

North Yorkshire Moors Association Trustees Report 2020-2021

The North Yorkshire Moors Association

Trustees' Report for the period September 2020 to August 2021

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Registered Charity Number 1169240

Address. c/o 4 Station Road Castleton, Whitby, North Yorkshire. YO21 2EG

President of the Association: Ian Carstairs OBE

Trustees at September 2021

Tom Chadwick (Chairman)
Albert Elliot
Ann Glass
Dave Moore (Vice Chairman)
Carolyn Moore (Membership Secretary)
Brian Pearce (Hon. Treasurer)
Colin Speakman
Elaine Wisdom
George Winn-Darley

Executive Secretary: Janet Cochrane
Minutes Secretary: Helen Gundry

Other Council members:

Sharon Artley (to April 2020)
Raymond Clarke
Adrian Leaman

Structure, Governance and Management

The Association's governance is based on its 2016 Constitution, written when it became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

The "Council" is the body which manages the Association. In addition to the Trustees, there are three Council members and a Secretary who are not Trustees. Council members are nominated and seconded by members and elected annually at the AGM along with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Association has a Council representative on the Council of the Campaign for National Parks (CNP).

Introduction

In September 2020 the AGM was held as a remote online meeting because of Covid-19 restrictions so we welcome the opportunity to meet this year face to face – although one advantage of the on-line meeting was that it enabled an overseas member from Connecticut, USA, to join us.

Reducing the risk from the Covid-19 virus has been a high priority for us during the past year, and quarterly Council meetings as well as other meetings have been held online or by telephone.

Due to the pandemic some of our other activities have been curtailed over the last year, principally our walks and events programme and our continuing support for Moorsbus, which has been affected by a reduced timetable.

NYMA Constitution

A change to our Constitution agreed in 2020 has been confirmed by the Charities Commission and is now in place. The change refers to Clause 17 of our constitution "Taking of Decisions by Trustees" and represents a minor but important change.

Finances

At the year ending March 2021 our financial position was sound, with substantial reserves. A decision was made during the year to reduce the reserve and to direct more funds to our revised Conservation Awards Scheme, which offers awards on a rolling basis throughout the year rather than just once. In view of the continuing low interest rates some of our cash was transferred to a new account with a better yield than the existing CAF Bank account: £35,000 was moved to Shawbrook Bank. The year-end balance shows a total of £55,934.69. Members' subscriptions amounted to £4,630, a slight decrease over the previous year, while book sales raised £1013.80. Production of 'Voice of the Moors' continues to be a major expense which together with postage amounted to £3,029 - this also reflects an increase in the cost of postage. A further major item of expenditure was a contribution to re-print of the 'Wild Flowers of North East Yorkshire' (£938.52).

Meetings

NYMA Council meetings were held online on October 6th 2020 and on January 19th, April 20th, and July 27th 2021. A CNP meeting was held virtually on 17th March. Other virtual meetings have included two Defra follow-up meetings connected to the National Landscapes Review, meetings concerning the forthcoming revised National Park Management Plan, and phone meetings with National Park CEO Tom Hind. A meeting concerning the Battle of Byland Project was held face-to-face once restrictions were relaxed. Council members Ray Clarke and Janet Cochrane have given talks and presentations (both virtual and face-to-face) to several organisations to extend awareness of the work of NYMA. This is a significant and much appreciated new initiative, led by Ray.

Membership

Cal Moore has continued her excellent and thorough work as Membership Secretary. The membership report for the period ending 30th June 2021 shows a total of 386 members. There has been an increase in Gift Membership and also in people taking out a 10-year subscription. A new digital option is proving popular for subscriptions. While it is not clear if the pandemic has had any effect on membership the overall picture is encouraging.

Voice of the Moors

Our quarterly magazine continues to be a vitally important connection with our members and the high quality of both content and design has been maintained thanks to the combined expertise of Dr. Janet Cochrane, who took over as editor from Sharon Artley from the Autumn 2020 edition, and Pascal Thivillon at Basement Press. We continue to retain several regular contributors supplemented by one-off contributors, who between them provide informative and interesting articles covering the natural world and the heritage of the National Park. Distribution of the magazine is organised by Cal and Dave Moore. Comments from members show how much the magazine is valued, especially by elderly people and some who live in other parts of the country or the world and are unable to visit the North York Moors.

Guided Walks

The normal programme of guided walks and events was severely curtailed because of Covid restrictions. Although walks re-started briefly in October 2020 with a walk round Comondale, more stringent restrictions returned as Covid numbers increased, and it was May 2021 before the walks resumed, beginning with a bluebell walk round Whorlton led by Heather and Colin Mather. Other walks followed monthly, making up a full programme which earlier in the year did not seem possible.

- June 26th Hograh Moor, led by Albert Elliot

- July 30th Goathland, led by Jane Ellis
- August 18th Appleton-le-Moors, including a guided tour by local resident Jim Hall and lunch at the Moors Inn, which is now a Business Member of NYMA
- September 22nd Cawthorn Roman Camps, led by Janet Cochrane and Robin Chapman

Thanks are due to all the walk leaders and to Heather Mather for organising the programme.

Conservation Award

This year the former annual award scheme (alternating between the President's Award and Conservation Award) has been changed to a rolling Conservation Award scheme, with a higher cap on awards of £2000 (formerly £1000). We continue to receive a contribution to the awards from the National Park. In 2020-21 we awarded funding support to:

- The Esk Valley Camphill Community, for tree planting and conservation work
- The 'Silver Seals' volunteers, for access work on footpaths, restoring and mending stiles
- The Ryedale Bridleway Group, for repair and maintenance of gates on bridleways used by horse-riders, mountain-bikers and walkers
- Moor Sustainable, for community work with apple-pressing and cider-making.

Corbett's Copse

Advice from an experienced forester at our biodiversity plot suggests that additional tree-planting can be carried out to increase the density of the existing planting. It has become necessary to repair fencing which has deteriorated, allowing sheep to wander in the enclosure and damage the 2020 winter planting of Alder Buckthorn which appears to have suffered about a 50% loss. It is intended to repair the fencing over the coming months when the bracken has died back, allowing improved access to the enclosure.

Moorsbus

The Moorsbus service, which was suspended due to the pandemic restrictions, was restarted on a reduced timetable in summer 2021 with a Saturday and Sunday service during July, August and September. NYMA continues to support Moorsbus with funding. A discussion paper has been put out by Moorsbus Community Interest Company which flags up a proposal to "improve access to the National Park in celebration of its 70th anniversary in 2022". NYMA has agreed to support this proposal by joining a partnership to raise a funding package of £70,000 from external sponsors in order to provide a daily North York Moors network provided by 5 buses during August 2022.

National Park Societies Conference

In 2019 NYMA volunteered to host the next annual conference of the National Park Societies. This was scheduled for October 2020 but had to be postponed because of the pandemic, and it will now take place in October 2021. The conference organiser is our Executive Secretary, Janet Cochrane, who has done considerable work to identify a theme and topics for the event along with inviting appropriate speakers, and to make other arrangements such as working with the venue (the Cober Hill Hotel) and relevant parties such as the other Societies and CNP, and organising the field trips along with leaders for these.

Battle of Byland Project

NYMA is supporting this project with funding from a £2,500 bequest from the estate of the late Professor Allan Patmore, a NYMA Vice-President. The project is to recognise the historical importance of the Battle of Byland in October 1322, and is led by Harry Pearson, a Volunteer Ranger with the National Park. A site has been identified close to the Sutton Bank Visitor Centre and planning permission has been given for the erection of a stone pillar to mark the location of the battle. The pillar, with an appropriate plaque and information board, will be set up in time for the 700th anniversary in October 2022. George Winn-Darley has kindly agreed to provide a stone from

the area of Spaunton Moor known as Spindle Thorn, which contains a scattering of Ganister slabs deposited during the last Ice Age. A stone has been selected and will be transported to Sutton Bank.

Planning Matters

Development at the Anglo-American Woodsmith Mine, the largest modern mining development in Europe, is continuing, with shaft-sinking started on the main service shaft and preparation made for the other two shafts. The reduced diameter ventilation shaft at Lockwood Beck appears to be completed. Preparation of the site at Lady Cross Plantation is under way to provide an additional ventilation shaft. The tunnel boring for the conveyor system from Whitby to Teesside is also continuing with the tunnel now advancing towards the Lockwood Beck site.

Another planning application was made in late 2020 for an airfield at South Moor Farm, near Langdale End, the 5th application for this site. The application was again refused by the National Park and subsequently the applicant appealed against this decision again for the 5th time. Earlier this year at the beginning of April the planning inspector appointed to this case made a site visit and as a result of his assessment the appeal was dismissed on the 26th of April 2021.

Tom Chadwick, NYMA Chair, on behalf of the Trustees, September 2021

**The North Yorkshire Moors Association
CIO No: 1169240**

**Financial Accounts for the
year ended 31st March 2021**

**Paul Tranter & Company
Chartered Accountants
Stokesley
North Yorkshire
TS9 5AD**

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/members of

Charity Name

THE NORTH YORKSHIRE FLOOD ASSOCIATION

On accounts for the year ended

31 03 21

Charity no (if any)

1169240

Set out on pages

3 to 4

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective responsibilities of trustees and
examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below*):

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met ; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed

[Signature]

Date

5th July 2021

Name

P. A. TRANTER

Relevant professional qualification(s)
or body (if any)

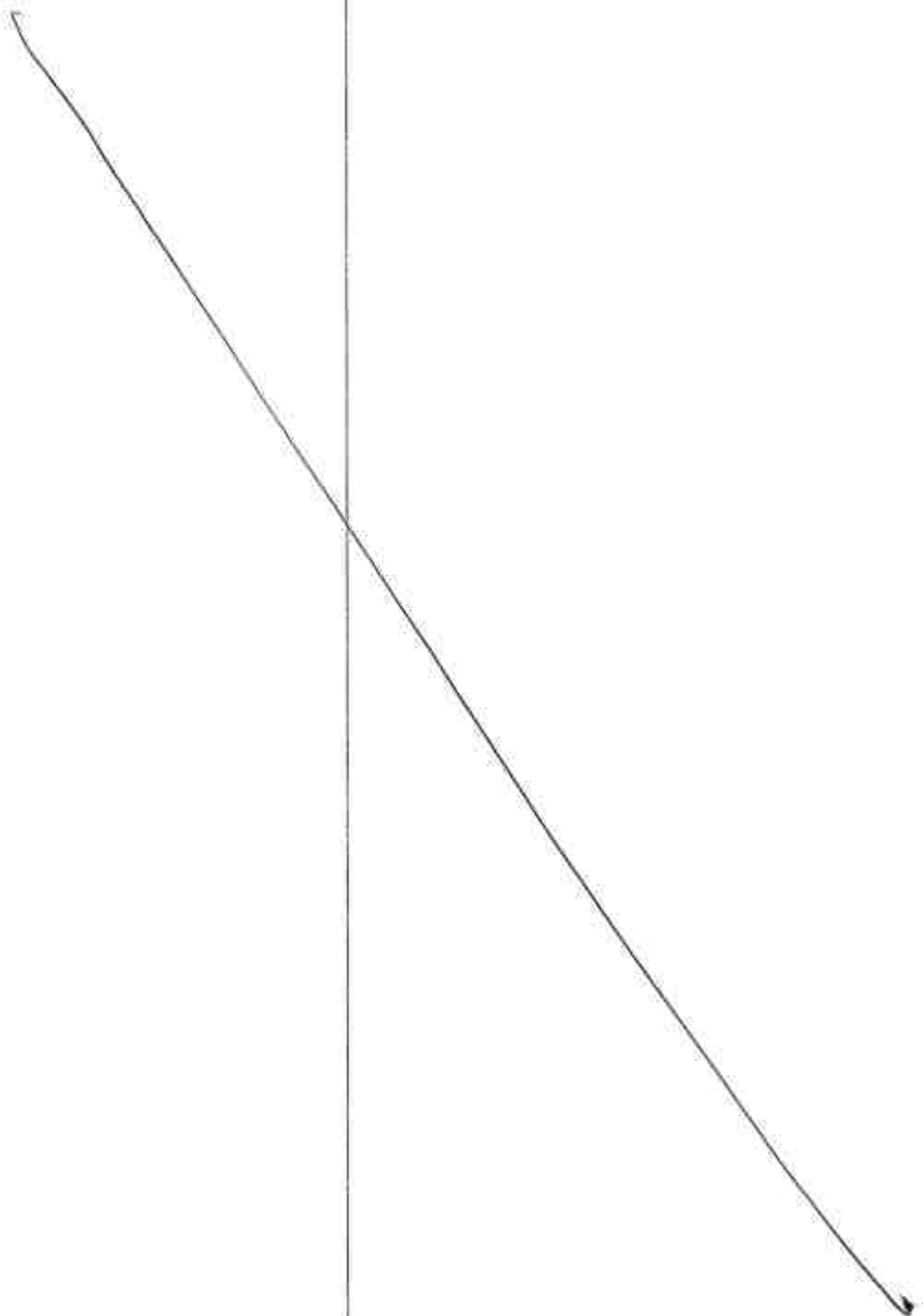
FCA (ICAEW)

Address

PAUL TRANTER & Co.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
31 HIGH STREET
STOKESLEY
NORTH YORKSHIRE TS9 5AD

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose



The North Yorkshire Moors Association
CIO No: 1169240

**Receipts & Payments Account for the
Financial year ended 31st March 2021**

		y/e 31.03.21 £	y/e 31.03.20 £
Receipts			
Subscriptions	Members	4,630.60	4,842.00
Book sales	History Tree	108.65	332.90
	Wild Flowers	895.15	-
Donations	President's Fund	-	-
	Main Fund	3,800.20	1,216.90
		note 3	
Gift Aid		856.33	783.27
History Tree Project (Lottery Funded)		-	-
Interest		21.72	72.60
Total Receipts		<u>10,312.65</u>	<u>7,247.67</u>
Payments			
Insurance		247.47	247.47
AGM		14.36	30.00
Auditor		156.00	156.00
CNP Annual Subscription		277.00	338.00
Wild Flowers project		938.52	-
Photocopying & Stationery		93.47	198.55
Postage		684.56	969.42
Sundry		85.00	24.00
Secretary Fees & Expenses		189.70	248.04
Voice' Production		2,345.80	1,999.20
		note 2	
Park Wood		80.00	
Bank Charges/Paypal fees		117.59	89.70
Website		676.80	628.80
President's Fund Award		1,000.00	-
Conservation Award		-	500.00
Leaflets - NYMA		-	125.00
Council Meeting Costs		15.54	90.00
Moors Bus		-	2,397.95
		note 1	
National Parks Conference Costs		-	1,640.02
National Parks Conference Attendance Fees (2018)		-	250.00
Grants to Others		-	400.00
Total Payments		<u>6,921.81</u>	<u>10,332.15</u>
Surplus for the year transferred to General Funds (p/y deficit)		<u>3,390.84</u>	<u>- 3,084.48</u>

The North Yorkshire Moors Association
CIO No: 1169240

**Balance Sheet as at
31st March 2021**

		31st March 2021		31st March 2020
	£	£	£	£
Current Assets				
Yorkshire Bank (2867030)		3,493.97		3,497.97
CAF Cash account (00007628)	4,046.96		904.98	
CAF Savings account Main Fund (000084225)	47,225.17		47,703.45	
Presidents Fund	<u>314.30</u>		<u>314.30</u>	
		51,586.43		48,922.73
PayPal		<u>854.29</u>		<u>123.15</u>
		<u>55,934.69</u>		<u>52,543.85</u>

Represented By:

General Fund	note 3		
Balance b/f		52,543.85	55,628.33
Surplus for the Year (p/y deficit)		<u>3,390.84</u>	<u>- 3,084.48</u>
Balance c/f		<u>55,934.69</u>	<u>52,543.85</u>

Notes:

1 Moor Bus Project

Funds have been allocated to the Moors Bus Project from the Laughton Legacy & other designated donations, have been fully exhausted during the financial year ended 31st March 2020.

2 Voice Production Cost

The total £2,345.80, includes £1,000 paid to P Thivillon for past works.

3 Donations/ Main Fund & Ongoing Projects the fund includes:

- a. Restricted Funds of £3,000 comprising £2,000 from the Bruce Wake Charitable Trust with a further £1,000 designated by NYMA for provision of a disabled bus stop at NYMA Centre Danby.
- b. £1,000 has been designated towards the cost of a replacement public footbridge at Helmsley. Both projects are ongoing and contingent upon other sources of finance..
- c. The bequest of £2,500 in 2018/19 from the Patmore Estate was to be allocated to a specific project. An appropriate project has not yet been identified. The restricted fund is carried forward.

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Approved by the Committee on