

SHEPHERDS DENE

England & Wales · Charity number 1138224

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07292924
Registered	2010-09-30
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address Shepherds Dene
Slaley Road
Riding Mill
Northumberland
NE44 6AF

Phone 01434682212

Email Info@shepherdsdene.org

Website www.shepherdsdene.org

Activities

Objects: TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION BY THE PROVISION OF A HOUSE OF RETREAT PRIMARILY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY FOR MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND WHO ARE RESIDENT IN THE DIOCESE OF DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE, WHICH MAY BE USED FOR ANY OTHER CHARITABLE PUROSE WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE DIRECTORS WILL MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THE RELGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL LIFE OF ITS USERS.

Activities: To advance the Christian religion by the provision of a house of retreat, primarily but not exclusively for members of the Church of England who are resident in the Dioceses of Newcastle and Durham, which may also be used for any other charitable purpose which in the opinion of the trustee will maintain and strengthen the religious and educational life of its users.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** DIOCESE OF DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE
- Durham
- Gateshead
- Newcastle Upon Tyne City
- North Tyneside
- Northumberland
- South Tyneside
- Sunderland

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£603,348	£443,369	£2,780,395	16
2023-12-31	£338,924	£346,630	-	-
2022-12-31	£302,810	£323,278	-	-
2021-12-31	£256,207	£233,164	-	-
2020-12-31	£189,696	£239,519	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alistair Jenkins		2016-12-01
Elisabeth Flora Rowark		2017-06-14
Ingrid Hall Horne		2025-09-20
Rev Barbara Anne Hilton		2023-09-13
Venerable Rachel Astrid Wood		2023-12-20
Venerable Richard Lee Simpson		2021-09-20

Linked charities

- STIRLING NEWALL TRUST (1138224-1)

SHEPHERDS DENE

England & Wales - Charity number 1138224

Accounts

Charity registration number 1138224-1 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 07292924

SHEPHERDS DENE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

SHEPHERDS DENE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	E Rowark Reverend RJ McManners A Jenkins Venerable Rick Simpson Reverend Barbara Hilton Venerable Rachel Wood
Charity number	1138224-1
Company number	07292924
Registered office	Shepherds Dene Retreat Home Riding Mill Northumberland NE44 6AF
Independent examiner	Robson Laidler Accountants Limited Fernwood House Fernwood Road Jesmond Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear England NE2 1TJ
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT
Solicitors	Muckle LLP Time Central 32 Gallowgate Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BF

SHEPHERDS DENE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Independent examiner's report	5
Statement of financial activities	6 - 7
Balance sheet	8
Statement of cash flows	9
Notes to the financial statements	10 - 19

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the charity are to advance the Christian religion by the provision of a house of retreat, primarily but not exclusively for members of the Church of England who are resident in the Dioceses of Newcastle and Durham and beyond, which may also be used for any other charitable purpose which, in the opinion of the trustees, will maintain and strengthen the religious and educational life of its users.

Shepherds Dene Retreat House is a grade two listed building set in 27 acres of land comprising formal garden, woodlands, and fields. It is open throughout the year to any who wishes to come for a time of spiritual refreshment, relaxation, wellbeing and education. Members of the public are welcome to walk in the grounds and many local residents chose to do so.

As a Church of England Retreat House, Shepherds Dene welcomes guests of all faiths and none, from the UK and abroad.

The house has a chapel, a prayer house and other quiet places. There is a programme of events mainly, although not exclusively, centred on the Christian faith. There are events involving music, crafts, guided visits to sites of historical and spiritual significance and walks in the beautiful surrounding countryside. Our focus is on spiritual, physical, mental wellbeing and, cultural and educational engagement.

Shepherds Dene is being used increasingly for writing retreats, both by groups of fictional authors and by PhD students. We are seeking to broaden our offer to reach a wider audience while keeping to the spirit of objectives and activities.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

2024 saw the house enter the year under the leadership of our newly appointed director Allison Hilton. Allison had been appointed in September 2023 and had been able to take up her post in early December 2023.

At the March meeting of Trustees, the board said farewell to Philip Davies and Derek Nicholson. Both had given distinguished service to Shepherds Dene. Derek was our longest serving trustee and Philip had served as interim warden after the resignation of Jane Easterby, and during the Covid crisis with its two periods of lockdown. Rather than replace these trustees immediately the board decided to conduct an audit of skills to identify gaps in the present team. Trustee Alistair Jenkins kindly undertook this exercise. (It is now complete and we are in the process of recruiting new trustees)

Dates and times of the 4 main board meetings throughout the year were re-ordered to enable both archdeacons (The Ven Rick Simpson from Durham diocese and the Ven Rachel Wood from Newcastle) to attend all four meetings. Our deliberations have benefitted from their presence.

We continued to benefit from the Coach House refurbishment and our ongoing relationship with Sykes for its letting. January and February, often quiet months, saw sustained occupation. (This is a flexible arrangement that enables us to retain periods where the Coach House may be needed to house overflow guests from the main house.)

Allison has engaged energetically with the restoration and renewing on a number of health and safety policies and in the development of a number of initiatives. These have included afternoon teas, Sunday and Christmas lunches, our first art fayre and a rolling programme of refurbishment for the second floor bedrooms.

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The director and her team have also engaged with a number of crisis concerning flooding and drainage and the workings of the septic tank. There have also been instances of water ingress and partial alarm failings which have been addressed. The kitchens have also been inspected and the recommendations implemented.

The early part of the year saw us still suffering a hangover from the effects of the Covid pandemic. January and February were particularly difficult with low levels of occupancy. During the course of the year, however we have seen these figures steadily improve. We also suffered basement flooding after one of the storms and interference with our water supply. With the help of our insurers NFU we have addressed and resolved these issues. We also saw very large rises in fuel prices. We were in receipt of grants from Durham and Newcastle dioceses, which greatly helped to address these challenges.

Last year we were informed that we were beneficiaries of the estate of the late Dorothy Smith. Dorothy was a lovely lady living near Haltwhistle. She attended many of our programme events and engaged in a number of personal retreats. She had come to regard Shepherds Dene as her second home. We were to receive Dorothy's residual estate, after a bequest of her chattels to another beneficiary, and Dorothy's house: 3 Garden View, Park Village, Haltwhistle NE49 OJB.

There was considerable communication between Cartmell Shepherd solicitors of Haltwhistle, acting as executors of Dorothy's estate and Shepherds Dene. This was handled initially by Philip Davies on behalf of the trustees, then later by the director.

We received an initial tranche of £100,000 mainly composed of the realisation of Dorothy's various investments. The board also decided after two on-site inspections and much deliberation to sell 3 Garden View (rather than refurbish it for later use/sale.) We paid Cartmell Shepherd a further fee to register the land. We obtained valuations from 2 regional estate agents. Both recommended immediate sale at a valuation of £100,000. The house was placed on the market with Rook Sayers Mathews and achieved its asking price of £100,000. This also triggered the winding up of the estate from which we received a final tranche of around £25,000. It also served to accelerate the registration of the land. We employed Taylor Rose solicitors to sell the property for us. We also obtained a third valuation to demonstrate to the Charity commissioners that we had sought the best price for the trust. This again valued the property at £100,000.

By the end of 2024 this sale was almost complete. (and has now been finalised.) This concludes all matters pertaining to Dorothy's estate.

The trustees have opened an account with CCLA and have begun to deposit monies from Dorothy's estate.

The trustees also decided to restore the beautiful historic main staircase in Shepherds Dene and to re-carpet the whole of the stairs, landings, hallway, lounge and main corridor. To this end we revived a relationship we had developed with Silkwood Flooring of Durham. They had recommended designs and given estimates for this work just prior to the Covid lock down. This project was a major casualty of the lock down as it, as with all capital projects, had to be suspended. The revived project saw a bespoke carpet, with a pattern for which all the staff had voted, being woven for us in Poland. We paid half the cost of this upfront. The balance to be paid on completion. The carpet was woven in November and stored in Silkwood Floorings warehouse in December ready for installation during the quiet period at the start of January 2025. This project was funded from donations specifically given for the carpet and kept in a restricted fund. (approx £3580). The balance was funded by money from Dorothy's estate.

The trustees also engaged Langley Furnishings to complete the restoration of the staircase. The main restoration was scheduled to immediately precede the carpet installation. There will be a final phase to restore warped and cracked panelling alongside the stairs. They will also replace some 'barley sugar' spindles which have been lost, and tighten other spindles and strengthen the banister. (The new 'barley sugar' spindles are on order from a specialist firm.)

The trustees have also commissioned a quinquennial report on our buildings from Maya Polenz. She has made three major inspections of our buildings and the report is almost complete.

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

At their September meeting the Trustees decided to undertake a programme of restoration of the Stable Block. This handsome stone built structure comprises two loose boxes and a hay loft. It sits within a walled courtyard adjacent to the Coach House. The plan is to repurpose this into another cottage suitable for lettings and overflow use. Trustee Alistair Jenkins is to manage this project and we are to work with Howarth Litchfield, surveyors with a specialism in historic buildings. As a first step HL have commissioned a survey of the property.

Financial review

Incoming resources

Total incoming resources for the year amounted to £603,348 (2023: £338,924). This included income from lettings of £354,804 (2023: £280,476) and income from grants, donations and legacies amounted to £220,175 (2023: £32,609)

Expenditure during the year

Outgoings were £443,453 (2023: £346,630) within which, staffing costs were £236,595 (2023: £186,389). Net income of £159,979 was made (2023: -£7,706).

Reserves policy

It is the trustees' policy to maintain free reserves at a minimum of three months' operating expenditure. At 31 December 2024, the free reserves (those not tied up in restricted funds or fixed assets) were below the desired level however given the impact of Covid and the current cost of living pressures, this is not an unexpected position.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the companies Act 2006.

Charity Constitution

The charity is governed by the Charity Commission Scheme dated 17 May 2011 and is registered with the Charity Commission under number 1138224-1.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Davies (Resigned 13 June 2024)

E Rowark

Reverend RJ McManners

D Nicholson (Resigned 13 June 2024)

A Jenkins

Venerable Rick Simpson

Reverend Barbara Hilton

Venerable Rachel Wood

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Induction and training of new trustees

Under the Charity Commission scheme the Newcastle Diocesan Society is the custodian trustee of the charity. Shepherds Dene is the sole corporate trustee of the charity and the constitution of the corporate trustee specifies that its directors and trustees shall include

1. The Bishop of Durham (or his/her nominee);
2. The Bishop of Newcastle (or his/her nominee);
3. The Archdeacon of Northumberland or such other archdeacon from his/her diocese as he /she may choose to nominate from time to time;
4. The Archdeacon of Durham or such other archdeacon from his diocese as he may choose to nominate from time to time;
5. Two nominees of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance;
6. Two nominees of the Durham Diocesan Board of Finance.

In addition, those trustees may appoint up to 2 other trustees.

Key management remuneration

The Trustees/Directors of Shepherds Dene receive no salaries, expenses or other emoluments, for the work that they undertake on behalf of the Retreat House. The role of Director is a salaried post of full time employment, with responsibility for the strategic development, financial performance and promotion of Shepherds Dene and its programmes. The Director has responsibility for the management, welfare and development of staff and volunteers of Shepherds Dene, the care and wellbeing of guests, the maintenance of the fabric of the house and gardens and the management of the financial resources. No accommodation is provided for the Director unlike most other retreat houses.

Investment powers

The charity's governing document permits wide powers of investment. The trustees generally follow the ethical investment policy of the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England.

Related charities

The charity is part of the work of Newcastle and Durham Diocese and is related to other charities established for the furtherance of that work.

Risk Management

The trustees are continuing to review risks. They are conscious of the need to maintain strong links with both Dioceses, in the light of further reductions in diocesan grant support, and to continue to review staffing.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Reverend RJ McManners

Trustee

Date: 3/7/25

SHEPHERDS DENE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHEPHERDS DENE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Shepherds Dene (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



Nicholas Cunningham FCCA
Robson Laidler Accountants Limited
Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE2 1TJ
England

Dated: 8-7-2025.....

SHEPHERDS DENE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Current financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	2	220,175	-	220,175	32,609
Charitable activities	3	354,804	-	354,804	280,476
Other trading activities	4	28,369	-	28,369	14,179
Other income		-	-	-	11,660
Total income		603,348	-	603,348	338,924
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Raising funds	5	3,916	-	3,916	1,503
Charitable activities	6	438,048	1,405	439,453	345,127
Total resources expended		441,964	1,405	443,369	346,630
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		161,384	(1,405)	159,979	(7,706)
Gross transfers between funds		(14)	14	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		161,370	(1,391)	159,979	(7,706)
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		2,615,445	4,971	2,620,416	2,628,122
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		2,776,815	3,580	2,780,395	2,620,416

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

SHEPHERDS DENE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Prior financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>				
Donations and legacies	2	32,609	-	32,609
Charitable activities	3	280,476	-	280,476
Other trading activities	4	14,179	-	14,179
Other income		11,660	-	11,660
Total income		338,924	-	338,924
<u>Expenditure on:</u>				
Raising funds	5	1,503	-	1,503
Charitable activities	6	345,127	-	345,127
Total resources expended		346,630	-	346,630
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		(7,706)	-	(7,706)
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		(7,706)	-	(7,706)
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		2,623,151	4,971	2,628,122
Fund balances at 31 December 2023		2,615,445	4,971	2,620,416

SHEPHERDS DENE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		2,621,191		2,626,473
Current assets					
Stocks	13	4,030		3,239	
Debtors	14	120,808		8,240	
Cash at bank and in hand		102,604		53,366	
			227,442		64,845
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(43,238)		(45,902)	
Net current assets			184,204		18,943
Total assets less current liabilities			2,805,395		2,645,416
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16		(25,000)		(25,000)
Net assets			2,780,395		2,620,416
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	18		3,580		4,971
Unrestricted funds	19		2,776,815		2,615,445
			2,780,395		2,620,416


The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 3/3/25.



Reverend RJ McManners
Trustee

Company registration number 07292924 (England and Wales)

SHEPHERDS DENE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	22		54,223		17,670
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(4,985)		(15,919)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(4,985)		(15,919)
Financing activities					
Repayment of borrowings		-		10,000	
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		10,000
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			49,238		11,751
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			53,366		41,615
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			102,604		53,366

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Shepherds Dene is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Shepherds Dene Retreat Home, Riding Mill, Northumberland, NE44 6AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	Not depreciated
Kitchen & catering equipment	Straight line over 15 years
Fixtures and fittings	Straight Line over 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts	2,925	3,109
Legacies	212,250	-
Grants	5,000	29,500
	<u>220,175</u>	<u>32,609</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		(Continued)	
		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
2	Income from donations and legacies		
	Grants		
	Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance	5,000	15,000
	Church Institute Trust	-	4,500
	Durham Diocesan Board of Finance	-	10,000
		<u>5,000</u>	<u>29,500</u>
3	Income from charitable activities		
		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
	Operation of retreat house	354,804	280,476
		<u>354,804</u>	<u>280,476</u>
4	Income from other trading activities		
		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
	Membership subscriptions and sponsorships	430	360
	Fundraising events	7,778	4,610
	Shop income	3,786	1,569
	Letting and licensing arrangements	16,375	7,640
		<u>28,369</u>	<u>14,179</u>
	Other trading activities	28,369	14,179

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Trading costs		
Operating charity shops	965	1,233
Other trading activities	2,951	270
	<u>3,916</u>	<u>1,503</u>

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Operation of retreat house 2024 £	Operation of retreat house 2023 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	236,595	186,389
Depreciation and impairment	10,267	16,047
Gas and Electric	50,839	36,767
Sundry Expenses	2,210	1,501
Repairs and Maintenance	44,362	34,167
Food Purchase	38,296	30,737
Admin and Publicity	25,045	24,308
Water and Sewerage	13,778	-
Cleaning and Laundry	9,229	7,339
	<u>430,621</u>	<u>337,255</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)		
Support	8,088	7,872
Governance	744	-
	<u>439,453</u>	<u>345,127</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	438,048	345,127
Restricted funds	1,405	-
	<u>439,453</u>	<u>345,127</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

7 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Accountancy and bookkeeping	8,088	7,872
Governance costs	744	-
	<u>8,832</u>	<u>7,872</u>
Analysed between:		
Operation of retreat house	<u>8,832</u>	<u>7,872</u>

Support costs includes payments to the independent examiners of £3,305 (2023: £3,150) for the independent examination.

8 Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	3,966	3,780
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	10,267	16,047
	<u>14,233</u>	<u>19,827</u>

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
House staff	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>
Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	220,367	176,842
Social security costs	10,233	5,142
Other pension costs	5,995	4,405
	<u>236,595</u>	<u>186,389</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 Employees

(Continued)

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Aggregate compensation	46,087	25,857

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Kitchen & catering equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	2,612,880	58,183	119,950	2,791,013
Additions	-	4,285	700	4,985
At 31 December 2024	2,612,880	62,468	120,650	2,795,998
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2024	32,758	28,671	103,111	164,540
Depreciation charged in the year	1,821	3,321	5,125	10,267
At 31 December 2024	34,579	31,992	108,236	174,807
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2024	2,578,301	30,476	12,414	2,621,191
At 31 December 2023	2,580,122	29,512	16,839	2,626,473

Freehold Property

Included in freehold property is freehold land of £830,806 (2023: £830,806), which has not been depreciated.

The freehold property represents freehold land and buildings. The property was donated to the charitable company on 17 May 2011 at fair market value and is shown at cost, plus any subsequent additions.

The property is Grade II listed and as a result is maintained in a good state of repair. Depreciation is charged on an annual basis to write the value of the property down to its estimated residual value in 100 years.

13 Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Raw materials and consumables	4,030	3,239

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

14 Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	21,918	6,755
Other debtors	590	590
Prepayments and accrued income	98,300	895
	<u>120,808</u>	<u>8,240</u>
15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	6,517	4,759
Trade creditors	8,374	6,747
Other creditors	24,381	30,496
Accruals and deferred income	3,966	3,900
	<u>43,238</u>	<u>45,902</u>
16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Borrowings	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
17 Retirement benefit schemes	2024	2023
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>5,995</u>	<u>4,405</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

18 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 January 2024	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
Woodland Fund	335	(340)	5	-
The Muckle Fund	1,056	(1,065)	9	-
Carpet Fund	3,580	-	-	3,580
	<u>4,971</u>	<u>(1,405)</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>3,580</u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
Woodland Fund	335	-	-	335
The Muckle Fund	1,056	-	-	1,056
Carpet Fund	3,580	-	-	3,580
	<u>4,971</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,971</u>

Woodland fund

This fund represents income received from the Forestry Commission and donations received through the 'Sponsor a tree' appeal which is to be used for the improvement of the woodland, including clearing and replanting trees.

The Muckle fund

This was a donation received for the purpose of building steps in the woodland.

Carpet fund

The carpet fund relates to donations received to renew the carpets.

19 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	2,615,445	603,348	(441,964)	(14)	2,776,815
	<u>2,615,445</u>	<u>603,348</u>	<u>(441,964)</u>	<u>(14)</u>	<u>2,776,815</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

19 Unrestricted funds (Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	2,623,151	338,924	(346,630)	-	2,615,445

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 December 2024:			
Tangible assets	2,621,191	-	2,621,191
Current assets/(liabilities)	180,624	3,580	184,204
Long term liabilities	(25,000)	-	(25,000)
	<u>2,776,815</u>	<u>3,580</u>	<u>2,780,395</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 December 2023:			
Tangible assets	2,626,473	-	2,626,473
Current assets/(liabilities)	13,972	4,971	18,943
Long term liabilities	(25,000)	-	(25,000)
	<u>2,615,445</u>	<u>4,971</u>	<u>2,620,416</u>

21 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

22	Cash generated from operations		2024	2023
			£	£
	Surplus/(deficit) for the year		159,979	(7,706)
	Adjustments for:			
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets		10,267	16,047
	Movements in working capital:			
	(Increase)/decrease in stocks		(791)	158
	(Increase) in debtors		(112,568)	(3,122)
	(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(2,664)	12,293
	Cash generated from operations		<u>54,223</u>	<u>17,670</u>
23	Analysis of changes in net funds			
		At 1 January	Cash flows	At 31 December
		2024		2024
		£	£	£
	Cash at bank and in hand	53,366	49,238	102,604
	Loans falling due after more than one year	(25,000)	-	(25,000)
		<u>28,366</u>	<u>49,238</u>	<u>77,604</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE

England & Wales - Charity number 1138224

Accounts

Charity registration number 1138224-1

Company registration number 07292924 (England and Wales)

SHEPHERDS DENE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

SHEPHERDS DENE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	P Davies E Rowark Reverend RJ McManners D Nicholson A Jenkins Venerable Rick Simpson Reverend Barbara Hilton Reverend Rachel Wood	(Appointed 14 July 2023)
Charity number	1138224-1	
Company number	07292924	
Registered office	Sheperds Dene Retreat Home Riding Mill Northumberland NE44 6AF	
Independent examiner	Robson Laidler Accountants Limited Fernwood House Fernwood Road Jesmond Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear England NE2 1TJ	
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	
Solicitors	Muckle LLP Time Central 32 Gallowgate Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BF	

SHEPHERDS DENE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Independent examiner's report	5
Statement of financial activities	6 - 7
Balance sheet	8
Notes to the financial statements	9 - 17

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the charity are to advance the Christian religion by the provision of a house of retreat, primarily but not exclusively for members of the Church of England who are resident in the Dioceses of Newcastle and Durham and beyond, which may also be used for any other charitable purpose which, in the opinion of the trustees, will maintain and strengthen the religious and educational life of its users.

Shepherds Dene Retreat House is a grade two listed building set in 27 acres of land comprising formal garden, woodlands, and fields. It is open throughout the year to any who wishes to come for a time of spiritual refreshment, relaxation, wellbeing and education. Members of the public are welcome to walk in the grounds and many local residents chose to do so.

As a Church of England Retreat House, Shepherds Dene welcomes guests of all faiths and none, from the UK and abroad.

The house has a chapel, a prayer house and other quiet places. There is a programme of events mainly, although not exclusively, centred on the Christian faith. There are events involving music, crafts, guided visits to sites of historical and spiritual significance and walks in the beautiful surrounding countryside. Our focus is on spiritual, physical, mental wellbeing and, cultural and educational engagement.

Shepherds Dene is being used increasingly for writing retreats, both by groups of fictional authors and by PhD students. We are seeking to broaden our offer to reach a wider audience while keeping to the spirit of objectives and activities.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Shepherds Dene began 2023 with Vanessa Ward in place as our director. Vanessa had been appointed in the summer of 2023 and had resumed work after illness in the late Autumn. Unfortunately early in 2024 her illness returned and she felt unable to continue and resigned her post. After an extensive recruitment exercise Allison Hilton was appointed as our new director. After completing a period of notice, Allison was able to take up her post in November 2023. During Vanessa's periods of absence and the interim time between directors, we were greatly indebted to Philip Davies, a member of the board who went in regularly each week to lead the day to day running of the house and to support the staff. The trustees were also very grateful to the staff team who shouldered additional responsibilities.

Vanessa had also initiated a major refurbishment of the Coach House and negotiated an agreement with Sykes the letting agency. This project had been recommended in the Howarth Litchfield survey, looking at how we may more effectively use our buildings. John McManners took over the management of this project. The Coach House refurbishment was completed by the end of May, and Sykes were able to advertise and rent the property for the summer season and beyond. This enabled a much greater use of the Coach House, which now was able to command a significantly higher rental.

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The project also saw the restoration of the adjacent courtyard. The remaining building in this small self-contained complex is the Stable Block, which is currently empty and unused. We aspire to restore this building and return it to productive use if we can fund the restoration.

The early part of the year saw us still suffering a hangover from the effects of the Covid pandemic. January and February were particularly difficult with low levels of occupancy. During the course of the year however we have seen these figures steadily improve. We also suffered basement flooding after one of the storms and interference with our water supply. With the help of our insurers NFU we have addressed and resolved these issues. We also saw very large rises in fuel prices. We were in receipt of grants from Durham and Newcastle dioceses, which greatly helped to address these challenges.

During the course of the year we continued with a phased dismantling of our Safe Working Plan. This had been devised by the staff to enable us to sustain a safe environment for guests and staff after the periods of lockdown. This plan had worked very well. Staff and guests felt confident in its operation and we had no instances of Covid in the house. One legacy of this time was that we decided to retain the Garden Room as the main staff room as this had proved a much better place for lunch, breaks and staff meetings.

In June we learned that we were to be beneficiaries in the estate of the late Dorothy Smith. Dorothy was a great friend of the house, coming frequently for retreats and attending events on our program. The bequest included Dorothy's residuary estate, which included funds from her savings and investments, and the freehold of her house. Cartmell Shepherd, a firm of solicitors with a branch in Haltwhistle, were acting as executors. By the end of the year, after much liaison with Cartmell Shepherd, we were not yet in receipt of any of the benefits, but were expecting to be so early in the New Year.

The Board of Trustees has seen two archdeacons among its number: The Venerable Rick Simpson from Durham diocese and the Venerable Rachel Wood from Newcastle Diocese; they are able to play an increasing role in the ministry of the house. We also gained a new board member in the Rev'd Barbara Hilton. Robin Dyer stepped down as a trustee at the end of the year. Robin's architectural expertise had been particularly helpful during his service on the board.

Financial review

Incoming resources

Total incoming resources for the year amounted to £338,924 (2022: £302,810). This included income from lettings of £280,476 (2022: £282,107) and income from grants and donations amounted to £32,609 (2022: £12,018)

Expenditure during the year

Outgoings were £346,630 (2022: £323,278) within which, staffing costs were £186,389. A net deficit of £7,706 was made (2022: -£20,468).

Reserves policy

It is the trustees' policy to maintain free reserves at a minimum of three months' operating expenditure. At 31 December 2023, the free reserves (those not tied up in restricted funds or fixed assets) were below the desired level however given the impact of Covid and the current cost of living pressures, this is not an unexpected position.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the companies Act 2006.

Charity Constitution

The charity is governed by the Charity Commission Scheme dated 17 May 2011 and is registered with the Charity Commission under number 1138224-1.

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Davies

R Dower

(Resigned 22 December 2023)

E Rowark

Reverend RJ McManners

D Nicholson

A Jenkins

Venerable Rick Simpson

Reverend Barbara Hilton

(Appointed 14 July 2023)

Reverend Rachel Wood

Induction and training of new trustees

Under the Charity Commission scheme the Newcastle Diocesan Society is the custodian trustee of the charity. Shepherds Dene is the sole corporate trustee of the charity and the constitution of the corporate trustee specifies that its directors and trustees shall include

1. The Bishop of Durham (or his/her nominee);
2. The Bishop of Newcastle (or his/her nominee);
3. The Archdeacon of Northumberland or such other archdeacon from his/her diocese as he /she may choose to nominate from time to time;
4. The Archdeacon of Durham or such other archdeacon from his diocese as he may choose to nominate from time to time;
5. Two nominees of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance;
6. Two nominees of the Durham Diocesan Board of Finance.

In addition, those trustees may appoint up to 2 other trustees.

Key management remuneration

The Trustees/Directors of Shepherds Dene receive no salaries, expenses or other emoluments, for the work that they undertake on behalf of the Retreat House. The role of Director is a salaried post of full time employment, with responsibility for the strategic development, financial performance and promotion of Shepherds Dene and its programmes. The Director has responsibility for the management, welfare and development of staff and volunteers of Shepherds Dene, the care and wellbeing of guests, the maintenance of the fabric of the house and gardens and the management of the financial resources. No accommodation is provided for the Director unlike most other retreat houses.

Investment powers

The charity's governing document permits wide powers of investment. The trustees generally follow the ethical investment policy of the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England.

Related charities

The charity is part of the work of Newcastle and Durham Diocese and is related to other charities established for the furtherance of that work.

Risk Management

The trustees are continuing to review risks. They are conscious of the need to maintain strong links with both Dioceses, in the light of further reductions in diocesan grant support, and to continue to review staffing.

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



.....
Reverend RJ McManners
Trustee

Date: 10/7/24

SHEPHERDS DENE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHEPHERDS DENE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Shepherds Dene (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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



Nicholas Cunningham FCCA
Robson Laidler Accountants Limited
Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE2 1TJ
England

Dated: 16-7-2024

SHEPHERDS DENE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Current financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes				
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	2	32,609	-	32,609	12,018
Charitable activities	3	280,476	-	280,476	282,107
Other trading activities	4	14,179	-	14,179	8,544
Other income		11,660	-	11,660	141
Total income		338,924	-	338,924	302,810
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Raising funds	5	1,503	-	1,503	440
Charitable activities	6	345,127	-	345,127	322,838
Total resources expended		346,630	-	346,630	323,278
Net expenditure for the year/ Net movement in funds		(7,706)	-	(7,706)	(20,468)
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		2,623,151	4,971	2,628,122	2,648,590
Fund balances at 31 December 2023		2,615,445	4,971	2,620,416	2,628,122

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

SHEPHERDS DENE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Prior financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>				
Donations and legacies	2	12,018	-	12,018
Charitable activities	3	282,107	-	282,107
Other trading activities	4	8,544	-	8,544
Other income		141	-	141
Total income		302,810	-	302,810
<u>Expenditure on:</u>				
Raising funds	5	440	-	440
Charitable activities	6	322,838	-	322,838
Total resources expended		323,278	-	323,278
Net expenditure for the year/ Net movement in funds		(20,468)	-	(20,468)
Fund balances at 1 January 2022		2,643,619	4,971	2,648,590
Fund balances at 31 December 2022		2,623,151	4,971	2,628,122

SHEPHERDS DENE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		2,626,473		2,626,601
Current assets					
Stocks	12	3,239		3,397	
Debtors	13	8,240		5,118	
Cash at bank and in hand		53,366		41,615	
		<u>64,845</u>		<u>50,130</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>45,902</u>		<u>33,609</u>	
Net current assets			18,943		16,521
Total assets less current liabilities			2,645,416		2,643,122
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		<u>(25,000)</u>		<u>(15,000)</u>
Net assets			<u>2,620,416</u>		<u>2,628,122</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	16		4,971		4,971
Unrestricted funds			2,615,445		2,623,151
			<u>2,620,416</u>		<u>2,628,122</u>


The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 17/6/24


.....
Reverend RJ McManners
Trustee

Company registration number 07292924 (England and Wales)

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Shepherds Dene is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Sheperds Dene Retreat Home, Riding Mill, Northumberland, NE44 6AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	Not depreciated
Kitchen & catering equipment	Straight line over 15 years
Fixtures and fittings	Straight Line over 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Donations and gifts	3,109	3,018
Grants receivable	29,500	9,000
	<u>32,609</u>	<u>12,018</u>
Grants receivable for core activities		
Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance	15,000	5,000
Northumberland County Council	-	4,000
Church Institute Trust	4,500	-
Durham Diocesan Board of Finance	10,000	-
	<u>29,500</u>	<u>9,000</u>

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Operation of retreat house	<u>280,476</u>	<u>282,107</u>

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Art sales	360	245
Bar sales	4,610	5,829
Stall sales	1,569	1,682
Rents received	7,640	788
	<u>14,179</u>	<u>8,544</u>
Other trading activities		

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Trading costs		
Stall purchases	1,233	365
Bar purchases	270	75
	<u>1,503</u>	<u>440</u>

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Operation of retreat house 2023 £	Operation of retreat house 2022 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	186,389	192,996
Depreciation and impairment	16,047	13,060
Light and heat	36,767	23,745
Miscellaneous expenses	1,501	1,068
Repairs and maintenance	34,167	16,576
Food purchases	30,737	41,014
Administration and publicity	24,308	16,144
Water and sewerage	-	3,142
Cleaning and laundry	7,339	9,580
	<u>337,255</u>	<u>317,325</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)		
Support	7,872	5,513
	<u>345,127</u>	<u>322,838</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>345,127</u>	<u>322,838</u>

7 Support costs allocated to activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Accountancy and bookkeeping	<u>7,872</u>	<u>5,513</u>
Analysed between:		
Operation of retreat house	<u>7,872</u>	<u>5,513</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7 Support costs allocated to activities (Continued)

Support costs includes payments to the independent examiners of £3,150 (2022- £3,000) for the independent examination.

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
House staff	37	32

Employment costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	176,842	182,237
Social security costs	5,142	5,595
Other pension costs	4,405	5,164
	<u>186,389</u>	<u>192,996</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2023 £	2022 £
Aggregate compensation	24,747	37,155

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Kitchen & catering equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2023	2,612,880	58,183	104,031	2,775,094
Additions	-	-	15,919	15,919
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,612,880</u>	<u>58,183</u>	<u>119,950</u>	<u>2,791,013</u>
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2023	30,938	25,598	91,957	148,493
Depreciation charged in the year	1,820	3,073	11,154	16,047
At 31 December 2023	<u>32,758</u>	<u>28,671</u>	<u>103,111</u>	<u>164,540</u>
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,580,122</u>	<u>29,512</u>	<u>16,839</u>	<u>2,626,473</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>2,581,942</u>	<u>32,585</u>	<u>12,074</u>	<u>2,626,601</u>

Freehold Property

Included in freehold property is freehold land of £830,806 (2022: £830,806), which has not been depreciated.

The freehold property represents freehold land and buildings. The property was donated to the charitable company on 17 May 2011 at fair market value and is shown at cost, plus any subsequent additions.

The property is Grade II listed and as a result is maintained in a good state of repair. Depreciation is charged on an annual basis to write the value of the property down to its estimated residual value in 100 years.

12 Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Raw materials and consumables	<u>3,239</u>	<u>3,397</u>

13 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	6,755	3,625
Other debtors	590	141
Prepayments and accrued income	895	1,352
	<u>8,240</u>	<u>5,118</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	4,759	3,644
Trade creditors	6,747	12,195
Other creditors	30,496	13,678
Accruals and deferred income	3,900	4,092
	<u>45,902</u>	<u>33,609</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Borrowings	25,000	15,000
	<u>25,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>

16 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 January 2023	At 31 December 2023
	£	£
Woodland Fund	335	335
The Muckle Fund	1,056	1,056
Carpet Fund	3,580	3,580
	<u>4,971</u>	<u>4,971</u>

Previous year:

	At 1 January 2022	At 31 December 2022
	£	£
Woodland Fund	335	335
The Muckle Fund	1,056	1,056
Carpet Fund	3,580	3,580
	<u>4,971</u>	<u>4,971</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Woodland fund

This fund represents income received from the Forestry Commission and donations received through the 'Sponsor a tree' appeal which is to be used for the improvement of the woodland, including clearing and replanting trees.

The Muckle fund

This was a donation received for the purpose of building steps in the woodland.

Carpet fund

The carpet fund relates to donations received to renew the carpets.

17 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	2,623,151	338,924	(346,630)	2,615,445
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£
General funds	2,643,619	302,810	(323,278)	2,623,151
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2023 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	2,626,473	-	2,626,473
Current assets/(liabilities)	13,972	4,971	18,943
Long term liabilities	(25,000)	-	(25,000)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	2,615,445	4,971	2,620,416
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2022 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	2,626,601	-	2,626,601
Current assets/(liabilities)	11,550	4,971	16,521
Long term liabilities	(15,000)	-	(15,000)
	<u>2,623,151</u>	<u>4,971</u>	<u>2,628,122</u>

19 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

SHEPHERDS DENE

England & Wales - Charity number 1138224

Accounts

Charity registration number 1138224-1

Company registration number 07292924 (England and Wales)

SHEPHERDS DENE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

SHEPHERDS DENE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

P Davies
R Dower
E Rowark
Reverend J Grieve
Reverend RJ McManners
D Nicholson
Mr A Jenkins
Venerable Rick Simpson

Charlty number

1138224-1

Company number

07292924

Registered office

Sheperds Dene Retreat Home
Riding Mill
Northumberland
NE44 6AF

Independent examiner

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited
Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
England
NE2 1TJ

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Solicitors

Muckle LLP
Time Central
32 Gallowgate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BF

SHEPHERDS DENE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 3
Independent examiner's report	4
Statement of financial activities	5 - 6
Balance sheet	7
Notes to the financial statements	8 - 15

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the charity are to advance the Christian religion by the provision of a house of retreat, primarily but not exclusively for members of the Church of England who are resident in the Dioceses of Newcastle and Durham and beyond, which may also be used for any other charitable purpose which, in the opinion of the trustees, will maintain and strengthen the religious and educational life of its users.

Shepherds Dene Retreat House is a grade two listed building set in 27 acres of land comprising formal garden, woodlands, and fields. It is open throughout the year to any who wishes to come for a time of spiritual refreshment, relaxation, wellbeing and education. Members of the public are welcome to walk in the grounds and many local residents chose to do so.

As a Church of England Retreat House, Shepherds Dene welcomes guests of all faiths and none, from the UK and abroad.

The house has a chapel, a prayer house and other quiet places. There is a programme of events mainly, although not exclusively, centred on the Christian faith. There are events involving music, crafts, guided visits to sites of historical and spiritual significance and walks in the beautiful surrounding countryside. Our focus is on spiritual, physical, mental wellbeing and, cultural and educational engagement.

Shepherds Dene is being used increasingly for writing retreats, both by groups of fictional authors and by PhD students. We are seeking to broaden our offer to reach a wider audience while keeping to the spirit of objectives and activities.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Charitable Activities

The impact of Covid in 2020-21 meant that the house was still in catch up mode at the beginning of 2022. However bookings were healthy and it was noticeable that confidence had been rebuilding.

Bookings remained consistent during the year with many of regular bookers returning as well as new business.

The focus during this period was

- i. To bring the house and grounds back to a good, maintained state
- ii. Sustaining the financial and physical viability of the house
- iii. Supporting staff by retaining jobs, paying wages, regular communication and prayer

There have been four meetings of the trustees during the year and meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Staffing

The new director was appointed in October 2021 and is now over a year in post, and is working on diversifying the offer of Shepherds Dene, so that we reach a broader audience and thereby secure financial sustainability as we cannot rely solely on church or diocesan based groups to provide the volume of bookings to make Shepherds Dene financially viable.

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Capital

Our policy has been to maintain a minimum reserve of £30,000. Capital projects remain postponed. Expenditure was kept tightly controlled but some major expenditure was incurred following Strom Arwen and catch up maintenance for the house.

Increase in the cost of living

There is no doubt that the increase particularly in food and energy costs had an impact in the fourth quarter of the year on profitability.

Trustees

The Ven Rachel Ward, Archdeacon of Northumberland was appointed during 2022.

The Revd Judith Grieve retired as a trustee on 15th December 2022. Another trustee will need to be appointed.

Forthcoming Issues

The impact of Covid is still being felt having resulted in a significant depletion of reserves. With the current cost of living crisis and particularly food and fuel price increases it is recognised that the director has a major task in steering Shepherds Dene on a course of financial sustainability. Bookings remained buoyant in 2022. Bookings for 2023 while steady are being impacted by the current financial climate.

A generous grant from the Vardy Foundation enabled the trustees to commission a feasibility study which was published in Spring 2022. The trustees agreed to support the first part of the plan to refurbish the Coach House Cottage to be let through SykesCottages.com to generate a more consistent income stream from this property. Development of the Stable Block as self-catering accommodation is also being explored.

The trustees continue to look at the broader vision of the future development of Shepherds Dene.

As ever the trustees are grateful for the continued support of the two dioceses, for the loyal support of its guests and the dedication and support of its hardworking team of staff, volunteers and Friends.

Financial review

Total Income for the year was £302,810 (2021: £256,207)

Income from grants and donations amounted to £12,018 (2021: £108,182 including furlough payments and donations plus £15,000 donation from the Diocese of Newcastle towards the new fire alarm system.)

Income from lettings increased to £282,107 (2021: £145,772)

Outgoings were £323,278 (2021: £233,164) within which, staffing costs were £192,996.

A net deficit of £20,468 was made (compared to a net operating profit of £23,043 in 2021).

Reserves policy

It is the trustees' policy to maintain free reserves at a minimum of three months' operating expenditure. At 31 December 2022, the free reserves (those not tied up in restricted funds or fixed assets) were below the desired level however given the impact of Covid and the current cost of living pressures, this is not an unexpected position.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the companies Act 2006.

Charity Constitution

The charity is governed by the Charity Commission Scheme dated 17 May 2011 and is registered with the Charity Commission under number 1138224-1.

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Davies
R Dower
E Rowark
Reverend J Grieve
Reverend RJ McManners
D Nicholson
Mr A Jenkins
Venerable Rick Simpson

Induction and training of new trustees

Under the Charity Commission scheme the Newcastle Diocesan Society is the custodian trustee of the charity. Shepherds Dene is the sole corporate trustee of the charity and the constitution of the corporate trustee specifies that its directors and trustees shall include

1. The Bishop of Durham (or his/her nominee);
2. The Bishop of Newcastle (or his/her nominee);
3. The Archdeacon of Northumberland or such other archdeacon from his/her diocese as he /she may choose to nominate from time to time;
4. The Archdeacon of Durham or such other archdeacon from his diocese as he may choose to nominate from time to time;
5. Two nominees of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance;
6. Two nominees of the Durham Diocesan Board of Finance.

In addition, those trustees may appoint up to 2 other trustees.

Key management remuneration

The Trustees/Directors of Shepherds Dene receive no salaries, expenses or other emoluments, for the work that they undertake on behalf of the Retreat House. The role of Director is a salaried post of full time employment, with responsibility for the strategic development, financial performance and promotion of Shepherds Dene and its programmes. The Director has responsibility for the management, welfare and development of staff and volunteers of Shepherds Dene, the care and wellbeing of guests, the maintenance of the fabric of the house and gardens and the management of the financial resources. No accommodation is provided for the Director unlike most other retreat houses.

Investment powers

The charity's governing document permits wide powers of investment. The trustees generally follow the ethical investment policy of the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England.

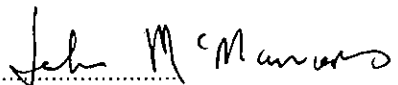
Related charities

The charity is part of the work of Newcastle and Durham Diocese and is related to other charities established for the furtherance of that work.

Risk Management

The trustees are continuing to review risks. They are conscious of the need to maintain strong links with both Dioceses, in the light of further reductions in diocesan grant support, and to continue to review staffing.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Reverend RJ McManners
Trustee

Date: 14/6/23

SHEPHERDS DENE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHEPHERDS DENE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Shepherds Dene (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited

Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE2 1TJ
England

Dated: 18.7.2023.....

SHEPHERDS DENE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Current financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
	Notes				
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	2	12,018	-	12,018	108,182
Charitable activities	3	282,107	-	282,107	145,772
Other trading activities	4	8,544	-	8,544	2,253
Other income		141	-	141	-
Total income		302,810	-	302,810	256,207
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Raising funds	5	440	-	440	469
Charitable activities	6	322,838	-	322,838	232,695
Total resources expended		323,278	-	323,278	233,164
Net (expenditure)/Income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(20,468)	-	(20,468)	23,043
Fund balances at 1 January 2022		2,643,619	4,971	2,648,590	2,625,547
Fund balances at 31 December 2022		2,623,151	4,971	2,628,122	2,648,590

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

SHEPHERDS DENE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Prior financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>				
Donations and legacies	2	91,508	16,674	108,182
Charitable activities	3	145,772	-	145,772
Other trading activities	4	2,253	-	2,253
Total income		239,533	16,674	256,207
<u>Expenditure on:</u>				
Raising funds	5	469	-	469
Charitable activities	6	232,695	-	232,695
Total resources expended		233,164	-	233,164
Gross transfers between funds		16,674	(16,674)	-
Net (expenditure)/Income for the year/ Net movement in funds		23,043	-	23,043
Fund balances at 1 January 2021		2,620,576	4,971	2,625,547
Fund balances at 31 December 2021		2,643,619	4,971	2,648,590

SHEPHERDS DENE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		2,626,601		2,639,661
Current assets					
Stocks	11	3,397		2,419	
Debtors	12	5,118		12,621	
Cash at bank and in hand		41,615		29,619	
			<u>50,130</u>		<u>44,659</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(33,609)</u>		<u>(20,730)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>16,521</u>		<u>23,929</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>2,643,122</u>		<u>2,663,590</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14		<u>(15,000)</u>		<u>(15,000)</u>
Net assets			<u><u>2,628,122</u></u>		<u><u>2,648,590</u></u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	15		4,971		4,971
Unrestricted funds - general			<u>2,623,151</u>		<u>2,643,619</u>
			<u><u>2,628,122</u></u>		<u><u>2,648,590</u></u>

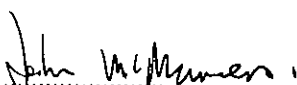
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 14/6/23


.....
Reverend RJ McManners
Trustee

Company registration number 07292924

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charlty Information

Shepherds Dene is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Sheperds Dene Retreat Home, Riding Mill, Northumberland, NE44 6AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	Not depreciated
Kitchen & catering equipment	Straight line over 15 years
Fixtures and fittings	Straight Line over 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Donations and gifts	3,018	8,032	-	8,032
Grants receivable	9,000	83,476	16,674	100,150
	<u>12,018</u>	<u>91,508</u>	<u>16,674</u>	<u>108,182</u>
Grants receivable for core activities				
Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance	5,000	3,750	16,674	20,424
Covid support grants	-	55,068	-	55,068
Northumberland County Council	4,000	24,658	-	24,658
	<u>9,000</u>	<u>83,476</u>	<u>16,674</u>	<u>100,150</u>

3 Charitable activities

	Operation of retreat house 2022 £	Operation of retreat house 2021 £
Operation of retreat house	282,107	145,772
	<u>282,107</u>	<u>145,772</u>

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £
Art sales	245	415
Bar sales	5,829	1,015
Stall sales	1,682	35
Rents received	788	788
Other trading activities	<u>8,544</u>	<u>2,253</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

5 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £
Trading costs		
Stall purchases	365	295
Bar purchases	75	174
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Trading costs	440	469
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	440	469
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

6 Charitable activities

	Operation of retreat house 2022 £	Operation of retreat house 2021 £
Staff costs	192,996	145,754
Depreciation and impairment	13,060	11,507
Light and heat	23,745	16,222
Miscellaneous expenses	1,068	1,359
Repairs and maintenance	16,576	8,735
Food purchases	41,014	22,051
Administration and publicity	16,144	15,617
Water and sewerage	3,142	1,697
Cleaning and laundry	9,580	2,079
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	317,325	225,021
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Share of support costs (see note 7)	5,513	7,674
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	322,838	232,695
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

7 Support costs	Support costs	Governance costs	2022	Support costs	Governance costs	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Accountancy and bookkeeping	5,513	-	5,513	7,674	-	7,674
	<u>5,513</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,513</u>	<u>7,674</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,674</u>
Analysed between Charitable activities	<u>5,513</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,513</u>	<u>7,674</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,674</u>

Support costs includes payments to the independent examiners of £3,240 (2021- £3,000) for the independent examination.

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
House staff	<u>32</u>	<u>29</u>
Employment costs	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	182,237	140,191
Social security costs	5,595	2,585
Other pension costs	5,164	2,978
	<u>192,996</u>	<u>145,754</u>

Amounts paid to key management totalled £37,155 (2021: £nil).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Kitchen & catering equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2022	2,612,880	58,183	104,724	2,775,787
Disposals	-	-	(693)	(693)
At 31 December 2022	2,612,880	58,183	104,031	2,775,094
Depreciation and Impairment				
At 1 January 2022	29,118	22,525	84,483	136,126
Depreciation charged in the year	1,820	3,073	8,167	13,060
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	-	(693)	(693)
At 31 December 2022	30,938	25,598	91,957	148,493
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2022	2,581,942	32,585	12,074	2,626,601
At 31 December 2021	2,583,762	35,658	20,241	2,639,661

Freehold Property

Included in freehold property is freehold land of £830,806 (2021: £830,806), which has not been depreciated.

The freehold property represents freehold land and buildings. The property was donated to the charitable company on 17 May 2011 at fair market value and is shown at cost, plus any subsequent additions.

The property is Grade II listed and as a result is maintained in a good state of repair. Depreciation is charged on an annual basis to write the value of the property down to its estimated residual value in 100 years.

11 Stocks

	2022	2021
	£	£
Raw materials and consumables	3,397	2,419

12 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	3,625	12,181
Other debtors	141	-
Prepayments and accrued income	1,352	440
	5,118	12,621

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other taxation and social security	3,644	5,178
Trade creditors	12,195	4,042
Other creditors	13,678	6,507
Accruals and deferred income	4,092	5,003
	<u>33,609</u>	<u>20,730</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Borrowings	15,000	15,000
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>

15 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Woodland Fund	335	-	-	335	-	335
The Muckle Fund	1,056	-	-	1,056	-	1,056
Carpet Fund	3,580	-	-	3,580	-	3,580
Fire Alarm Fund	-	16,674	(16,674)	-	-	-
	<u>4,971</u>	<u>16,674</u>	<u>(16,674)</u>	<u>4,971</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,971</u>

Woodland fund

This fund represents income received from the Forestry Commission and donations received through the 'Sponsor a tree' appeal which is to be used for the improvement of the woodland, including clearing and replanting trees.

The Muckle fund

This was a donation received for the purpose of building steps in the woodland.

Carpet fund

The carpet fund relates to donations received to renew the carpets.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2022 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	2,626,601	-	2,626,601	2,639,661	-	2,639,661
Current assets/(liabilities)	16,521	-	16,521	18,958	4,971	23,929
Long term liabilities	(15,000)	-	(15,000)	(15,000)	-	(15,000)
	<u>2,628,122</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,628,122</u>	<u>2,643,619</u>	<u>4,971</u>	<u>2,648,590</u>

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).

SHEPHERDS DENE

England & Wales - Charity number 1138224

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1138224-1

Company Registration No. 07292924 (England and Wales)

SHEPHERDS DENE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

SHEPHERDS DENE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	P Davies R Dower E Rowark Reverend J Grieve Reverend RJ McManners D Nicholson Mr A Jenkins Venerable Rick Simpson	(Appointed 22 September 2021)
Charity number	1138224-1	
Company number	07292924	
Registered office	Time Central 32 Gallowgate Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear England NE1 4BF	
Independent examiner	Robson Laidler Accountants Limited Fernwood House Fernwood Road Jesmond Newcastle Upon Tyne Tyne and Wear England NE2 1TJ	
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	
Solicitors	Muckle LLP Time Central 32 Gallowgate Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BF	

SHEPHERDS DENE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 3
Independent examiner's report	4
Statement of financial activities	5 - 6
Balance sheet	7
Notes to the financial statements	8 - 15

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the charity are to advance the Christian religion by the provision of a house of retreat, primarily but not exclusively for members of the Church of England who are resident in the Dioceses of Newcastle and Durham, which may also be used for any other charitable purpose which, in the opinion of the trustees, will maintain and strengthen the religious and educational life of its users.

Shepherds Dene Retreat House is a grade two listed building set in 27 acres of land comprising formal garden, woodlands, and fields. It is open throughout the year to any who wish to come for a time of spiritual refreshment, relaxation and education. Members of the public are welcome to walk in the grounds and many local residents chose to do so.

As a Church of England Retreat House, Shepherds Dene welcomes guests of all faiths and none, from the UK and further afield.

The house has a chapel, a prayer house and other quiet places. There is a programme of events mainly, although not exclusively, centred on the Christian faith. There are events involving music, crafts, guided visits to sites of historical and spiritual significance and walks in the beautiful surrounding countryside. Our focus is on spiritual, physical and mental wellbeing.

Shepherds Dene is being used increasingly for writing retreats, both by groups of fictional authors and by PhD students.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Charitable Activities

The impact of Covid was felt during most of 2021. The house reopened on 17th May 2021 with a full Covid safe working plan in place collectively devised by the staff. It took some considerable time for bookings to rebuild and this was complicated by restricted numbers. Furlough payments were a crucial part of survival, as well as local authority grants. There was still considerable uncertainty at the end of December with many bookings cancelled.

Throughout this period the Trustees adhered to their agreed policies;

- i. The safety of guests and staff
- ii. Sustaining the financial and physical viability of the house
- iii. Supporting staff by retaining jobs, paying wages, regular communication and prayer

There have been four meetings of the trustees during the year and regular meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Staffing

A new Director, Vanessa Ward (former Head of Visitor Services at Durham Cathedral) was appointed in 2021 and commenced in post 11th October 2021. Philip Davies who was acting as interim warden stepped down and has resumed his post as a trustee. The trustees are enormously grateful to Philip Davies for his sterling work during his time as interim warden.

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Capital

Our policy has been to maintain a minimum reserve of £30,000. Capital projects remain postponed. Expenditure was kept tightly controlled but some a major expenditure was incurred in terms of the main pump for the spring water supply as well as the replacement of the fire alarm system. We are grateful the Diocese of Newcastle for their generous grant and also to the Diocese of Durham for the loan which enabled the system to be replaced.

Furlough

There is no doubt that without furlough we would have been in major financial difficulties and the viability of Shepherds Dene would have been threatened.

Trustees

The Ven Rick Simpson, Archdeacon of Auckland was appointed during the course of 2021. There are still two vacancies.

Forthcoming Issues

The impact of the Covid has had serious financial implications of the house and it is recognised that the new director has a major task in restoring its finances. Bookings however had been significantly increasing as the year progressed. The renewed uncertainty around Covid at the end of the year resulted in many bookings being cancelled or being transferred to later dates in 2022.

A generous grant from the Vardy Foundation has enabled the trustees to commission a feasibility study which should be available in early 2022 to look at the broader vision of the future development of Shepherds Dene.

As ever the trustees are grateful for the continued support of the two dioceses, for the loyal support of its guests and the dedication and support of its hardworking team of staff.

Financial review

Total Income for the year was £256,207 (2020: £189,696)

Income from grants, furlough payments and donations including £15,000 donation from the Diocese of Newcastle towards the new fire alarm system amounted to £108,182 (2020: £115,095).

Income from lettings increased to £145,722 (2020: £70,925) generated over 6.5 months of operation

Outgoings were £233,164 (2020: £239,519) within which, staffing costs were £145,754

A net operating £23,043 was made (compared to a net deficit of £49,823 in 2020).

Reserves policy

It is the trustees' policy to maintain free reserves at a minimum of three months' operating expenditure. At 31 December 2021 the amount available in the Trust's unrestricted fund, excluding the capital of the property, was £3,958.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the companies Act 2006.

Charity Constitution

The charity is governed by the Charity Commission Scheme dated 17 May 2011 and is registered with the Charity Commission under number 1138224-1.

SHEPHERDS DENE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Davies

R Dower

E Rowark

Reverend J Grieve

Reverend RJ McManners

D Nicholson

Mr A Jenkins

Venerable Rick Simpson

(Appointed 22 September 2021)

Induction and training of new trustees

Under the Charity Commission scheme the Newcastle Diocesan Society is the custodian trustee of the charity. Shepherds Dene is the sole corporate trustee of the charity and the constitution of the corporate trustee specifies that its directors and trustees shall include

1. The Bishop of Durham (or his/her nominee);
2. The Bishop of Newcastle (or his/her nominee);
3. The Archdeacon of Northumberland or such other archdeacon from his/her diocese as she /she may choose to nominate from time to time;
4. The Archdeacon of Durham or such other archdeacon from his diocese as he may choose to nominate from time to time;
5. Two nominees of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance;
6. Two nominees of the Durham Diocesan Board of Finance.

In addition, those trustees may appoint up to 2 other trustees.

Key management remuneration

The Trustees/Directors of Shepherds Dene receive no salaries, expenses or other emoluments, for the work that they undertake on behalf of the Retreat House. The role of Director is a salaried post of full time employment, with responsibility for the strategic development, financial performance and promotion of Shepherds Dene and its programmes. The Director has responsibility for the management, welfare and development of staff and volunteers of Shepherds Dene, the care and wellbeing of guests, the maintenance of the fabric of the house and gardens and the management of the financial resources. No accommodation is provided for the Director unlike most other retreat houses.

Investment powers

The charity's governing document permits wide powers of investment. The trustees generally follow the ethical investment policy of the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England.

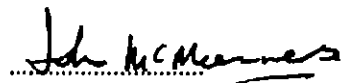
Related charities

The charity is part of the work of Newcastle and Durham Diocese and is related to other charities established for the furtherance of that work.

Risk Management

The trustees are continuing to review risks. They are conscious of the need to maintain strong links with both Dioceses, in the light of further reductions in diocesan grant support, and to continue to review staffing.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Reverend RJ McManners

Trustee

Date: 26/09/2022

SHEPHERDS DENE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHEPHERDS DENE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Shepherds Dene (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited

Robson Laidler Accountants Limited

Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE2 1TJ
England

Dated: 26-9-2022

SHEPHERDS DENE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Current financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	91,508	16,674	108,182	115,095
Charitable activities	3	145,772	-	145,772	70,925
Other trading activities	4	2,253	-	2,253	3,676
Total income		239,533	16,674	256,207	189,696
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	469	-	469	2,161
Charitable activities	6	232,695	-	232,695	237,358
Total resources expended		233,164	-	233,164	239,519
Net Incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		6,369	16,674	23,043	(49,823)
Gross transfers between funds		16,674	(16,674)	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		23,043	-	23,043	(49,823)
Fund balances at 1 January 2021		2,620,576	4,971	2,625,547	2,675,370
Fund balances at 31 December 2021		2,643,619	4,971	2,648,590	2,625,547

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

SHEPHERDS DENE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Prior financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	2	114,857	238	115,095
Charitable activities	3	70,925	-	70,925
Other trading activities	4	3,676	-	3,676
Total income		189,458	238	189,696
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5	2,161	-	2,161
Charitable activities	6	237,358	-	237,358
Total resources expended		239,519	-	239,519
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		(50,061)	238	(49,823)
Net Income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		(50,061)	238	(49,823)
Fund balances at 1 January 2020		2,670,637	4,733	2,675,370
Fund balances at 31 December 2020		2,620,576	4,971	2,625,547

SHEPHERDS DENE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		2,639,661		2,619,655
Current assets					
Stocks	11		2,419		2,330
Debtors	12		12,621		18,747
Cash at bank and in hand			29,619		28,575
			<u>44,659</u>		<u>49,652</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13		(20,730)		(43,760)
Net current assets			<u>23,929</u>		<u>5,892</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>2,663,590</u>		<u>2,625,547</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(15,000)		-
Net assets			<u><u>2,648,590</u></u>		<u><u>2,625,547</u></u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	15		4,971		4,971
Unrestricted funds - general			2,643,619		2,620,576
			<u>2,648,590</u>		<u>2,625,547</u>

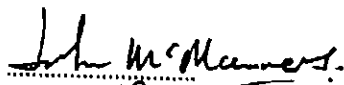
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 26/09/2022



Reverend ~~John~~ McManners
Trustee

Company Registration No. 07292924

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Shepherds Dene is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Time Central, 32 Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE1 4BF, England.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	Not depreciated
Kitchen & catering equipment	Straight line over 15 years
Fixtures and fittings	Straight Line over 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Donations and gifts	8,032	-	8,032	4,980	238	5,218
Grants receivable	83,476	16,674	100,150	109,877	-	109,877
	<u>91,508</u>	<u>16,674</u>	<u>108,182</u>	<u>114,857</u>	<u>238</u>	<u>115,095</u>
Grants receivable for core activities						
Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance	3,750	16,674	20,424	4,375	-	4,375
Covid support grants	55,068	-	55,068	74,052	-	74,052
Northumberland County Council	24,658	-	24,658	31,450	-	31,450
	<u>83,476</u>	<u>16,674</u>	<u>100,150</u>	<u>109,877</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>109,877</u>

3 Charitable activities

	Operation of retreat house 2021 £	Operation of retreat house 2020 £
Operation of retreat house	<u>145,772</u>	<u>70,925</u>

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £
Art sales	415	35
Bar sales	1,015	1,399
Stall sales	35	1,592
Rents received	788	650
Other trading activities	<u>2,253</u>	<u>3,676</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

5 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2021 £	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £
<u>Trading costs</u>		
Stall purchases	295	1,426
Artist payments	-	35
Bar purchases	174	700
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Trading costs	469	2,161
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	469	2,161
	<hr/>	<hr/>

6 Charitable activities

	Operation of retreat house 2021 £	Operation of retreat house 2020 £
Staff costs	145,754	152,943
Depreciation and impairment	11,507	12,219
Light and heat	16,222	18,517
Miscellaneous expenses	1,359	955
Repairs and maintenance	8,735	10,200
Food purchases	22,051	9,818
Administration and publicity	15,617	22,647
Water and sewerage	1,697	364
Cleaning and laundry	2,079	2,728
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	225,021	230,391
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Share of support costs (see note 7)	7,674	6,967
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	232,695	237,358
	<hr/>	<hr/>

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

7 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2021 Support costs £	Governance costs £	2020 £
Accountancy and bookkeeping	7,674	-	7,674	6,967	6,967
	<u>7,674</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,674</u>	<u>6,967</u>	<u>6,967</u>
Analysed between Charitable activities	<u>7,674</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,674</u>	<u>6,967</u>	<u>6,967</u>

Support costs includes payments to the independent examiners of £4,428 (2020- £4,140) for the independent examination.

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
House staff	<u>29</u>	<u>29</u>
Employment costs	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	140,191	146,252
Social security costs	2,585	3,047
Other pension costs	2,978	3,644
	<u>145,754</u>	<u>152,943</u>

Amounts paid to key management totaled £nil (2020: £2,550).

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Kitchen & catering equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2021	2,612,880	32,791	98,603	2,744,274
Additions	-	25,392	6,121	31,513
At 31 December 2021	2,612,880	58,183	104,724	2,775,787
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2021	27,298	20,427	76,894	124,619
Depreciation charged in the year	1,820	2,098	7,589	11,507
At 31 December 2021	29,118	22,525	84,483	136,126
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2021	2,583,762	35,658	20,241	2,639,661
At 31 December 2020	2,585,582	12,364	21,709	2,619,655

Freehold Property

Included in freehold property is freehold land of £830,806 (2020: £830,806), which has not been depreciated.

The freehold property represents freehold land and buildings. The property was donated to the charitable company on 17 May 2011 at fair market value and is shown at cost, plus any subsequent additions.

The property is Grade II listed and as a result is maintained in a good state of repair. Depreciation is charged on an annual basis to write the value of the property down to its estimated residual value in 100 years.

11 Stocks

	2021	2020
	£	£
Raw materials and consumables	2,419	2,330

12 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	12,181	8,203
Other debtors	-	795
Prepayments and accrued income	440	9,749
	12,621	18,747

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other taxation and social security	5,178	4,031
Trade creditors	4,042	3,484
Other creditors	6,507	28,600
Accruals and deferred income	5,003	7,645
	<u>20,730</u>	<u>43,760</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Borrowings	15,000	-
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>-</u>

15 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 January 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
Woodland Fund	335	-	335	-	-	335
The Muckle Fund	1,056	-	1,056	-	-	1,056
Carpet Fund	3,342	238	3,580	-	-	3,580
Fire Alarm Fund	-	-	-	16,674	(16,674)	-
	<u>4,733</u>	<u>238</u>	<u>4,971</u>	<u>16,674</u>	<u>(16,674)</u>	<u>4,971</u>

Woodland fund

This fund represents income received from the Forestry Commission and donations received through the 'Sponsor a tree' appeal which is to be used for the improvement of the woodland, including clearing and replanting trees.

The Muckle fund

This was a donation received for the purpose of building steps in the woodland.

Carpet fund

The carpet fund relates to donations received to renew the carpets.

Fire alarm fund

This represents funding received from the Newcastle Diocese to aid the purchase and installation of a new fire alarm system.

SHEPHERDS DENE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2021 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	2,639,661	-	2,639,661	2,619,655	-	2,619,655
Current assets/(liabilities)	18,958	4,971	23,929	921	4,971	5,892
Long term liabilities	(15,000)	-	(15,000)	-	-	-
	<u>2,643,619</u>	<u>4,971</u>	<u>2,648,590</u>	<u>2,620,576</u>	<u>4,971</u>	<u>2,625,547</u>

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2020 - none).

SHEPHERDS DENE

England & Wales - Charity number 1138224

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07292924 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1138224-1

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020
FOR
SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)**

**Robson Laidler Accountants Limited
Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 1TJ**

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	1
Report of the Trustees	2 to 5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8 to 9
Notes to the Financial Statements	10 to 19

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

Registered company number:
07292924 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number:
1138224-1

Registered Office:
Time Central
32 Gallowgate
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE1 4BF

Trustees:
Reverend John McManners
Reverend Judith Grieve
Mr Robert Charles Philips Dower
Mr Derek Nicholson
Mrs Elizabeth Rowark
The Venerable Mark Wroe (resigned 31 December 2020)
Mr Alistair Jenkins

Warden:
Philip Davies

Independent examiner:
Robson Laidler Accountants Limited
Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 1TJ

Bankers:
The Co-operative Bank
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Solicitors:
Muckle LLP
Time Central
32 Gallowgate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BF

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST) (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07292924)**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the charity are to advance the Christian religion by the provision of a house of retreat, primarily but not exclusively for members of the Church of England who are resident in the Dioceses of Newcastle and Durham, which may also be used for any other charitable purpose which, in the opinion of the trustees, will maintain and strengthen the religious and educational life of its users.

Public benefit

Shepherds Dene Retreat House is a grade two listed building set in 27 acres of land comprising formal garden, woodlands and fields. It is open throughout the year to any who wish to come for a time of spiritual refreshment, relaxation and education. Members of the public are welcome to walk in the grounds and many local residents choose to do so. As a Church of England Retreat House, Shepherds Dene welcomes guests and visitors of all faiths and none. The house has a chapel, a prayer house and other quiet places, both inside and out. There is also a programme of events mainly, though not exclusively, centred on the Christian faith. These range from guided retreats and meditations to wider cultural and artistic expression. The house holds exhibitions of artwork, which are open to the public. There are events involving music, flower arranging, guided visits to sites of historic and spiritual significance and walks in the beautiful surrounding countryside.

Shepherds Dene offers a hardship fund to enable people with limited income to access our facilities and the house is also used for community events. Shepherds Dene is closely linked to the local village community and has been involved in supporting events in that community, along with other local charities. The retreat house provides opportunities for local educational organisations to use our grounds and premises for developing life skills for people with significant learning disabilities. Shepherds Dene also offers opportunities to individuals who wish to volunteer in the house and grounds and to groups of volunteers, who wish to be involved in team-building days in the grounds.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

2020 was, to say the least, a challenging year. The year started well with business continuing as usual, albeit in the traditionally quieter months of January and February, but with a full programme of retreats and events planned for the rest of the year, including interviews for the post of Director scheduled for March. However, the Coronavirus pandemic intervened.

House Closure

On the 20th March 2020 the trustees took the decision to close Shepherds Dene because they could no longer ensure the safety of guests and staff. This enabled us to close in good order. Within a few days such a closure became mandatory and government restriction closed many other businesses throughout the country.

Throughout this crisis the Trustees adopted 3 policies in important priority:

- (i) the safety of guests and staff
- (ii) sustaining the financial and physical viability of the house.
- (iii) supporting staff by retaining jobs, paying wages, regular communication and prayer.

The house reopened cautiously on 20th September 2020.

Safe Working Plan

This reopening had been enabled by the development of a Safe Working Plan, largely devised by the staff and using Government guidance for the hospitality sector. Guests were provided in advance with notice of the precautions put in place to maintain safety, such as the reduction in the number of guests to provide each person with dedicated bathroom facilities, the serving of food by staff rather than by self service, wearing of masks in communal areas and the use of hand sanitiser on arrival and regularly thereafter. Thankfully, as a result of these measures, no guest or member of staff contracted the virus, and many guests commended the house on the balance achieved between hospitality and care for guests on the one hand and safety of guests and staff on the other. Overall the plan worked well. Guests reported feeling very safe and the staff were confident in its operation.

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST) (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07292924)**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Second House Closure

Unfortunately another wave of the pandemic obliged us to close again on the 4th November, following a further government directive.

New Director

One casualty of these closures was the appointment of a new director. Interviews of shortlisted candidates for this post had been scheduled for the 18th and 19th of March. It was felt that these could no longer be safely undertaken and the process was put on hold. Moves to review the process in November similarly had to be further postponed. We were able to keep in touch with candidates who understood the situation and retained their interest in the post.

Interim Director

Philip Davies, who had been operating as a part-time interim director of Shepherds Dene, kindly agreed to stay in post during this period of closure. His wise oversight has enabled us to keep the business ticking over. Together with Jan Dumbell, our Administrator he has been able to recycle a number of bookings and to line up new guests so that when we re-open we have a business to return to. This has been an exemplary endeavour. It should also be recorded that since the closure began Philip has refused to take a salary for his work. This exceptional generosity has been enormously beneficial to Shepherds Dene and greatly aided our financial survival. He has also made successful application for various grants available to the hospitality sector via the local authority and, together with Kim Sinclair, our Estates Manager, kept oversight of the security of our buildings.

Reflection on the postponement of New director's appointment.

It is clear that had we proceeded with the appointment of a new director we would have faced a very difficult circumstance. It would have been hugely difficult for any newly appointed executive to take over just as everything was closing. It would also have been very difficult for us to start to pay the salary of a full-time director at a time when our capital was depleting rapidly. The probability is that we would have had to immediately furlough our new director! This would have been the most unfair circumstance for everyone. The only alternative would have been a large-scale financial bailout.

Capital

The Trustees have been concerned to maintain the financial viability of Shepherds Dene. Our policy has been to maintain a minimum reserve of £30,000. to this end we have postponed capital projects. The main casualty has been the carpet replacement for stairs, lounge and hall corridor. (This was going to cost some £10,000 to be paid in 2 tranches). We were in the process of finding funding and had raised about £4,000 towards the total). Clearly, turnover during this time was very much depleted and expenditure incurred only where necessary to keep the business 'ticking over' and the buildings wind and watertight.

Furlough

During the time of closure, the staff were furloughed under the Government scheme (requiring Shepherds Dene to pay 20% of salaries initially), and grants were obtained for hospitality businesses from the Government and local authority wherever possible. We are pleased to report that all staff were retained during this difficult period and that they were paid their salaries in full.

Staff

Throughout this period contact was maintained with staff and the two Bishops through regular letters from the Chair of trustees. Staff themselves kept in contact through a WhatsApp group. Philip Davies' continued presence as Interim Warden was an important reassurance and pastoral resource.

Trustees

The Ven. Mark Wroe was appointed Bishop of Berwick in Newcastle Diocese during the year and so resigned as an ex-officio trustee, and Canon Bob Hopper resigned as a co-opted trustee. We are very grateful to them both for their contributions. With their resignations and a vacancy for an ex-officio Archdeacon from the Diocese of Durham, there are currently three vacancies which we hope will be filled shortly.

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST) (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07292924)**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Forthcoming Issues

Restoring the finances of Shepherds Dene following the impact of the pandemic is clearly a priority for the immediate future and it is to be hoped that a new Director will be appointed soon to bring energy and expertise to this area of the life of the house, whilst maintaining the ethos and good relationships that are essential to a place of this kind.

With the financial pressures in mind, the trustees have set up a Finance Sub Group which has been examining the possibility of raising income through development of some of the property, by a fund raising appeal of some kind and by improved social media presence. These issues will be considered further during the coming months and will be a particular focus for the new Director once in post.

As ever, the trustees are grateful for the continued support of the two dioceses, for the loyal and unwavering support of its guests and for the dedication and support of its hard working staff team whose efforts in making Shepherds Dene a place of hospitality and welcome are very much appreciated.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Total income for the year was £189,696 (2019: £379,691). Income from grants and donations increased to £115,095 (2019: £26,191) largely due to the significant Government funding received. Income from lettings fell to £70,925 (2019: £337,103) as a result of the Retreat closures.

Outgoings were £239,519 (2019: £374,942), within which, staffing costs were £152,943 (2019: £199,214).

Overall, the charity had a net operating deficit of £49,923 (2019: surplus £4,749).

Reserves policy

It is the trustees' policy to maintain free reserves at a minimum of three months' operating expenditure. At 31 December 2020 the amount available in the Trust's unrestricted fund, excluding the capital of the property, was £50,982 which is slightly below the targeted level.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Charity constitution

The charity is governed by a Charity Commission scheme dated 17 May 2011 and is registered with the Charity Commission under number 1138224-1.

Induction and training of new trustees

Under the Charity Commission scheme the Newcastle Diocesan Society is the custodian trustee of the charity. Shepherds Dene is the sole corporate trustee of the charity and the constitution of the corporate trustee specifies that its directors and trustees shall include:

1. The Bishop of Durham (or his nominee);
2. The Bishop of Newcastle (or his nominee);
3. The Archdeacon of Northumberland or such other archdeacon from his diocese as he may choose to nominate from time to time;
4. The Archdeacon of Durham or such other archdeacon from his diocese as he may choose to nominate from time to time;
5. Two nominees of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance;
6. Two nominees of the Durham Diocesan Board of Finance.

In addition, those trustees may appoint up to 2 other trustees.

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST) (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07292924)**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Key management remuneration

The Trustees/Directors of Shepherds Dene receive no salaries, expenses or other emoluments, for the work that they undertake on behalf of the Retreat House. The role of Warden/Director is a salaried post of full time employment, with responsibility for the strategic development, financial performance and promotion of Shepherd's Dene Retreat House and its programmes. The Warden also has responsibility for the management, welfare and development of staff and volunteers of Shepherds Dene, the care and wellbeing of guests, the maintenance of the fabric of house and gardens and the management of the financial resources. No accommodation is provided for the Warden/Director, unlike most other retreat houses.

Investment powers

The charity's governing document permits wide powers of investment. The trustees generally follow the ethical investment policy of the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England.

Related parties

The charity is part of the work of Newcastle and Durham Diocese, and is related to other charities established for the furtherance of that work.

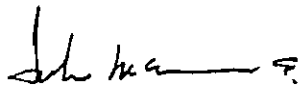
Risk management

The trustees are continuing to review risks. They are conscious of the need to maintain strong links with both Dioceses, in the light of further reductions in diocesan grant support, and to continue to review staffing.

EVENTS SINCE THE END OF THE YEAR

Information relating to events since the end of the year is given in the notes to the financial statements.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27-9-2021 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Reverend J McManners - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Shepherds Dene (Incorporating the Stirling Newall Trust) ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



Nicholas Cunningham FCCA
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Robson Laidler Accountants Limited
Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 1TJ

Date: 29-9-2021.....

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	114,857	238	115,095	26,191
Charitable activities					
Operation of Retreat House		70,925	-	70,925	337,103
Other trading activities	3	3,676	-	3,676	16,397
Total		189,458	238	189,696	379,691
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		2,161	-	2,161	5,598
Charitable activities					
Operation of Retreat House	4	237,358	-	237,358	369,344
Total		239,519	-	239,519	374,942
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(50,061)	238	(49,823)	4,749
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		2,670,637	4,733	2,675,370	2,670,621
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		2,620,576	4,971	2,625,547	2,675,370

The notes form part of these financial statements

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST) (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07292924)**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	2,619,655	2,629,243
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	11	2,330	3,930
Debtors	12	18,747	20,516
Cash at bank and in hand		28,575	57,976
		<u>49,652</u>	<u>82,422</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(43,760)	(36,295)
		<u>5,892</u>	<u>46,127</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>5,892</u>	<u>46,127</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>2,625,547</u>	<u>2,675,370</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>2,625,547</u>	<u>2,675,370</u>
FUNDS	15		
Unrestricted funds		2,620,576	2,670,637
Restricted funds		4,971	4,733
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>2,625,547</u>	<u>2,675,370</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

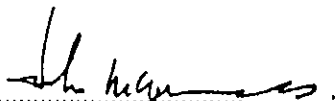
- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST) (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07292924)**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 DECEMBER 2020**

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27-9-2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



Reverend J McManners - Trustee

SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the charity's needs. The trustees have considered a period of 12 months from the balance sheet date and consider no further disclosures relating to the charity's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made.

Shepherds Dene meets the definition of a public benefit entity entry under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The financial accounts are prepared in Sterling (£).

Significant estimates and judgements

The preparation of the financial statements requires the trustees to make judgements and estimates. The main areas where such judgements and estimates are made are in respect of depreciation of tangible fixed assets.

The company has applied the following accounting policies:

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

- Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Expenditure

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

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Kitchen & catering equipment	- Straight line over 15 years
Fixtures and fittings	- Straight line over 5 years

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

As a charity, the company is exempt from tax on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations	5,218	4,441
Grants	109,877	21,750
	<u>115,095</u>	<u>26,191</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Durham Diocesan Board of Finance	-	10,000
Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance	4,375	3,750
Newcastle upon Tyne Church of England Institute Trust	-	8,000
Government grants	74,052	-
Northumberland County Council	31,450	-
	<u>109,877</u>	<u>21,750</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2020	2019
	£	£
Stall sales	1,592	6,636
Bar sales	1,399	8,630
Rents received	650	788
Art sales	35	343
	<u>3,676</u>	<u>16,397</u>

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 5) £
Operation of Retreat House	<u>237,358</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

5. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2020	2019
	£	£
Staff costs	152,943	199,214
Light and heat	18,517	22,847
Miscellaneous expenses	955	135
Repairs & maintenance	10,200	27,468
Food purchases	9,818	48,077
Administration & publicity	22,647	45,542
Volunteer expenses	-	188
Accountancy	6,967	3,960
Water and sewerage	364	1,168
Cleaning and laundry	2,728	10,048
Depreciation	11,430	10,697
Loss on sale of assets	789	-
	<u>237,358</u>	<u>369,344</u>

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2020	2019
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	11,430	10,897
Deficit on disposal of fixed assets	789	-
Independent Examiners fee	<u>4,040</u>	<u>3,960</u>

Key management remuneration totalled £2,550 (2019: £32,213)

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

8. STAFF COSTS

	2020	2019
	£	£
Wages and salaries	146,252	187,853
Social security costs	3,047	7,026
Other pension costs	3,644	4,335
	<u>152,943</u>	<u>199,214</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2020	2019
House Staff	<u>29</u>	<u>27</u>

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

8. STAFF COSTS - continued

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	7,530	18,661	26,191
Charitable activities			
Operation of Retreat House	337,103	-	337,103
Other trading activities	16,397	-	16,397
Total	<u>361,030</u>	<u>18,661</u>	<u>379,691</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	5,598	-	5,598
Charitable activities			
Operation of Retreat House	369,344	-	369,344
Total	<u>374,942</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>374,942</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(13,912)	18,661	4,749
Transfers between funds	23,000	(23,000)	-
Net movement in funds	<u>9,088</u>	<u>(4,339)</u>	<u>4,749</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	2,661,549	9,072	2,670,621
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>2,670,637</u></u>	<u><u>4,733</u></u>	<u><u>2,675,370</u></u>

SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Kitchen & catering equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 January 2020	2,612,880	31,009	99,028	2,742,917
Additions	-	2,630	-	2,630
Disposals	-	(848)	(425)	(1,273)
At 31 December 2020	<u>2,612,880</u>	<u>32,791</u>	<u>98,603</u>	<u>2,744,274</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2020	25,478	19,274	68,922	113,674
Charge for year	1,820	1,418	8,192	11,430
Eliminated on disposal	-	(265)	(220)	(485)
At 31 December 2020	<u>27,298</u>	<u>20,427</u>	<u>76,894</u>	<u>124,619</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2020	<u>2,585,582</u>	<u>12,364</u>	<u>21,709</u>	<u>2,619,655</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>2,587,402</u>	<u>11,735</u>	<u>30,106</u>	<u>2,629,243</u>

Freehold Property

Included in freehold property is freehold land of £830,806 (2019: £830,806), which has not been depreciated.

The freehold property represents freehold land and buildings. The property was donated to the charitable company on 17 May 2011 at fair market value and is shown at cost, plus any subsequent additions.

The property is Grade II listed and as a result is maintained in a good state of repair. Depreciation is charged on an annual basis to write the value of the property down to its estimated residual value in 100 years.

11. STOCKS

	2020 £	2019 £
Raw materials and consumables	<u>2,330</u>	<u>3,930</u>

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade debtors	8,203	13,936
Other debtors	795	3,086
Prepayments	9,749	3,494
	<u>18,747</u>	<u>20,516</u>

SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020	2019
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,484	5,797
Social security and other taxes	4,031	4,384
Deposits in advance	28,600	20,905
Accrued expenses	7,645	5,209
	<u>43,760</u>	<u>36,295</u>

14. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
Fixed assets	2,619,655	-	2,619,655	2,629,243
Current assets	44,681	4,971	49,652	82,422
Current liabilities	(43,760)	-	(43,760)	(36,295)
	<u>2,620,576</u>	<u>4,971</u>	<u>2,625,547</u>	<u>2,675,370</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	2,639,918	(46,160)	2,593,758
Capital Fund	30,719	(3,901)	26,818
	<u>2,670,637</u>	<u>(50,061)</u>	<u>2,620,576</u>
Restricted funds			
Woodland fund	335	-	335
The Muckle fund	1,056	-	1,056
Carpet fund	3,342	238	3,580
	<u>4,733</u>	<u>238</u>	<u>4,971</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>2,675,370</u>	<u>(49,823)</u>	<u>2,625,547</u>

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	189,458	(235,618)	(46,160)
Capital Fund	-	(3,901)	(3,901)
	<u>189,458</u>	<u>(239,519)</u>	<u>(50,061)</u>
Restricted funds			
Carpet fund	238	-	238
	<u>238</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>238</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>189,696</u></u>	<u><u>(239,519)</u></u>	<u><u>(49,823)</u></u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.19 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	2,647,364	(7,446)	-	2,639,918
Capital Fund	14,185	(6,466)	23,000	30,719
	<u>2,661,549</u>	<u>(13,912)</u>	<u>23,000</u>	<u>2,670,637</u>
Restricted funds				
Woodland fund	335	-	-	335
The Muckle fund	1,056	-	-	1,056
Carpet fund	2,681	661	-	3,342
Lift refurbishment	5,000	18,000	(23,000)	-
	<u>9,072</u>	<u>18,661</u>	<u>(23,000)</u>	<u>4,733</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>2,670,621</u></u>	<u><u>4,749</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>2,675,370</u></u>

SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	361,030	(368,476)	(7,446)
Capital Fund	-	(6,466)	(6,466)
	<u>361,030</u>	<u>(374,942)</u>	<u>(13,912)</u>
Restricted funds			
Carpet fund	661	-	661
Lift refurbishment	18,000	-	18,000
	<u>18,661</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,661</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>379,691</u>	<u>(374,942)</u>	<u>4,749</u>

Woodland fund

This fund represents income received from the Forestry Commission and donations received through the 'Sponsor a tree' appeal which is to be used for the improvement of the woodland, including clearing and replanting trees.

The Muckle fund

This was a donation received for the purpose of building steps in the woodland.

Carpet fund

The carpet fund relates to donations received to renew the carpets.

Lift refurbishment fund

The lift refurbishment fund relates to grants received to help towards the refurbishment of the lift.

Capital fund

Capital items funded by restricted grants.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2020.

17. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and in line with Government policy, the retreat was closed at the start of the new financial year. The trustees are aware of the financial impact of this closure and have made additional disclosures in the trustees report in relation to this.

**SHEPHERDS DENE (INCORPORATING THE
STIRLING NEWALL TRUST)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

18. COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

19. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Grant income of £80,000 will become repayable to Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance (£40,000) and Durham Diocesan Board of Finance (£40,000) if the freehold property is sold.