Long Mead Foundation

Registered Charity Number: 1196294

Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended

31 March 2023

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Administrative Information

Trustees	**Fiona Ravenscroft** **Louise Henson** **Kevin Martin**
Registered address	**Horseshoe Island** **Oxford Road** **Swinford** **Witney OX29 4DU**
Bankers	**Metro Bank**
Key management personnel	**Catriona Bass**
Charity Registration number	**1196294**

CAMERONS
ACCOUNTANCY

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Swinford
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27th March 2024

To the Trustees of Long Mead Foundation,

I report on the accounts of the charity (registered number: 1196294) for the period ended 31st March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company 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 for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent eaxmination, 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 material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that:

- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, 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;
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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.

Ellen O'Donnell FCA
Camerons Accountancy Consultants Ltd
9 Worton Park
Cassington
Oxfordshire
OX29 4SX

Long Mead Foundation
Year end 31 March 2023

Report of the Trustees – Year ending 31st March 2023

Long Mead Foundation was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with The Charity Commission in England on 27th October 2021. This is the first Report and Financial Statement of the Foundation. We have set our financial year to end on 31st March each year so this first Financial Statement includes the first months of 2022 as well as the 12 month period to 31st March 2023. Future Financial Statements will be for a 12 month period only.

All Trustees have been in post throughout the period and have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by The Charity Commission in exercising their duties.

The objects of Long Mead Foundation are:

1. To promote, for the benefit of the public, the conservation protection and enhancement of the natural environment and in particular but not exclusively

   a. To undertake the conservation and enhancement of the biodiversity of the floodplain meadows along the Upper Thames;
   b. To advance the understanding of, and methods to, restore the ecosystems of floodplain meadows working with academic institutions, farmers and landowners;
   c. To advance education of the public about the natural environment, including nature-based solutions for climate-change, particularly in relation to floodplain meadows;

2. To relieve the needs of adults with learning disabilities and autism by offering nature-based activities.

In the Foundation's first 17 months of operation, the meadow creation work included the creation of 19 hectares of new meadow on both sides of the River Thames at Pinkhill, connecting up existing ancient and species-rich floodplain meadows as part of the Thames Valley Wildflower Meadow Restoration Project. With the assistance of community volunteers, schools students, scouts, beavers, and social farming participants (adults with learning disabilities and autism and those with physical and mental health challenges) plants were propagated using seeds from local meadows and then planted out in the Autumn. Data was collected on germination rates, growing times, as well as other characteristics of individual species as part of research for the creation of a Protocol for Community Based Plant Propagation. Trials were begun on various growing media, including zero miles compost, using woodchip pollarded from Long Mead willows. Over 3000 plants were planted out in 5 meadows; aluminium tags were placed at the planting locations to enable long term monitoring. Botanical surveys were carried out between April and September. A longitudinal study of invertebrates in floodplain meadows under restoration was carried out by a team of local experts. The Foundation also led the enhancement of 5 community meadows in Eynsham as part of the community Nature Recovery Network. A number of talks and workshops were undertaken, articles published and Long Mead welcomed a significant number of visitors. Funded was received from the Open University Floodplain

Meadows Partnership, the Freshwater Habitats Trust, Natural England, Oxfordshire County Council and West Oxfordshire District Council.

The Trustees are grateful for the hard work of Catriona Bass who, during these early days of the Long Mead Foundation, has carried out the day-to-day running of the Charity as well as its engagement activities, *pro bono*. They also thank all volunteers at Long Mead Foundation and the contractors, consultants and experts who have contributed to the work of its Thames Valley Wildflower Meadow Restoration Project.

The Trustees offer their thanks for the financial support from the multiple individual donations made to the Foundation and to their donors:
Freshwater Habitats Trust, Open University, Natural England, Oxfordshire County Council and West Oxfordshire District Council without whom much of this work would not be possible.

Approval of the Trustees

The Trustees of the Long Mead Foundation have approved these, the first financial statement for the period herein and is signed on their behalf by:

Signature redacted for security

M L Henson
Trustee

Long Mead Foundation
Year end 31 March 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

O/B	**£0**		
INCOME			
RESTRICTED FUNDS	**INCOME**	**EXPENDITURE**	**c/BALANCE**
Natural England	£26,926	£26,864	£62
Open University	£20,700	£14,000	£6,700
Freshwater Habitats Trust	£24,350	£18,235	£6,114
Oxfordshire County Council	£4,294	£470	£3,824
West Oxfordshire District Council	£500	£486	£14
TOTAL	**£76,770**	**£60,055**	**£16,714**
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
DONATION	£2,390		
OTHER INCOME	£688		
TOTAL	**£3,078**		
TOTAL INCOME	**£79,848**		
EXPENSES			
EXPENDITURE FROM RESTRICTED FUNDS			
CO-ORDINATION	£17,050		
COMMS/ENGAGEMENT	£590		
DATA MANAGEMENT	£500		
OVERHEADS	£6,266		
PLANT PROP	£8,904		
REFERENCE	£482		
RESEARCH	£16,996		
RESTORATION	£9,268		
TOTAL	**£60,056**		
EXPENDITURE FROM UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
OFFICE/ADMIN	£9		
OVERHEADS From grant income	-£6,266		
UNRESTRICTED - TOTAL	**-£6,257**		
TOTAL EXPENSES	**£53,799**		
TOTAL C/B	**£26,048**		