

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st March 2025

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society

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Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society
Legal and Administrative Information
For the year ended 31st March 2025

Trustees: C Dixon (Chair)
Mrs C Daines
A Goldspink
R Hammond
Mrs J Matthews
S Earl

Committee: C Dixon
R Hammond (Vice Chair)
Mrs S Carter (Minute Secretary)
Mrs C Daines (Treasurer)
Mrs J Matthews (Secretary)
Mrs J Aguss
P Allerton
S Earl
Mrs V Banham (Membership Secretary)
Mrs J Durrant
A Ayres

Registration Number: 271444

Principal Address: Maritime Museum
Sparrows Nest
Whapload Road
Lowestoft, Suffolk

Independent Examiner: Deborah Dyer FCCA
DJD Accounting Services
5 Monckton Avenue
Lowestoft, Suffolk

Solicitors: Mears, Hobbs and Durrant
11 Ballygate
Beccles
Suffolk

Bankers: Nat West
Lowestoft
Suffolk

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31st March 2025

Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are to educate the public in old and modern shipping, and in the trades and crafts associated with shipping lore in or about Lowestoft within the Waveney district of Suffolk. The trustees have taken due regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission regarding public benefit and consider the operation of the museum, which is open to the general public and local schools and youth groups, does indeed provide a public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was founded in 1958 and registered as an incorporated charity under reference 27144. The charity's constitution was adopted on 29th April 1976 and registered with the Charity Commission on 21st June 1976.

The Trustees are elected by vote, open to the entire membership. They remain in office until they choose to resign or are removed by a members vote. All Trustees sit on the committee and attend regular meetings. Upon appointment Trustees are provided with copies of:

- the charity's constitution
- the latest accounts of the charity
- Charity Commission guidance notes CC3 "The Essential Trustee"

They are also encouraged to read Charity Commission newsletters and attend appropriate training and updating courses to keep informed.

The committee is elected and comprises Trustees and society members. The committee meet monthly to manage the society. Any Trustee business is discussed prior to the formal committee meeting at which committee members are welcome to attend, but not vote. The wider membership are invited to attend the AGM and any other meetings which require a full membership vote.

The AGM is normally held on the last Thursday in June each year. All committee members stand for re-election at this AGM. The position of Trustee is separate from that of committee member and as such the Trustees do not stand for re-election at this meeting.

The Trustees and management committee are aware of potential risks facing the charity and deal with these as appropriate when they are expected to arise. There is no formal risk assessment policy, and likewise although there is no formal policy for investment management the Trustees keep an eye on the society's funds to ensure they are receiving the best return for the level of risk deemed acceptable.

Purposes and Aims

The society continues to run the museum at Sparrows Nest as a means of meeting the objectives of the charity and raising funds. The museum strives to appeal to local people and visitors alike. The success of this can be witnessed by comments to staff by visitors and local school and youth groups. Together with requests for reference material, educational aids and research from both inside and outside of the UK.

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society
Report of the Trustees (continued)
For the year ended 31st March 2025

Review of Activities & Finance for the year.

This year once again brought the challenges of attracting and retaining volunteers. The age profile of the current volunteers and trustees remains an area of concern and is under constant review.


The museum opened for the season at Easter 2024 and this year saw an increase in visitor numbers, albeit only a small one. The introduction of a second donations box in the body of the museum proved successful in generating an increase in donations.

Work on updating policies and procedures was completed. It has been resolved to monitor these more regularly to avoid it becoming too onerous a task. An application to renew the museum's Arts Council Accreditation has been submitted.

The trustees remain committed to the future of the museum and take all reasonable measures to ensure it's future financial stability. They continue to maintain the funds held within the COIF account in light of the potential need to move premises or indeed close. As at 31st March 2025 the balance held within the COIF account was £253,537.

As always the museum continues to rely on the support of volunteers for its operation and the trustees wish to express their gratitude to all those who, by whatever means, enable the society to continue with its mission to preserve and educate.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by:



Date: 15/6/25

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of the Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society
For the year ended 31st March 2025

I report on the accounts for the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025 which are set out on pages 7 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- * examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- * follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act,); and
- * state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect,
the requirements:

- * to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act: and
- * to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Charities Act have not been met



D J Dyer FCCA
DJD Accounting Services

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31st March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	2024 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources for generating funds					
Voluntary income	2	5,100		5,100	5,253
Investment income	3	430	11,967	12,397	11,604
Fundraising	4	165		165	-
Incoming resources from Charitable activities	5	10,944		10,944	9,652
<hr/>					
Total Incoming Resources		16,639	11,967	28,606	26,509
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RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities	6	18,095	14,064	32,159	31,689
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Total Resources Expended		18,095	14,064	32,159	31,689
<hr/>					
Net Incoming Resources		(1,456.00)	(2,097.00)	(3,553.00)	(5,180)
 Reconciliation of funds					
Fund values brought forward		284,789	187,899	472,688	477,868
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Total fund values carried forward		283,333	185,802	469,135	472,688

The notes on pages 9 to 11 form part of the financial statements.

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society**Balance Sheet****For the year ended 31st March 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible	7	37,076	128,380	165,456	181,562
CURRENT ASSETS					
Shop stock		4,099		4,099	6,855
Cash in hand		190		190	214
Cash at bank		46,247	253,538	299,785	284,447
		50,536	253,538	304,074	291,516
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year		395		395	390
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		50,141	253,538	303,679	291,126
NET ASSETS					
		87,217	381,918	469,135	472,688
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds		283,333		283,333	284,789
Restricted funds			185,802	185,802	187,899
		283,333	185,802	469,135	472,688

APPROVED BY THE TRUSTEES ON

_____ and signed on their behalf by

The notes on pages 9 to 11 form part of the financial statements.

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31st March 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 and the Charities Act 2011.

b) Designated Funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received as generated for the objects of the charity without specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds are amounts which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for a specific, but not legally binding purpose.

c) Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when received.

Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are received. If they are for designated purposes, they are only used for that purpose and appear under the restricted fund heading.

d) Resources Expended

Expenditure is reported on an accrual basis as the liability is incurred.

Charitable activities comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and the provision of its services to the public.

e) Fixed Assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation is provided on the new extension on a straight line basis to cover the period of the 25 year lease. Equipment is depreciated at the rate of 25% using the reducing balance method. Additions to the building have also been depreciated on a 25 year straight line basis.

f) Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value. The figure reported in the financial statements relates to the stock take of January 2025 and the subsequent valuation.

2 VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	2024
	£	£	£	£
Grant - AIM	200		200	-
Legacies	-		-	1,050
Subscriptions	1,113		1,113	1,389
Donations & Covenants (gross)	3,787		3,787	2,814
	<u>5,100</u>		<u>5,100</u>	<u>5,253</u>

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society
Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31st March 2025

3 INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	2024
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	430	11,967	12,397	11,604

4 FUNDRAISING

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	2024
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	165		165	-

5 INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	2024
	£	£	£	£
Museum admission	5,770		5,770	5,118
Shop sales	4,966		4,966	4,383
Other	208		208	151
	10,944		10,944	9,652

6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	2024
	£	£	£	£
Museum expenses	5,636		5,636	5,694
Shop expenses	3,604		3,604	1,958
General administration	2,835		2,835	4,851
Insurance	1,492		1,492	1,497
Depreciation	3,680	14,064	17,744	17,575
Other expenses	848		848	114
	18,095	14,064	32,159	31,689

Shop expenses have been adjusted for the closing stock value of goods bought.

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society
Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31st March 2025

7 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSET

	Extension	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
1st April 2024	376,812	50,164	426,976
Additions		1,638	1,638
31st March 2025	376,812	51,802	428,614
Depreciation			
1st April 2024	223,272	22,142	245,414
Charge for the year	15,072	2,672	17,744
31st March 2025	238,344	24,814	263,158
Net Book Value			
31st March 2025	138,468	26,988	165,456
31st March 2024	153,540	28,022	181,562

The original museum extension has been fully depreciated and so is not shown above.
This would form part of the unrestricted fund assets.

Included in the extension value above are items originating from both restricted and unrestricted funding. The unrestricted has a net book value at 31st March of £10,088

8 REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The charity does not employ staff. All work is provided on a voluntary basis by supporters and Trustees alike. No Trustees receive payment for expenses aside from the reimbursement of out of pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the charity.

Lowestoft & East Suffolk Maritime Society
Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31st March 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Museum admission		5,770		5,118
Add:				
Donations & Legacies	3,787		3,864	
Grants	200		-	
Reminiscence Boxes and Ben's				
Quest	135		120	
Other income	58		-	
Subscriptions	1,113		1,389	
Shop sales	4,966		4,383	
Coffee, Raffles etc	150		-	
Outreach	30		-	
I See the Sea	-		31	
COIF Interest	11,967		11,199	
Bank interest	430	22,836	405	21,391
		28,606		26,509
Less:				
Museum expenses inc. repairs	5,636			5,694
Shop expenses	3,604			1,958
Administrative	2,835			4,851
Depreciation	17,744			17,575
Insurance	1,492			1,497
Other expenses	848			114
		32,159		31,689
(Surplus of Expenditure over Income)				
Surplus of Income over Expenditure		(3,553)		(5,180)