

Lancaster and Morecambe Model Engineering Society (2018)

Accounts

Financial Year Ended 31 December

2024

LANCASTER AND MORECAMBE MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY (2018)

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LANCASTER AND MORECAMBE MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY (2018)

CHARITY DETAILS

Trustees	Mr G M Brown (Chairman) Mr A Dixon Mr A Dunn Mr P Livesley Mr G McQuire Mr B Mulholland Mr K Pearson Mrs S Pearson Mr R Pengelly Mr D Wilson
Charity Names	Lancaster and Morecambe Model Engineering Society (2018)
Working name	Lancaster and Morecambe Model Engineering Society
Charity registration number	1176818
Registered office	22 Naworth Drive Carlisle CA3 0DD
Scrutineers	Mr Anthony Marshall Ms Margaret Grey

LANCASTER AND MORECAMBE MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY (2018)

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2024

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024, which have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's constitution and applicable law.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by its constitution dated 7 October 2018. The charity was registered on 24 January 2018.

The Trustees who have held office during the year are shown on page 3.

Objectives and activities

The charity is a model engineering society based at Cinderbarrow Picnic Site at Yealand Redmayne, Carnforth, Lancashire. The charity operates a miniature railway that is open to the public for rides on Sundays and Bank Holidays from spring to autumn and throughout the year on other specified days. The charity also holds events to develop interest in engineering projects.

The object of the charity is the advancement of public education in engineering through the construction and operation of models of engineering, the provision of talks, public exhibitions, demonstrations and by providing facilities for construction, development and running engineering models.

In establishing the objects and activities of the charity the Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Appointments of trustees

The charity is required to have at least three trustees. Trustees are appointed by the members at the annual general meeting or at any time as required. New trustees are provided with a copy of the constitution and a copy of the latest trustees' annual report and statement of accounts.

Achievements and performance

A full programme of passenger train operations was held during the summer until the end of October 2024. In addition to the usual Sunday and Bank Holiday operations, the Society also ran trains on Thursdays during summer school holidays and this was very well supported by the public.

The Society held a programme of evening meetings of general and educational engineering interest which were well supported by members. Monthly members running evenings were held from April to the end of the year which were well supported by members of other local clubs.

The Society ran a number of events providing additional benefits to the community, an event was held for the children from Carnforth County Primary School and two events for Loyne Special School in Lancaster. The Society also took part in an amateur radio event - Railways on the Air, a international event, at which Morecambe Bay Amateur Radio Society provided and operated a radio station. Members of the public were able to come and see an amateur radio station in operation and find out more about this fascinating hobby.

Work continued on replacement of points on the main track. Considerable further investment was made in this project with the purchase of another load of rail which was sufficient to complete the whole of the inner track and should be enough to complete two thirds of the outer track. The track improvements will result in a safer and more comfortable ride for passengers.

The Society has continued to attract new members, including a significant number of junior members, indicating our success in inspiring the younger generation with an interest in models and engineering more generally. Many of our new members were attracted by our Gauge 1 track, demonstrating the value of this facility. Our membership increased to over 150.

The Society began a project to set up a Garden Rail layout adjacent to our Gauge 1 track, It is intended to extend this significantly over coming years. It has been a particular attraction for young children.

Financial review

The Society's Reserves Policy is shown at Annex 1. At the end of 2024 the Society's reserve was above target, but in view of the capital projects that the Society plans to continue in 2025, this surplus is considered reasonable. The main capital projects envisaged for 2025 and beyond are

- Continued replacement of main track
- Upgrade and replacement of signalling system for main track
- Construction of Garden Gauge track
- Construction of raised track for 5" and 3½" gauge trains which involves moving the public footpath in order to provide space alongside the existing outer track

Free reserves as at 31 December 2024 were £21,203

Income for the year was £19,770 and expenditure was £20,077.

In view of the level of income the charity has prepared these accounts on the receipts and payments basis, summarising all money received or paid by the charity during the year. A statement giving details of the assets and liabilities at the end of the year is provided on page 8.

Trustees Statement

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). The accounts have been scrutinised by two members of the Society, as permitted within the Society's rules and as agreed by the Trustees. To the best of their knowledge, the Trustees confirm that: .

1. accounting records were kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; and
2. the accounts accord with those records; and
3. the accounts comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

LANCASTER AND MORECAMBE MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY (2018)

TRUSTEES REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 December 2024

This report was approved by the Trustees on12-8-25..... and signed on their behalf.


.....
G M Brown – Chairman

Receipts & Payments Account for the Financial Year Ended 31 Dec 24						
	Note	Financial Year, Jan'24-Dec'24				2023
	↓	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	1	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary Income						
Track Donations		9,229			9,229	10,172
Other donations	2	2,246			2,246	564
Grants					0	0
Gift Aid		0			0	841
Income Generation					0	
Group Booking Income		0			0	0
Members' Subscriptions	3	4,497			4,497	2,585
Sale Of Misc. Items		2,192			2,192	34
Investment Income		0			0	0
Charitable Income						
Miscellaneous		0			0	0
Sale Of Donated Items		1,065			1,065	6,825
Asset Sales		540			540	132
TOTAL RECEIPTS		19,770	0	0	19,770	21,152
PAYMENTS						
		£	£	£	£	£
Cost Of Generating Income						
Operating The Railway		586			586	0
Special Events		310			310	0
Other		656			656	578
Sub-total		1,551	0	0	1,551	578
Capital Expenditure						
Main Track		401			401	9,794
Small Track Projects		75			75	228
Raised Track		1,013			1,013	5
Carriage Shed		0			0	456
Workshop Equipment	4	3,500			3,500	0
Workshop Construction		0			0	4,641
New Rolling Stock		0			0	280
Equipment		254			254	419
Sub-total		5,242	0	0	5,242	15,823
Recurring Costs						
Rent & Rates		800			800	0
Services		7,362			7,362	5,136
Sub-total		8,162	0	0	8,162	5,136
Administration						
General Administration	5	827			827	1,004
Other Administrative	6	36			36	362
Sub-total		863	0	0	863	1,366
Maintaining Fixed Assets		4,258			4,258	1,971
TOTAL PAYMENTS		20,077	0	0	20,077	24,874
NET RECEIPTS-PAYMENTS		-307	0	0	-307	-3,722

Notes

- Accounting policies These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis. Expenditure is inclusive of VAT.
- Includes generous donations totalling £1600 from 3R Foundation for signage and publicity.
- Membership subscriptions includes a proportion of subscriptions from both 2024 and 2025.
- Expenditure for 2024 includes £3500 for purchase of a deceased member's workshop. Sale of surplus equipment will take place in 2025.
- No remuneration or other benefits were paid to the charity's trustees or people connected with them.
- General administration is expenses internal to the Society. Other administration is expenses incurred with external organisations, including legal costs.

Tangible Fixed Assets and liabilities at 31-Dec-24							
Assets	Buildings	Equipment	Track & Fencing	Rolling stock	Canopy	Gauge 1 Track	Total
Depreciation rate	3.33%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	
Base Value	£29,855						
Value at 31 Dec 23	£20,228	£1,972	£14,590	£6,356	£3,664	£2,248	£49,058
Depreciation	-£995	-£197	-£1,459	-£636	-£366	-£225	-£3,878
Addition in year	£0	£254	£1,413	£0	£0	£75	£1,742
Value at 31 Dec 24	£19,233	£2,029	£14,544	£5,720	£3,298	£2,098	£46,922
Liabilities							
Site clearance at end of lease	£7,000						£7,000
Net total fixed assets							£39,922

Declaration

The receipts and payments account for the financial period ended on 31 December 2024 and the statement of assets and liabilities at that date are approved by the Trustees.

For and on behalf of the Trustees:


 G M Brown - Chairman

16-9-25
 Date

Annex 1

Reserves Policy

The Society aims to maintain a positive balance of available assets to cover future planned expenditure and unplanned expenses. In developing a Reserves Policy, the Society has considered separate categories of unavoidable recurrent expenditure and discretionary capital expenditure.

Considering first the non-discretionary expenditure, there are considerable recurring expenses which are incurred by the Society in the maintenance of the site, such as rent, electricity, buildings maintenance, site maintenance. These costs must all be covered even if the Society does not have any income. Therefore it is necessary to maintain a level of reserve funds to cover any eventuality where the society is unable to generate any income. The Society considers it prudent to keep at least one year's running costs in hand to cover such cases.

The site at Cinderbarrow is leased from Lancashire County Council, and although we have a long lease, and are hoping to negotiate an extension, there is always the possibility that the lease may be terminated at some time in the future. It is also possible that the Society might be dissolved at some time in the future, for example if there are insufficient members to continue. In this event, there is a potential cost which would be incurred for site clearance in accordance with the lease. Considering that the Society now has considerable investment in physical assets, which could be disposed of to realise significant value, the Society believes that site clearance costs could be covered by such disposal.

The operation of the railway and maintenance of the site requires a considerable quantity of valuable equipment which must be both maintained and replaced from time to time. The Society must also maintain a significant reserve of funds available to cover exceptional expenses which inevitably arise from time to time, such as the replacement of major items of equipment.

Regarding discretionary expenditure, in a change from previous annual reports, the funds required for planned capital projects are no longer included in the reserve policy, but are listed in the Financial Review on page 5.

Calculation of a reasonable reserve target for 2024

Ongoing expenditure if no income	£7,000
Unplanned capital expenditure	£3,000
Total	£10,000