

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date 01/01/2011 To Period end date 31/12/2011

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	HIGHER MILL MUSEUM TRUST
Other names charity is known by	Higher Mill Trust
Registered charity number (if any)	1179086

Charity's principal address	Holcombe Road Helmshore Rossendale Lancashire Postcode BB4 4NP
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Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Bernard Roston	Chairman	
2	Stephen James Parr	Hon. Secretary	
3	Ronald Howell	Hon. Treasurer	
4	Ian Alston Gibson	Hon. Curator	
5	Brian Walter Essex		
6	Peter Janczyk	Vice Chairman	
7	Beryl Wendy Roston		
8	Denis Keith Wilson		
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
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Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

1. The preservation and conservation of Higher Mill Helmsshore and the associated land as a site of significant historical and architectural interest.
2. The advancement of education in the subject of textile industry by all or any of the following means:

Objectives and activities

- You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:
- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
 - the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
 - relationship with any related parties;
 - trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Museum is managed on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Trust by the Lancashire County Museum Service under the terms of a formal lease.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

How the charity is constituted

Trustee selection methods

CIO

Trust Committee

Constitution Of Charitable Incorporated Organisation dated 4 July 2018

Section B Structure, governance and management

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Collections	Heather Davis	Lancashire County Museums Service, Preston
Curatorial	Philip Butler	Lancashire County Museums Service, Preston
Day to Day Operations	Louise Jacobsson	Lancashire County Museums Service, Helmsshore

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Displays outlining the history of the woollen industry and its development through the ages.

Active demonstrations of the mill water wheel originally built in 1849, showing how powerful water can be in generating energy to drive machinery throughout the mill.

Also, how important the mill was in creating employment for the village of Helmsore and its residents, and the transition from cottage industry to factory manufacturing.

School parties and Educational visits are included in the museum programme to support the local history elements of curriculum, and to illustrate how the development of the mill was an integral part of the Industrial Revolution (particularly textiles) that made Lancashire and England famous throughout the world in technological developments and finance.

Showing children how hard their ancestors had to work to survive.

The Trustees are mindful of and are dedicated to the support of the Charity Commission's guidance on what is public benefit.

I) The use of Higher Mill as a working museum of the Lancashire textile industry to promote textile heritage, education and public access.

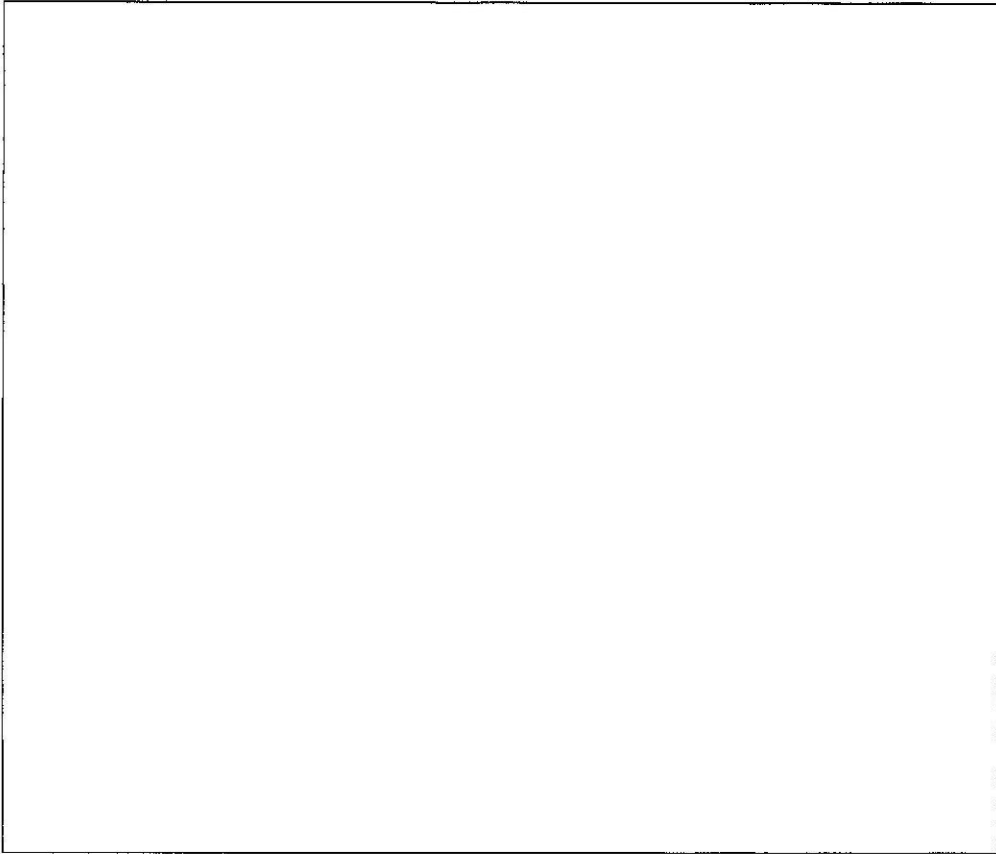
ii) The acquisition, preservation and interpretation of early textile machines and relevant collections for display to the public in Higher Mill or any other museum.

iii) The promotion of the study of, and research into, the history of the textile industry and the publication of the results of such study and research.

Section D

Achievements and performance

- You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:
- policy on grantmaking;
 - policy programme related investment;
 - contribution made by volunteers.



Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Annual Report for year ending 31st December 2021

The COVID epidemic and its variants continued to create problems for almost everyone during 2021. For the last two years it certainly contributed to our difficulties in making progress in the development of Higher Mill. Similarly, the lack of any discernible progress in the talks between LCC and National Trust have been an even greater ongoing source of disappointment, frustration and anger amongst trustees and the public. Despite these problems I have tried to present a short but positive report of the last year.

Despite the lockdown the Trust was able to hold an AGM in February, albeit in virtual format. The Annual Report, End of Year financial statement, Hon Curator's Report and the election of officers were all received and approved by post/email. I feel that although it is not the most satisfactory way of conducting a meeting, it adequately covered the bare necessities of an AGM. It was to my great relief and gratitude that all trustees agreed serve in office or on our committee for another year.

In March at the kind invitation of Heather Davis, we were offered the use of the Covid approved accommodation in the Conservation Studios in Preston. This provided a valuable opportunity for the trustees to meet again after a greatly extended break. Trying to pick up the threads after such a long break, felt almost like starting over again. The meeting was therefore more of a discussion group than a formal business meeting.

On May 26th the regular Trust Meetings resumed. To comply with the safe distance restrictions, they were held in the museum's large exhibition space, although some found the acoustics problematic. We managed to hold other business meetings in July, September and November 2021.

Traditionally, February is when trustees are delighted to receive an invitation from the Friends of Helmsford to attend their Annual Lunch. This is always a superb occasion, which gives time and opportunity to share time and discussion with new and old like-minded friends. Sadly, this year it had to be delayed until the lockdown restrictions were eased again in November.

The planned Easter re-opening of the museum was rescheduled for May due to the restrictions and, subject to safe distancing rules. We were delighted that the museum was allowed to re-open to the public for the 2021 summer season and visitors were again admitted to Higher Mill. However, the staffing problems meant that visitors were frequently unable to enjoy guided tours of the 'old' mill nor see the waterwheel operating.

In June, a special meeting was held to review the Alternative Energy Turbine Project. The Project Manager, Chairman and Vice-Chair worked to identify the outstanding technical queries and to produce a more accurate estimate of the probable cost of the project. A full report on progress and eventual cost was subsequently placed before the July Trust Meeting. The Project Manager's proposal that the project should be withdrawn from the Trust agenda, was debated. Although the Trustees fully support the project in principle, they are deeply disappointed by the need to step away. The ongoing uncertainty regarding the future of Higher Mill, the need for supplementary solar energy involving the whole site, the increasing

need for personal involvement, and the mounting costs were beyond the immediate scope of the Trust. It was felt that another organisation with long term stability such as Lancashire County Council should take over the leading role in the development of the scheme.

The Trust approached the LCC Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change expressing our support for his green policy campaign for the Northwest. We also extended invitation to view our existing waterpower and the long-term plans for alternative energy using turbine and solar energy. To-date (Jan 2022) we have received no response.

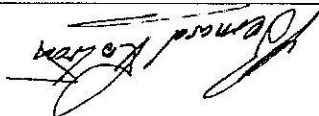
Discussions between Lancashire County Council and the National Trust continue to run behind the schedule originally presented to the November 2019 Trust meeting. Consequently, the creation of a financial transition endowment has been delayed. Should this ever materialise, staffing grants would then be obtained to enable progress to be made towards the next stage of the co-operation process. It is felt that we are now probably looking to 2023 rather than 2020 for tangible signs of progress.

Sara Burdett's departure from National Trust meant that we lost our principal source of news and information of the negotiations. However, in August we were pleased to welcome Mr Alex English who was appointed by National Trust, to investigate the feasibility of various proposals made to the Lancashire Mills Working Group. He also attended our Trust Meeting in September when he explained his plans and methodology.

The Trust's Linesshaft Project will incorporate the restoration of the fulling room linesshaft, plus its reconnection to the waterwheel and to the existing defunct system. Initially three companies were invited to survey and put forward their proposals for the repair and replacement work. By November only two of these companies had carried out surveys and to date neither have submitted proposals. However, it is worth noting that neither have actually declined to tender. This reticence prompted us to look elsewhere, and we subsequently submitted our enquiry to two additional companies, both of which come highly recommended. We hope that we can soon report a more positive response.

We continue to enjoy full Accredited Museum status, and the Trust continues to retain contact with the outside world through its membership of the British Association of Museums, Association of Independent Museums, and the Association of British Transport & Engineering Museums. The close association with the Friends of Helmsore Textile Museums and with the Industrial Archaeology Network through our Honorary Curator also continues.

The patience, loyalty, and support of all the officers and committee members of the Trust has been deeply moving. But as we enter a new year full of optimism I hope and pray that we do not have to endure another period of distress and frustration as we did during the last two years. My deepest respects and thanks for their help and guidance is also extended to the staff of the LCC Museum Service. Thank you all.



		Bernard Rostrom January 2022

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

Section E	
Financial review	
nil	

- You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:
- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
 - how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
 - investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Grant applications

Upkeep of exhibits and premises.

Educational visits by schools under the direction of the Heritage Learning Programme, STEM Club activities and public access.

Research into history of the site and the Turner family who founded the Mill in 1789 and exploring its impact on the local community. The findings are in early draft form with a view to eventual publication.

Currently planning to extend the waterwheel drive shaft system to power additional textile machinery exhibits.

As the Lancashire County Council is in the continuing complex process of withdrawing funding from its own remaining Museums and from those it is contracted to manage, we are seeking a new partner organisation to manage the site.

Consequently, there needs to be a pause in fundraising until the future of the museum is clarified.

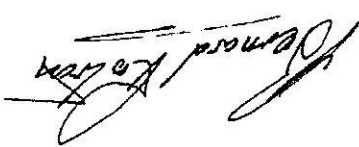
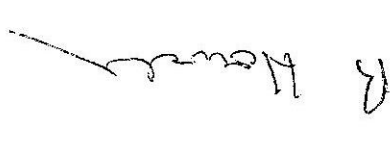
Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

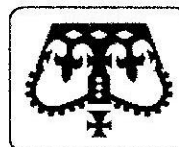
The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Full name(s)	Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)
	Bernard Roston	CHAIRMAN
	Ronald Howell	TREASURER

23/02/2022

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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's
report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

On accounts for the
year ended

31 December 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1179086

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have
followed the 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material
respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of
the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection
with the examination to which 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:

Arthur Marriott

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

Diploma in Municipal Administration

Address:

1 Oaklands Drive

Rawtenstall

Rosendale, Lancashire. BB4 6SA

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

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).