

ANNUAL REPORT

Thomas Ouff and Poors Land Charities

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 218700

A Deed dated 27th July 1937 executed by the Board of the Charity Commissioners replaced early arrangements for the two charities and set out the procedures for appointing trustees and the future conduct of the charities.

The deed provides that the yearly income of the Charities shall be applied by the Trustees in the supply of clothes, boots, linen, bedding, fuel, tools, medical or other aid in sickness, food or other articles in kind for the benefit of such poor persons resident in the Ancient Township of Disley and not in receipt of Poor-law relief other than medical relief, as the Trustees select for this purpose, and in such way as they consider most advantageous to the recipients, and most conducive to the formation of provident habits. Provided that income shall in no case be applied in aid of any rates for the relief of the poor or other purposes, or so that any individual may become entitled to a periodical or recurrent benefit therefrom.

The deed provided for the appointment of five trustees who were to be competent and resident or carrying on business in Disley. Three to be appointed by Disley Parish Council (DPC), one to be appointed by New Mills Urban District Council and one by Whaley Bridge Urban District Council. In 2009 the New Mills and Whaley Bridge councils both confirmed that appointments should be dealt with exclusively by DPC. Statute now provides that existing trustees have the power to appoint new trustees but the current trustees are minded to follow the spirit of the deed and appoint trustees who have first been approved by DPC.

The Poors Land charity owned approximately 4 acres of land at Mudhurst Lane Disley which the current trustees assume was historically let for grazing to raise funds.

The charity's records indicate that by 1994 the fences at the Property were inadequate to keep sheep in and the then trustees decided to enter into a Countryside Stewardship Agreement with the Countryside Commission. The agreement was expressed to commence on 1 October 1994 and expired 30 September 2004.

DPC made one-off grants to the then trustees of £100 in 1997, 1998 and 1999 to assist with maintenance but did not enter into a maintenance agreement for the land.

In August 2003 DEFRA wrote to DPC to advise that the agreement would end on the 30 September 2004 and that renewal would not be invited.

The expiry of the stewardship scheme left the trustees without any income from the land and potential liabilities associated with land ownership. The then trustees explored the possibility of changing the objects of the charity on the basis the original objects had failed due to lack of funds to try and find a use for the land and avoid the potential liabilities associated with the land ownership.

In 2021 and 2022 the trustees were reduced to a single person (Jackie Pattison) who was also a DPC Councillor. The trustee explored with the Charity Commission and DPC various methods by which DPC might take over responsibility for the land but the conclusion was that the only lawful means of

achieving this would be for DPC to purchase the land at market value. DPC concluded it was not appropriate to do that.

Following DPC's decision not to purchase the land it was offered for sale by the Brown Rural Partnership and in December 2022 the land was sold for a price of £51,500. The sale of the land was quite complicated from a legal point of view and the trustee instructed property specialists Land Law LLP to act in the sale.

To complete the sale formalities a second DPC councillor (Jean Windsor) was appointed as a trustee. After the deduction of selling agents fees and legal fees the charity was left with a sum of £42,192.62 which is held in a trust account and two interest bearing accounts with NatWest Bank. These funds have subsequently been supplemented by interest earned in the accounts being a total of £311.33 in 2023. The total cash held at the NatWest bank at the end of 2023 was £42,503.95. The charity has £27.82 in an old RBS account which the trustees are attempting to close and transfer to the NatWest current account. The charity had no other assets at the end of 2023 and no debts or liabilities that the current trustees are aware of.

The receipt of the sale proceeds means that the original objects and spirit of the deed can be followed. Funds can be used to assist "poor" residents of the ancient township of Disley.

The objects of the charity appear:

to be concerned with providing specific benefits that the recipient requires as opposed to providing a cash grant;

to exclude people in receipt of Poor Law relief (except medical aid) however, the Poor Laws were repealed by the welfare state legislation of the 1940s (although work houses had been abolished before the date of the deed) but perhaps an inference can be drawn from this exclusion that the intention was that the charity was not to assist individuals who were effectively being cared for by the state but was intended to give aid to the people who to some extent sustained themselves but who on occasion found it difficult to make ends meet, such an interpretation might be considered consistent with the reference to the formation of provident habits;

to exclude periodic or recurrent benefits which perhaps suggests that the intention is for the charity to provide "one off" benefits for people in need.

The current trustees have concluded that providing a specific non-recurring benefit to residents of Disley who have low income and limited assets who are struggling to make ends meet is a reasonable interpretation of the objects of the charity for the 2020s. It is considered unreasonable to expect current trustees to purchase and deliver articles in kind but it is reasonable and appropriate to achieve the spirit of the original objects by making cash grants to qualifying recipients to assist them to meet a specifically identified cost so long as reasonable enquiry has been made to establish the veracity of the claim.

By way of example of the application of this interpretation the current trustees have in mind that grants may be made to assist qualifying individuals with the payment of winter fuel bills where they are not in receipt of the winter fuel allowance, to assist the parents of school children who might otherwise not be able to take part in paid for school activities and to assist the parents of children who are members of the local scout group or youth club who might otherwise not be able to take part in paid for group activities.

The charities did not make any payments in 2023 because the current trustees wanted to increase the number of trustees to five before doing so. A public appeal for volunteers was made on the DPC web site and the current trustees have made individual approaches to members of the community who might be suitable candidates. Unfortunately, it has proved difficult to find suitable and willing candidates, however, two additional trustees have now been identified although formal deeds of appointment have not yet been executed. It is expected that these appointments will be formalised before the end of the year.

The trustees intend to publicise the existence of the trust and the potential availability of grants on the DPC website and to notify the Disley Primary School administration, the School House GP's surgery and the leaders of the various churches and community groups within the village.

Applications for grants will be invited to be made through DPC or directly to the trustees.

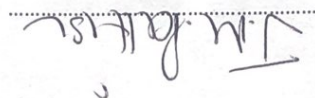
Applications will be required to be in writing although where appropriate the trustees will assist or secure assistance for the applicants to deal with the written application. Supporting documentation and/or evidence will be expected by the trustees and approvals will be by a simple majority of the trustees for grants of less than £250.00, any grant exceeding £250 will only be made with the approval of all the trustees. At the present time the trustees do not envisage making any grant exceeding £1,000.00. In the case of adequately supported applications not exceeding £250 the trustees expect that the approval process will be by email and/or conference calls between the trustees. Applications for larger grants and/or blocks of applications for smaller grants will usually be considered at a round table meeting.

The trustees will meet at least once every calendar year to review the charities' performance.

The Charities' address is c/o Disley Parish Council, Disley Community Centre, Off Buxton Old Road, Disley, Cheshire, SK12 2BB.

The Current trustees are Jacqueline Mary Pattison and Jean Windsor who are both parish councillors at DPC.

Signed Jacqueline Mary Pattison (trustee)



Date 25 October 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Thomas Ouff and Poors Land Charities

No (if any)
218700

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from Period start date
2/1/23 To Period end date
1/1/24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Bank Interest	311	0	0	311	2
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	311	0	0	311	2
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Sale of land	51,500	0	0	51,500	
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	51,500	0	0	51,500	0
Total receipts	51,811	0	0	51,811	2
A3 Payments					
Land sale costs	9,307	0	0	9,307	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	9,307	0	0	9,307	0
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0	0
Total payments	9,307	0	0	9,307	0
Net of receipts/(payments)	42,504	0	0	42,504	2
A5 Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	0
A6 Cash funds last year end	28	0	0	28	0
Cash funds this year end	42,532	0	0	42,532	2

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds			
Bank Current Account	2,193	0	0
Bank Deposits	40,339	0	0
	0	0	0
Total cash funds	42,532	0	0
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
	OK Unrestricted	OK Restricted funds	OK Endowment

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	funds to nearest £	to nearest £	funds to nearest £
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0

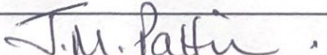
**B4 Assets retained for the
charity's own use**

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		0	
		0	
		0	
		0	
		0	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of
all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Jacqueline Mary Pattison	25/10/24

**Independent Examiner's unqualified report for Thomas Ouff & Poors Land Charities Charity
Number 218700 (a non-company charity preparing receipts and payments accounts) with a gross
income of £250,000 or less in the relevant financial year**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THOMAS OUFF & POORS LAND
CHARITIES**

I report to the trustees of **THOMAS OUFF & POORS LAND CHARITIES** (the Trust) for the year ended
01 January 2024.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the 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 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 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.

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.

Signed 

Name PETER JAMES WILLIAMS

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any):

TAX DIRECTOR - APEIRON TAX CONSULTANCY LTD,

Address: 87 CROW HILL SOUTH, MIDDLETON MANCHESTER M24 1LA

Date 26/10/2024