

Company Registration Number 05861223
Charity Number 1116710

The Moorland Mousie Trust
(a Company Limited by Guarantee)
Directors' and Trustees' Report and
Financial Statements
For the year end 31 March 2023

The Moorland Mousie Trust

Contents

	Page
Trust Information	1
Trustees Report	2 - 5
Accountants' Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9 – 13

The Moorland Mouse Trust

Legal and Administrative Information

The Moorland Mouse Trust is a company limited by guarantee which was incorporated on 29 June 2006. It registered with the Charity Commission as a charity on 8 November 2006.

Directors and Trustees	Juliet Rogers (Chairperson) Antony Clarke Amanda Satchell Philip Kiberd (Resigned 15/06/2023) Lee Hallam (Resigned 03/07/2023) Philippa Robb (Resigned 24/07/2023) Karen Minto (Appointed 11/07/2023) Kestra French (Appointed 27/07/2023)
Secretary	Azets
Contact	Ms Linzi Green
Company Number	05861223
Registered Charity No.	1116710
Registered Office	Lime Court Pathfields Business Park South Molton Devon EX36 3LH
Reporting Accountants	Azets Lime Court Pathfields Business Park South Molton Devon EX36 3LH
Bankers	HSBC plc Wellington Square Minehead Somerset TA24 5JH
Contact address	Ashwick Stables Dulverton Somerset TA22 9QE

The Moorland Mousie Trust

Report of the Trustees for the year end 31 March 2023

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their annual report and the financial statements for the year end 31 March 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's Trust Deed the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP FRS102.

Objects of the Charity, Principal Activities and Organisation of our Work

The Charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a memorandum and articles of association.

Objectives and Principal Activity

The principal activity of the charity in the period under review was the continued promotion, protection and conservation of the Exmoor Pony, currently classified as a British rare breed. The Charity's primary focus is to offer the surplus foals from free-living herds of Exmoor ponies a positive and secure future. The Charity's activities to reach this objective include essential training, veterinary care and to find foster homes or grazing placements for the ponies taken in. A further primary objective of the charity is to run the Exmoor Pony Centre, our base on Exmoor, to achieve the aims of raising awareness and promoting the qualities of the Exmoor pony breed. Our charitable work and promotional activities are undertaken all over the country including Scotland and Wales.

Ensuring the continued existence of the free-living herds of Exmoor ponies is vital as they are an environmental resource, as well as a valuable rare breed (classified as a priority equine on the Rare Breed Survival Trust Watchlist). The ponies are an iconic symbol of Exmoor, a designated National Park. To ensure the best representation of the limited gene pool and to continue to keep the strengths and qualities of the Exmoor pony breed continued moorland breeding is necessary. The Moorland Mousie Trust takes in young stock which cannot remain on the moor. The young males in particular must be removed from the herd to ensure responsible and best practice herd and breeding management.

Development, Activities and Achievements This Year

Primary Task: Ponies

In the period 2022-23 the charity accepted a further 14 ponies into its permanent care increasing the number of ponies whose futures are safeguarded by the charity. Of these 14 ponies, 12 were unwanted youngstock from free living herds, all of the male foals have been neutered to adhere to our welfare and breeding policies. The further two ponies were adult females who had been living a neglected life after their breeder had passed away. These ponies needed worming, handling and microchipping, they are currently living onsite at the Exmoor Pony Centre.

In addition to the above, 10 foals were assisted that came direct from moorland herds for handling and veterinary care prior to moving to their new homes or returning to their herd. This resource allows moorland breeders to sell their stock handled and in suitable condition, with the anticipation the ponies will remain in their new homes permanently.

The charity has developed a partnership initiative with the Exmoor National Park Authority to assist in their pony herd management, taking in the male youngstock, handling and neutering them, enabling them to be purchased from the National Park Authority by new owners who have an increased chance of success with their ponies due to the skills they acquired with our charity. This also supports the ethical management that the National Park Authority wishes to attain, ensuring that their ponies go to responsible and suitable homes.

Throughout the year, our charity has continued to offer support to herds and private domestic owners alike on management and welfare issues, as well as practical support for herds year-round and especially during the Autumn gatherings.

Our handling and advice services are being utilised by new owners and this is demonstrating a higher level of retention of ponies in new homes.

Exmoor Pony Centre

For the peak summer season in 2022 we were able to resume activities similar to those offered prior to restricted operations due to covid-19. Over 500 people experienced riding an Exmoor pony, many for the first time and rough figures estimate over 4500 people visited us during the reporting period. The Exmoor Pony Centre welcomed a wide variety of groups including schools and special interest groups. The charity is encouraged by an increase in visitor numbers based on the previous year, however income including donations were affected, indications suggest by the cost of living crisis. As in all years the contribution our volunteers make to ensure our smooth running is invaluable and it is our desire to continue to support our volunteers and create an accessible environment for further volunteering opportunities. The resident ponies who act as superb ambassadors for the Exmoor pony breed continue to receive the highest levels of care.

Well-being Activities

The Exmoor Pony Centre facilitated the delivery of three 6-week courses throughout the year, these courses were delivered by an Equine Facilitated Human Development Coach who operates out of the Exmoor Pony Centre for groups and individual sessions. Our 6-week courses are promoted and affiliated to Devon Learning and Recovering Community, a NHS funded organisation. Feedback from these sessions has been extremely positive and the trustees and staff are keen to continue developing this aspect of our work further.

Outreach and Promotion

The Exmoor Pony Festival was held in August 2022 and recorded positive numbers of public engaged with the development of a wider range of activities and events in 2022 based on the previous year. The delivery of the Exmoor Pony Festival fosters an encouraging and positive environment for all Exmoor Pony enthusiasts to work together. In addition to the festival, The Moorland Mousie Trust attended a variety of local shows and fetes to promote the pony breed and our work. In particular the charity was chosen by a group named ExieFest, who undertake online activities for Exmoor pony owners and riders, as their charity of the year, this partnership culminated in a largescale promotional opportunity at Somerset County Show 2022.

The charity continues to offer EMS placements to veterinary students as well as welcoming students and individuals for work experience from a wide variety of backgrounds, ages and abilities.

Environmental Grazing

Conservation grazing and rewilding continues to be a suitable and successful outlet for many Exmoor ponies to find new homes. The continued development of environmental grazing is allowing for a large portion of the Exmoor pony population to live natural and comfortable lives. The charity devotes a significant amount of time and resources to supporting the welfare and best management of grazing ponies, both owned and sourced from the charity and those from elsewhere. In 2022, a group of over 30 ponies who had been taken to a grazing site without suitable consideration were supported by our staff and over the course of a few days the pony group and been divided with entire youngstock removed and new management practices created to ensure a better future for all of the ponies, combined with training and assistance for the onsite staff.

In the reporting period the charity established a grazing partnership with the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation charity (ARC) to deliver seasonal grazing at Sellafield, the benefits and positive impacts already being realised within 12 months. The charity has also continued to support nationwide organisations such as the National Trust, regional Wildlife Trusts including Avon, Dorset, Durham, Northumberland to name a few.

The charity currently has over 300 ponies in its ownership currently undertaking grazing for nature, this environmental grazing comes in various forms and each site, location and pony is assessed for suitability, with welfare of the ponies always our priority.

Fundraising

The Trustees recruited a trusts and grants fundraiser during this reporting period which has seen positive financial impacts to support the various aspects of our work. Sourcing and raising funds to support our

continued day to day work and care of the ponies continues to be a priority. The operations at the Exmoor Pony Centre have been greatly aided by the funding for the purchase of an ATV, utility vehicle. This has increased efficiency and improved staff welfare and safety.

Looking ahead the Trustees are keen to ensure the fundraising strategy contains a balanced mix of grants and trusts, community and individual giving, and legacy giving. The board's ambition to retain a suitable level of reserves and restricted funds to secure funding for maintenance and expansion projects, remains a priority as in previous years.

Developments

The Trustees initiated the renovation of the charity's website and in this reporting period, saw this come to fruition. The online and onsite shop remain a priority as an income source. Our membership within the National Equine Welfare Council, Equestrian Employers Association and partnership working with the Exmoor Pony Society, Exmoor National Park Authority and countrywide environmental organisations allows our charity to be at the forefront of our industry. The Trustee board would like to see further progress in partnership opportunities.

Future Developments

The Trustees ambitions for the coming year include the development of wellbeing activities, an education and training program to support environmental grazing and strengthening our staffing and voluntary resource.

The Trustees look to focus and develop the administrative aspects of the charity's work to better support the hoped increase in awareness, public engagement, donor support and funds raised.

It is the Trustees' priority to ensure that all of the ponies in the Charity's custody are cared for to the highest welfare standards; to safeguard these ponies' futures and continue to highlight appropriate and sensitive equine handling methods. It is envisaged further ponies will be found new homes and training can continue with ponies which have been retained by the Exmoor Pony Centre for futures within the visitor and riding pony team.

The Trustees intend to continue the work of the Charity, providing shelter and protection for unwanted Exmoor ponies, including those from domestic homes or those faced with uncertain futures in any area of the country. The Trustees and charity will continue to deliver activities to members of the public to raise awareness and funds to further the work of the charity.

Transactions and financial position

The statement of Financial Activities shows a net movement outflow of funds for the year of £1,456 (2022: inflow of £144,444) and the overall surplus on reserves at 31 March 2023 is £384,732 (2022: £386,188). The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Reserves and investment policy

The trustees continue to develop plans for the future in order to build up reserves and assets to secure the Trust in the long term. The trustees have the power to invest surplus funds as benefits the Charity.

Directors and Trustees

All directors of the company are also trustees of the charity, and there are no other trustees. All of the trustees named on page 1 served in the year. The Board has the power to appoint additional trustees as it considers fit to do so, which comes from nominations received.

They are trained by induction from the existing trustees, and are informed of their responsibilities, and by the experience they bring to the Charity.

The Moorland Mouse Trust

Report of the Trustees for the year end 31 March 2023 (cont'd)

Risk Management

The trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and combined with an annual review of the controls over the financial systems, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the charity and confirm they have taken steps to mitigate the significant risks.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees are required by company law to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the charity and of its financial position at the end of that year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- (a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- (b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (c) state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- (d) prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

Approval

This report was approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on 29/11/23 and signed on its behalf.

..... 

The Moorland Mousie Trust

**Independent Examiner's Report on the Unaudited Financial Statements to the Directors/ Trustees of
The Moorland Mousie Trust**

We report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023 set out on pages 7 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

Our 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 section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.



Mr J Hare
Azets
Lime Court
Pathfields Business Park
South Molton
North Devon
EX36 3LH

Date: 29/11/23

The Moorland Mousie Trust
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year end 31 March 2023
(including income and expenditure account)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Grant Income		48,870	-	48,870	22,920
Legacies		56,268	-	56,268	219,391
Donations and subscriptions		16,057	-	16,057	20,233
<i>Activities for generating funds:</i>					
Sales Income – Christmas cards		-	-	-	-
Sales Income – Other		59,276	-	59,276	55,684
Interest Received		1,360	-	1,360	31
Investment Income		-	-	-	-
Total incoming resources		181,831	-	181,831	318,259
Resources expended	4				
Costs of generating voluntary income					-
Fundraising: Costs of goods sold		2,017	-	2,017	2,236
Charitable activities		170,441	435	170,876	154,454
Governance costs		10,394	-	10,394	17,125
Total resources expended		182,852	435	183,287	173,815
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year		(1,021)	(435)	(1,456)	144,444
Net movement in funds		(1,021)	(435)	(1,456)	144,444
Reconciliation of funds					
Funds brought forward		390,374	(4,186)	386,188	241,744
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Total surplus on funds carried forward		389,353	(4,621)	384,732	386,188

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derived from continuing activities.

The Moorland Mousie Trust
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	5		21,957		12,619
Current Assets					
Stock		17,313		17,268	
Debtors	6	4,083		3,822	
Cash at bank and in hand		342,836		353,867	
		<u>364,232</u>		<u>374,957</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(1,457)</u>		<u>(1,388)</u>	
Net Current Assets			362,775		373,569
Surplus of Assets	8		<u>384,732</u>		<u>386,188</u>
 Unrestricted Funds	9		389,353		390,374
Restricted Funds	9		<u>(4,621)</u>		<u>(4,186)</u>
			<u>384,732</u>		<u>386,188</u>

The directors confirm that for the year the company was entitled to the exemption conferred by Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006. No notice has been deposited at the registered office of the company pursuant to Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006, requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31 March 2023. The directors also acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 March 2023 and of its profit or loss for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of Section 393 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to the accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 29/11/23 and signed on its behalf by


.....

The Moorland Mousie Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year end 31 March 2023

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below and have been consistently applied within the same accounts.

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounting Statement of Recommended Practice SORP FRS102 and the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objections of the Charity.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on the expenditure imposed by the donor.

1.3 Incoming resources

Donations are included in incoming resources when the charity is entitled to the income. Grants and investments income are included when receivable. Income from chargeable trading activities is accounted for when earned.

1.4 Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Financial Statements on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly and others are apportioned on an appropriate basis. See note 4.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

The assets are shown in the balance sheet at purchase cost and depreciated over their estimated useful life. Depreciation is provided at the following rates calculated on a reducing balance basis.

Leasehold Improvements	10 years straight line
Plant and Equipment	6 years straight line

1.6 Stocks

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

1.7 Group accounts

The company is entitled under section 398 of the Companies Act 2006 from the obligation to prepare group accounts.

2. Notes to the Statement of Financial Activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Charged in Governance Costs		
Reporting Accountant	1,721	1,613

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

3. Taxation on profit on ordinary activities

There is no liability to corporation tax in the period.

The Moorland Mousie Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year end 31 March 2023

4. Total Resources Expended

	Cost of generated income £	Charitable activities £	Governance Costs £	Restricted Fund costs £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Opening stock		8,718			8,718	4,780
Opening ponies		8,550			8,550	7,550
Ponies		-			-	-
Pony hire		475			475	893
Feeds & grazing		6,661			6,661	5,203
Contracting		1,703			1,703	2,340
Vet		4,712			4,712	8,424
Wages		65,076			65,076	64,949
Freelancers		14,359			14,359	5,191
Advertising and promotions	2,017				2,017	1,408
Events costs and catering		-			-	466
Staff expenses		306			306	258
Rent and rates		24,173			24,173	20,184
Professional consultants		1,819			1,819	2,759
Telephone, post & stationery		2,868			2,868	3,022
Online subscriptions/platforms		2,002			2,002	1,144
IT & computer costs		3,438			3,438	919
Farrier and tack		5,223			5,223	4,851
Bank charges		1,346			1,346	1,150
Health and safety		381			381	449
Merchandise		12,287			12,287	13,368
Insurance		4,172			4,172	3,982
Website		-			-	828
Heat & light & water		7,008			7,008	1,643
Staff training		396			396	-
Travel & motor costs		7,281			7,281	9,635
Accountancy			1,721		1,721	1,613
Building repairs		2,170			2,170	2,628
Miscellaneous		1,707		435	2,142	5,244
Centre supplies/refreshments		923			923	690
Depreciation			8,673		8,673	15,512
Closing stock of ponies		(8,550)			(8,550)	(8,550)
Closing stock of cards and books		(8,763)			(8,763)	(8,718)
	2,017	170,441	10,394	435	183,287	173,815

The Moorland Mousie Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year end 31 March 2023

5. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Land and Buildings	General & Office Equipment	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
Brought forward at 1 April 2022	128,531	65,112	193,643	192,143
Additions	-	18,011	18,011	1,500
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2023	128,531	83,123	211,654	193,643
Depreciation				
Brought forward at 1 April 2022	128,521	52,503	181,024	165,512
Charge for the period	10	8,663	8,673	15,512
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2023	128,531	61,166	189,697	181,024
Net book values				
At 31 March 2023	-	<u>21,957</u>	<u>21,957</u>	<u>12,619</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>10</u>	<u>12,609</u>	<u>12,619</u>	<u>26,632</u>

6. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Debtors	650	650
Prepayments	<u>3,433</u>	<u>3,172</u>
	<u>4,083</u>	<u>3,822</u>

The Moorland Mousie Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year end 31 March 2023

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade Creditors	-	-
Accruals	1,457	1,388
	<u>1,457</u>	<u>1,388</u>

8. Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	21,957	-	21,957
Current assets	368,853	(4,621)	364,232
Current liabilities	(1,457)	-	(1,457)
Net Surplus at 31 March 2023	<u>389,353</u>	<u>(4,621)</u>	<u>384,732</u>

9. Statement of Funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Restricted funds	(4,186)	-	(435)	-	(4,621)
Surplus on General	390,374	181,831	(182,852)	-	389,353
	<u>386,188</u>	<u>181,831</u>	<u>(183,287)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>384,732</u>

10. Related Party Transactions

The company is the holding company of The Exmoor Pony Centre Limited.

11. Limited by Guarantee

The Moorland Mousie Trust is a company limited by guarantee. Every member of the trust undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Trust in the event of the same being wound up, while he is a member or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Trust contracted before he ceases to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

The Moorland Mouse Trust

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year end 31 March 2023**

12. Control

During the year, the Charity was under the control of its Trustees (who are directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) as listed on page 1.

13. Staff numbers

The average number of persons employed, including part time equivalents, calculated on a full-time basis was as follows:

	2023	2022
Charitable activities	<u>3.5</u>	<u>3.5</u>
Staff costs	£	£
Wages and salaries	65,076	64,949
Social security costs	-	-
	<hr/> 65,076	<hr/> 64,949

No remuneration was paid to trustees in the year, nor were there any expenses reimbursed to them or benefits in kind.