)	
Salary		£ (883.34)	
Jun-20 Salary		£ (883.34)	
Jul-20 Salary		£ (883.34)	
Aug-20 Final Grant Instalment			£ 4,000.00
Furnichurch Match			£ 1,512.50
Salary		£ (883.34)	
Sep-20 Salary		£ (883.34)	
Oct-20 Salary		£ (883.34)	
Nov-20 Salary		£ (883.34)	
Dec-20 Salary		£ (883.34)	
Jan-21 Salary		£ (883.34)	
Feb-21 Salary		£ (883.34)	
Mar-21 Salary		£ (883.34)	
Balance of Salary covered by Furichurch			£ 676.70
		<u>£(10,601.08)</u>	<u>£10,601.08</u>
			<u>£ -</u>

New Vehicle			
Jun-20 Donation		£	250.00
Jul-20 Donation		£	250.00
Aug-20 Donations		£	850.00
Oct-20 Grant		£	5,000.00
Nov-20 Grants		£	3,250.00
Donations		£	625.00
Dec-20 Van Purchase		£ (9,350.00)	
Van Tax		£ (265.00)	
Feb-21 Extra Parts		£ (32.28)	
		<u>£ (9,647.28)</u>	<u>£10,225.00</u>
Balance Carried Forward			<u>£ 577.72</u>

Statement of Assets

For the year ended 31st March 2021

<u>Assets</u>	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	2020
Vehicles	10	£ 9,350.00		£ 9,350.00	£ 2,851.02
Office Equip	11	£ 168.02		£ 168.02	£ 240.29
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
		£ 9,518.02		£ 9,518.02	£ 3,091.31
Cash	Food Larder	£ 913.26	-	£ 913.26	£ 7,382.04
	Furnichurch	£ 22,670.77	£ 577.72	£ 23,248.49	£ 20,286.83
<u>Total Assets</u>		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		£ 33,102.05	£ 577.72	£ 33,679.77	£ 30,760.18

Liabilities

Total Liabilities

Net Assets

		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		£ 33,102.05	£ 577.72	£ 33,679.77	£ 30,760.18

<u>Funds</u>	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	2020
Brought Forward		£ 21,660.80	£ 9,099.38	£ 30,760.18	£ 24,803.57
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		£ 5,014.54	£ (8,521.66)	£ (3,507.12)	£ 6,987.05
Asset Adjustment		£ 6,426.71		£ 6,426.71	£ (1,030.44)
Transfer between Funds					
Funds carried Forward		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		£ 33,102.05	£ 577.72	£ 33,679.77	£ 30,760.18

Notes

1 Food Larder Grants

Coastal Community Challenge (CCC), Big Local - £5,000
Mablethorpe & Sutton Town Council - £5,000
Bishop Grossette Emergency Fund - £5,000
Alford & Mablethorpe Rotary - £1,000
Lincolnshire County Council - £250.00

2 From returns of unwanted furniture

3 Furnichurch - Other Income.

Donations towards a replacement vehicle - £1,350
Sales of old vehicle - £1,200

4 Furnichurch Grants

CCC Big Local Fund - Covid Relief - £10,200
Lincolnshir Com - Covid 19 relief Fund - £6,000
Garfield Weston -Towards the cost of a replacement van - £5,000
Grantscape - Towards the cost of our Warehouse Supervisor - £4,000
CCC Big Local Fund - Towards the cost of a replacement van - £3,000
Leathersellers Co. - £1,8000
Lincolnshire Com - Charles Cross - £1,000
Alford & Mablethorpe Rotary - Replacement van - £250.00

5 Outsourcing relates to the hire of a third party/vehicle for delivery and collections;

this year whilst our van was in for repairs.

6 Miscellany

Purchase of Replacement Vehicle - £9,350
Auditor - £400

7 CCC supports the foodlarder to help the needy within our community

8 Community Services include such items as Food Parcels, Hygiene Packs, Baby Products and energy supplies.

9 GrantScape are helping to fund a Warehouse Supervisor. Their grant to Furnichurch is dependant of Furnichurch meeting 30% of the costs which includes in house training of Manager's time. Funds are available in four six monthly instalments. This grant is now complete.

The Trustees agreed to adjust future assets by 30% to better reflect their depreciation

10 The Vehicle Assets this year has been set to £9,350 the cost of the replacement vehicle.

11 Office Equipment Assets Adjustment of £72.09 to show depreciation of 30% for the year.

FURNICHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF FURNICHURCH
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As a charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, 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 Commissioners. 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 requirement
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act, and
 - to prepare the accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act 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.

Mrs Sara M Cooper
Member of Institute of Certified Bookkeepers
SC Bookkeeping Services
Howard House
Old Trusthrope Road
Sutton on Sea
Lincs
LN12 2LL

Date: 18th August 2021