



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From: 1<sup>ST</sup> April 2022**

**To: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

**Charity name: LOWDHAM FLOOD ACTION GROUP**

**Charity registration number: 1197083**

### **Objectives and Activities**

|                                                                                                                                                                      | SORP reference     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document                                                                                          | Para 1.17          | <p>The relief and assistance of people living within the vicinity of the parish of Lowdham and surrounding areas who are the victims of flooding through such support as the trustees deem fit.</p> <p>The protection of the environment for the public benefit, by seeking to improve flood defences by working and communicating with the community, other similar organisations and relevant authorities to reduce the risk of flooding in the Lowdham and surrounding area, by helping manage the flow of water into, through and out of the village, and giving support to the appropriate authorities in keeping the drainage infrastructure clear, well maintained and monitored, with a view to minimising the impact on human life and property.</p>   |
| Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts. | Para 1.17 and 1.19 | <p>Lowdham FLAG has had a successful year in 2022/23 and has continued to monitor the efficiency of the culvert system to ensure water flows freely underground during an event and we remain confident that they are in good condition. Thankfully during the reporting period, there have been no major flood events to test these culverts, however we have successfully conducted a simulated flood event exercise to test and review all our systems.</p> <p>We have maintained our relationships with those who consider themselves vulnerable to flooding and who have requested ongoing support; these are mainly elderly people, often living alone. Our water course walkers have continuously checked drains and water courses for obstructions.</p> |

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|  |  | <p>The excellent relationship with VIA East Midlands has seen them respond in a timely manner to all observations we have made and we continue to provide the critical link between VIA East and the village.</p> <p>We believe there are two culverts that are poorly sited on Tannery Dyke, therefore we continue to press the Internal Drainage Board to carry out appropriate improvements.</p> <p>We are also continuing to maintain very good relationships at various levels within the Environment Agency. We are on a working group and act as a 'critical friend' to the Environment Agency as they continue to progress the 'main scheme' between Lowdham and Lambley building an attenuation reservoir, which is due to be operational in 2025 having recently slipped three seasons.</p> <p>We are working with several agencies, including Parish and District Councils to improve regulations around planning for Lowdham to ensure future developments are cognisant of flood issues.</p> |
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| Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit | Para 1.18 | In carrying out their activities, the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. |
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#### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

|                                                                  | SORP reference |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Policy on grant making                                           | Para 1.38      |  |
| Policy on social investment including program related investment | Para 1.38      |  |
| Contribution made by volunteers                                  | Para 1.38      |  |
|                                                                  |                |  |



|       |  |  |
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| Other |  |  |
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## Achievements and Performance

|                                                                                                                                                                                                 | SORP reference |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole. | Para 1.20      | <p><b>Lowdham FLAG has had a successful year in 2022/23. It has built on the successes of the previous year which saw, under its leadership, a comprehensive programme of culvert clearance following the February 2020 flood. Through increasingly strong relationships with VIA East Midlands, it has seen them address ongoing maintenance issues. Thankfully, during the reporting period, there have been no major flood events to test these culverts but we remain confident that they are in good condition. We are pressing for them to be checked in the autumn prior to the winter season.</b></p> <p><b>We have maintained our relationships with those who consider themselves vulnerable to flooding and who have requested ongoing support. These are mainly elderly people, often living alone. Our water course walkers have continuously checked drains and water courses for obstructions. The excellent relationship with VIA East Midlands has seen them respond in a timely manner to all observations we have made.</b></p> <p><b>We have increased the number of sandbags / Aquasacs that we hold and are available to distribute in advance of a flood event, and have also provided some to households requesting them.</b></p> <p><b>There was surface water flooding of the A612 Nottingham Road caused by blocked culverts and chambers, ditches that needed digging out, and debris being washed from higher ground. Our intervention ensured a timely response from the riparian owners of assets and VIA East Midlands who cleared all blockages and had a screen built to prevent further blockages.</b></p> <p><b>We have provided the critical link between the Environment Agency and the village during the repair of the Cocker Beck left bank flood wall. Monthly meetings have been held, as well as on site meetings. This project has been well run, and our support, especially around communications, has been effective. We are also providing a 'critical friend' to the Environment Agency as they continue to progress the 'main scheme' between Lowdham and Lambley building an attenuation reservoir, which is now due to be operational in 2025.</b></p> <p><b>We continue to press the Internal Drainage Board to improve two culverts which are poorly sited on Tannery Dyke.</b></p> |

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|  |  | <p>We are working with several agencies, including Parish and District Councils to improve regulations around planning for Lowdham to ensure future developments are cognisant of flood issues.</p> |
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

|                                                              |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Achievements against objectives set                          | Para 1.41 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have maintained our relationships with those who consider themselves vulnerable to flooding</li> <li>• Our water course walkers have continuously checked drains and water courses for obstructions.</li> <li>• We have successfully tested our systems used in a flood event.</li> <li>• We have provided the critical link between the Environment Agency and the village during the planning of the main scheme on Lambley Road.</li> </ul> |
| Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set | Para 1.41 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Investment performance against objectives                    | Para 1.41 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Other                                                        |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

### Financial Review

|                                                                     |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period | Para 1.21 | <p>The charity was first registered on 13 December 2021 and we achieved our initial aim of securing funds and open a bank account. These initial aims were met following a generous donation from Lowdham Parish Council and our Nottinghamshire County Councillor.</p> <p>Expenditure during 2022/23 focussed on continuing maintaining communications with the relevant authorities, our beneficiaries and the public, and expanding our resources for monitoring and</p> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



|                                                                                  |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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|                                                                                  |           | <p><b>assessing rainfall and other weather conditions by the purchase of a weather station.</b></p> <p><b>Whilst income during the year amounted to £6, our charity has been successful in being accepted by the Cooperative Local Community Fund for 2023. Expenditure was £257 resulting in total reserves of £1,299, of which £286 is a restricted reserve.</b></p> |
| Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held   | Para 1.22 | <b>The reserves are held to fund future shortfalls in income that may arise, and towards the future development of the charity.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Amount of reserves held                                                          | Para 1.22 | <b>£1,013 excluding £286 held in a restricted reserve</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Reasons for holding zero reserves                                                | Para 1.22 | <b>N/A</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Details of fund materially in deficit                                            | Para 1.24 | <b>N/A</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern | Para 1.23 | <b>N/A</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

|                                                                                 |           |                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)            | Para 1.47 | <b>During the reporting period, no funds were generated and no fund raising was undertaken.</b>                                       |
| Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted | Para 1.46 | <b>Our investment policy was adopted in February 2023.</b>                                                                            |
| A description of the principal risks facing the charity                         | Para 1.46 | <b>There have not been any significant events that have affected the financial performance and financial position of the charity.</b> |
| Other                                                                           |           | <b>In accordance with the Charity Commission requirements, the required policies have been prepared and adopted</b>                   |

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

|                                                                         |           |                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Description of charity's trusts:                                        |           |                                                          |
| Type of governing document (Trust deed, royal charter)                  | Para 1.25 | <b>Constitution registered 13 December 2021</b>          |
| How is the charity constituted? (e.g., unincorporated association, CIO) | Para 1.25 | <b>Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Foundation</b> |

|                                                                                                                                                                           |           |                                                                                  |
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| Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees | Para 1.25 | Trustees are appointed or reappointed at the Annual General Meeting held in July |
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

|                                                                                           |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees                | Para 1.51 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works | Para 1.51 | <p>The trustees are responsible for the oversight of the charity in accordance with the constitution, for preparing the trustees' report and financial statements.</p> <p>The trustees are involved in the day-to-day operation of the charity which is complimented by a team (the FLAG Working Group) who administer and monitor the various activities carried out by the charity.</p> |
| Relationship with any related parties                                                     | Para 1.51 | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Other                                                                                     |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

### Reference and Administrative details

|                             |                                                   |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Charity name                | Lowdham Flood Action Group                        |
| Other name the charity uses | Lowdham FLAG                                      |
| Registered charity number   | 1197083                                           |
| Charity's principal address | 8 The Corner<br>Lowdham<br>Nottingham<br>NG14 7AR |
|                             |                                                   |

### 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 | Peter Terris Cross OBE  | Chair           |                                   |                                                               |
| 2 | Ann Elizabeth Carpenter |                 |                                   |                                                               |
| 3 | Katherine Julia Rae     | Hon Secretary   |                                   |                                                               |

|    |                                     |                                        |  |  |
|----|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--|--|
| 4  | Russell Charles Simon<br>Blenkinsop | Vice Chair and<br>Company<br>Secretary |  |  |
| 5  | Elizabeth Julia Blenkinsop          |                                        |  |  |
| 6  | Hugh Maurice Hedderly               | Hon Treasurer                          |  |  |
| 7  |                                     |                                        |  |  |
| 8  |                                     |                                        |  |  |
| 9  |                                     |                                        |  |  |
| 10 |                                     |                                        |  |  |
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| 18 |                                     |                                        |  |  |
| 19 |                                     |                                        |  |  |
| 20 |                                     |                                        |  |  |

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

| Director name |  |  |
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Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

| Trustee name | Dates acted if not for whole year |  |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--|
|              |                                   |  |
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|              |                                   |  |
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### Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

|                                                                                                                               |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Description of the assets held in this capacity                                                                               | N/A |
| Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects | N/A |
| Details of arrangements for safe custody and                                                                                  |     |



|                                                          |  |
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| segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets |  |
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### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

| Type of adviser | Name | Address |
|-----------------|------|---------|
|-----------------|------|---------|

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

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### Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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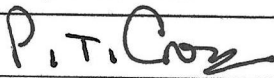
### Other optional information

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### Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

|                                       |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Signature(s)                          |  |  |
| Full name(s)                          | Peter Cross                                                                         | Russell Blenkinsop                                                                   |
| Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair, etc) | Chair                                                                               | Vice-Chair                                                                           |

|      |                           |
|------|---------------------------|
| Date | 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 |
|------|---------------------------|



Lowdham Flood Action Group  
2022/23 Accounts  
Profit and Loss Account

| 2021/22     | Income                   |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| £ 1,422.22  | Donations (General)      |
| £ 200.00    | Grants (Restricted)      |
| £ -         | Miscellaneous income     |
| £ -         | Bank interest            |
| £ 1,622.22  |                          |
| Expenditure |                          |
| £ -         | Equipment                |
| £ -         | Trustee expenses         |
| £ 22.65     | Publicity and PR         |
| £ 48.99     | Website and IT           |
| £ -         | Bank charges             |
| £ -         | Printing and stationery  |
| £ 71.64     |                          |
| £ 1,550.58  |                          |
|             | <b>Net Profit/(Loss)</b> |

| 2022/23  |  |
|----------|--|
| £ -      |  |
| £ -      |  |
| £ 6.50   |  |
| £ -      |  |
| £ 6.50   |  |
| £ 151.17 |  |
| £ 27.00  |  |
| £ 79.13  |  |
| £ -      |  |
| £ -      |  |
| £ -      |  |
| £ 257.30 |  |
| £ 250.80 |  |

Lowdham Flood Action Group  
2022/23 Accounts  
Balance Sheet

| 2021/22              | Current assets                                 | 2022/23    |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------|
| £ -                  | Debtors                                        | £ -        |
| £ -                  | Petty cash                                     | £ -        |
| £ -                  | Cheques held                                   | £ -        |
| £ 1,557.08           | Virgin Bank current account                    | £ 1,299.78 |
| £ 1,557.08           |                                                | £ 1,299.78 |
| Current liabilities  |                                                |            |
| £ 6.50               | Creditors : Short term (Note 1)                | £ -        |
| £ 6.50               |                                                | £ -        |
| £ 1,550.58           | <b>Current assets less current liabilities</b> | £ 1,299.78 |
| Capital and Reserves |                                                |            |
| £ -                  | Reserves                                       | £ 1,264.15 |
| £ 200.00             | Restricted reserve - NCC Grant                 | £ 86.43    |
| £ -                  | Restricted reserve - Parish Council grant      | £ 200.00   |
| £ 1,350.58           | Profit and Loss Account                        | £ 250.80   |
| £ 1,550.58           |                                                | £ 1,299.78 |

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Signed:  Hon Treasurer  
*Examiner's certificate*  
We have examined the above receipts and payments account with the books, Records and vouchers of the Committee, and certify the same to be in accordance therewith.  
To the best of our knowledge and belief the sums properly due have been received and the payments have been made on behalf of the Committee.

Signed:  Date: 19/04/23