

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1178790**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021  
FOR  
FENLAND BLACK OAK CIO**

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Landgate Chambers  
24 Landgate  
Rye  
East Sussex  
TN31 7LJ

**FENLAND BLACK OAK CIO**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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## **FENLAND BLACK OAK CIO**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The objectives and aims of the charity are:

- to preserve and promote the heritage and historical importance of the jubilee oak and fenland black oak more generally by crafting a jubilee oak table and ensuring that the resulting work of craftsmanship is displayed to the public;
- to promote and raise awareness, research and knowledge relating to the jubilee oak and all matters relating to or associated with the formation, history and conservation of fenland black oak in such ways as the trustees deem appropriate;
- to advance the education and training in the crafts of carpentry and joinery associated with preserving and working with fenland black oak.

##### **Significant activities**

In 2012 an enormous 5,300 year-old tree trunk was unearthed and excavated in the East Anglian Fens. The discovery presented an opportunity to preserve this and use it to make a unique 13.2 metre long table and gift it to the nation. Additionally, it would also serve to highlight the importance of farmers preserving the dwindling supplies of this rarest of native hardwoods and to cast light for future generations on the ancient high forests of Fenland Britain of 3,300 BC.

The Fenland Black Oak Project would also serve as a training and discovery experience for the next generation of master craft men and women.

Accordingly the charity was founded to put this into effect and to enable a team of dedicated, skilled craftsmen to turn this unique piece of Black Oak into a table for the nation.

##### **Public benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

#### **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

##### **Charitable activities**

Following the establishment of the Charitable trust in June 2018 a team of trustees with wide and varied skills was recruited. These trustees included a master cabinet maker, a farmer, a college principal, a lawyer, an accountant, an administrator and a film maker. Additionally, the charity has attracted considerable goodwill and been helped by participation and services from many companies and individuals around the world.

As reported previously the original oak log was raised from the ground in 2012 and the table top fabricated, which was completed in August 2019.

The last year has been completing the design of an under-structure that would be fitting for this unique table top. This design has now been completed in patinated bronze using fully resolved and calculated structural drawings by engineers specializing in such structures and has been fully costed. The trustees have now raised the funds to enable the under-structure to be fabricated and the table completed, as well as funds to facilitate a comprehensive historical and educational display to accompany the table. The fabrication of the understructure is now under way and is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2022.

In addition to the proposed display of the table at Ely Cathedral, the Trust is in active dialogue with other destinations to house the table.

## **FENLAND BLACK OAK CIO**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Financial position**

In the period under review the charity has raised £81,810 in donations and has received the benefit of services (such as storage and fabrication works) amounting to a value of £15,468. These funds have been used in the design and prototype of the understructure and storage of the table top, leaving a balance of £78,974 when added to the reserves brought forward. At the period end the cash balance of £80,810 was sufficient to cover the charity's liabilities.

The trustees are confident that sufficient funds have been raised to enable the understructure to be built within the next twelve months, and the table completed.

##### **Reserves policy**

The purpose of the charity is to raise sufficient funds to build the table, which once built will be gifted to the nation. Costs are only incurred when the funds have been raised, so the trustees do not consider it necessary to maintain reserves. Accordingly, the level of reserves at the end of the period is an amount of £78,974 which has already been earmarked for expenditure.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a constitution adopted upon registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

##### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Charity number**

1178790

##### **Principal address**

Adamson & Low  
The Old Piggery  
Cuckoo Lane, Brenchley  
Tonbridge  
Kent  
TN12 7HX

##### **Trustees**

H Low (Chair)  
S Butler-Gallie  
L Conway  
Mrs A King  
G P Shropshire  
P R F Simpson

**FENLAND BLACK OAK CIO**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

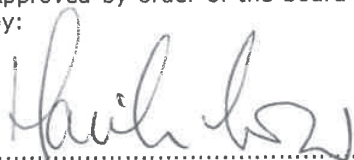
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Independent Examiner**

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Landgate Chambers  
24 Landgate  
Rye  
East Sussex  
TN31 7LJ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13 April 2022 and signed on its behalf  
by:



H Low - Trustee

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FENLAND BLACK OAK CIO**

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### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Fenland Black Oak CIO**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Fenland Black Oak CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 31 August 2021.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

**K M Luck FCA**

Mr K M Luck FCA  
Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Landgate Chambers  
24 Landgate  
Rye  
East Sussex  
TN31 7LJ

Date: **28 April 2022** .....

**FENLAND BLACK OAK CIO**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	<b>2021 Total funds £</b>	2020 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	<b>81,810</b>	<b>15,468</b>	<b>97,278</b>	22,213
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds		<b>398</b>	-	<b>398</b>	2,515
<b>Charitable activities</b>	3				
Jubilee Black Oak Project		<b>10,568</b>	<b>15,468</b>	<b>26,036</b>	11,760
<b>Total</b>		<b>10,966</b>	<b>15,468</b>	<b>26,434</b>	14,275
<b>NET INCOME</b>		<b>70,844</b>	-	<b>70,844</b>	7,938
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		<b>8,130</b>	-	<b>8,130</b>	192
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>78,974</b>	-	<b>78,974</b>	8,130

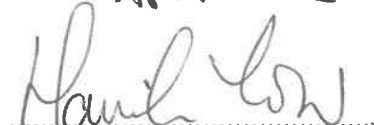
The notes form part of these financial statements

**FENLAND BLACK OAK CIO**

**BALANCE SHEET  
31 AUGUST 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	<b>2021 Total funds £</b>	<i>2020 Total funds £</i>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	-	-	-	625
Cash at bank		<b>80,810</b>	-	<b>80,810</b>	<i>13,363</i>
		<b>80,810</b>	-	<b>80,810</b>	<i>13,988</i>
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	<b>(1,836)</b>	-	<b>(1,836)</b>	<i>(5,858)</i>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>78,974</b>	-	<b>78,974</b>	<i>8,130</i>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>78,974</b>	-	<b>78,974</b>	<i>8,130</i>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>78,974</b>	-	<b>78,974</b>	<i>8,130</i>
<b>FUNDS</b>	10				
Unrestricted funds				<b>78,974</b>	<i>8,130</i>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<b>78,974</b>	<i>8,130</i>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13 April 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
H Low - Trustee



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, 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 Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**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.

**Donated goods and services**

Donations of significant goods and the services supplied by those who hold particular skill sets necessary to the project are included in the accounts as a Pro Bono restricted fund.

The trustees have used their best efforts to place a value on donated costs and time using estimates, where precise costs and times were not available. The trustees believe that the monetary value placed on donated costs and time and disclosed in the accounts is a reasonable approximation

The time donated by general volunteers has not been included in these accounts.

**Debtors**

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

**Creditors**

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations	<b>77,585</b>	<b>15,421</b>
Gift aid	<b>4,225</b>	<b>1,542</b>
Donated services and facilities	<b>15,468</b>	<b>5,250</b>
	<b>97,278</b>	<b>22,213</b>

**3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	<b>Unrestricted fund £</b>	<b>Restricted fund £</b>	<b>Total funds £</b>
<b>Jubilee Black Oak Project:</b>			
Construction and fabrication	-	<b>11,618</b>	<b>11,618</b>
Understructure	<b>8,732</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>10,882</b>
Insurance costs	<b>876</b>	-	<b>876</b>
Storage costs	-	<b>1,700</b>	<b>1,700</b>
Governance costs	<b>960</b>	-	<b>960</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,568</b>	<b>15,468</b>	<b>26,036</b>

**4. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Fees payable to the charity's accountants:

	<b>£</b>
Independent examination of the charity's financial statements	<b>960</b>

**5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2021 nor for the year ended 31 August 2020.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2021 nor for the year ended 31 August 2020.

**6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	<b>Unrestricted fund £</b>	<b>Restricted fund £</b>	<b>Total funds £</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	16,963	5,250	22,213
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	2,515	-	2,515
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Jubilee Black Oak Project	6,510	5,250	11,760
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,025</b>	<b>5,250</b>	<b>14,275</b>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
<b>NET INCOME</b>	7,938	-	7,938
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	192	-	192
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	8,130	-	8,130

**7. DONATED GOODS AND SERVICES**

Included in the Pro Bono restricted fund are donations of services and goods as follows:

	£
Fabrication of table top	11,618
Understructure	2,150
Storage	1,700
	<u>15,468</u>

The charity also benefits from the help of general volunteers in the form of students, but this is not quantified in the accounts.

**8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2021 £	2020 £
Gift Aid	-	625

**9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	876	898
Other creditors	960	4,960
	<u>1,836</u>	<u>5,858</u>

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/9/20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/8/21 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	8,130	70,844	78,974
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>8,130</u>	<u>70,844</u>	<u>78,974</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	<b>81,810</b>	<b>(10,966)</b>	<b>70,844</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Pro Bono Work	<b>15,468</b>	<b>(15,468)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>97,278</b>	<b>(26,434)</b>	<b>70,844</b>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/9/19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/8/20 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	192	7,938	8,130
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>7,938</b>	<b>8,130</b>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	16,963	(9,025)	7,938
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Pro Bono Work	5,250	(5,250)	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>22,213</b>	<b>(14,275)</b>	<b>7,938</b>

By their very nature, the Pro Bono donated goods and services, other than those of general volunteers, are given in order to facilitate a particular part of the project and are therefore treated as restricted funds.

## FENLAND BLACK OAK CIO

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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#### 11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

##### Guy Peter Shropshire - Trustee

In 2012 farmers G.S.Shropshire & Sons Ltd, of which Guy Peter Shropshire is a director, uncovered and donated a massive trunk of black bog oak to the Diamond Jubilee Black Oak Project. The project latterly became the Fenland Black Oak CIO when it formed a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. No monetary value was placed on the donation as the farmers recognised the importance of the find to the nation as a whole.

##### Hamish Low - Trustee

During the period Hamish Low provided pro bono services totalling £6,725. The donated services have been included as donated income and the corresponding expenses as charitable expenditure in the Pro Bono restricted fund.

**FENLAND BLACK OAK CIO**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	<b>77,585</b>	15,421
Gift aid	<b>4,225</b>	1,542
Donated services and facilities	<b>15,468</b>	5,250
	<b>97,278</b>	22,213
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>97,278</b>	22,213
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Raising donations and legacies</b>		
Fundraising consultant	-	550
Just giving subscription	<b>235</b>	733
Brochure/leaflet costs	-	769
Website costs	<b>163</b>	463
	<b>398</b>	2,515
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Insurance	<b>876</b>	873
Rebuild of kiln	-	700
Fabrication of top	<b>11,618</b>	(30)
Fabrication of top - Adamson & Low	-	217
Understructure	<b>10,882</b>	6,000
Storage	<b>1,700</b>	3,150
	<b>25,076</b>	10,910
<b>Support costs</b>		
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Independent examination fee	<b>960</b>	850
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>26,434</b>	14,275
<b>Net income</b>	<b>70,844</b>	7,938

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements