

Registered number: 01775897
Charity number: 288595

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

Trustees

RJ Baker (S) (A), Chair
PD Over (S), Vice Chair
BW Kerr
SP Tucker (S) (I) (R) (A), Treasurer (resigned 22 October 2024)
SA Bendall BEM (N) (E)
EJ Kemball (N)
EC Morton (S) (N)
K Sharpe (I) (A) (R), Treasurer (from 22 October 2024)
JM Taylor (S) (N) (E) Show Director
TMP Donsworth (S), Show Director Elect
JM Dinwiddy (R)
W Hargreaves

Members of committees:

(S) Denotes membership of the Show Committee (R) Denotes membership of the Risk Committee
(I) Denotes membership of the Investment Committee (A) Denotes membership of the Audit Committee
(N) Denotes membership of the Nominations Committee (E) Denotes membership of the Education Committee

Company registered number 01775897

Charity registered number 288595

Registered office Trinity Park
Felixstowe Road
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP3 8UH

Chief executive officer PHP Ainsworth

Independent auditors Larking Gowen LLP
Chartered Accountants
1 Claydon Business Park
Great Blakenham
Ipswich
IP6 0NL

Bankers Barclays Bank plc
1 Princes Street
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP1 3IPB

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

Solicitors

Birketts LLP
Providence House
141-145 Princes Street
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP1 3IPB

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Suffolk Agricultural Association for the period 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the group and the Charity qualify as small under section 383 of the Companies Act 2006, the Group strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Charitable aims

The objects of Suffolk Agricultural Association, as set out in its governing document, are:

a) To promote and encourage the advancement and improvement of agriculture (including forestry, horticulture, food production and all allied occupations) whether through the development of skills and techniques or research, and the dissemination of knowledge of such skills and techniques or research both as to the methods of husbandry and the use of science and the use and development of agricultural implements and machinery, the application of land management, marketing and conservation and the development of new agricultural products including renewable's..

b) To hold regular agricultural shows provided that the Association shall not be obliged to hold a show in any year if Trustees of the Association shall resolve otherwise.

To achieve this charitable aim the Association stages the Suffolk Show and other events, such as the Suffolk Farm Business Competition, Suffolk Farming School of the Year, the School Farm & Country Fair (SFCF), Food and Farming Student Day and Tractors in Schools and conferences. When organising such events, the Association ensures that they embrace, promote and advance agricultural education and best practice, provide training opportunities, and include elements of entertainment and enjoyment, with the overall aim of contributing to the wellbeing and prosperity of Suffolk.

Our vision is for a county community that fully understands, values and appreciates a sustainable agricultural industry and as an organisation be nationally recognised as progressive, influential and highly regarded.

Our purpose is to encourage and facilitate positive engagement between the public and those working in food, farming and the countryside.

Our Key Strategic Aims include:

- As an organisation: to raise our profile as a charity by being a force for good and central to all matter's food, farming and the countryside in Suffolk. To build a dynamic and vibrant membership association with relevance to all farmers and those engaged in Suffolk's rural economy. To harness the commitment and enthusiasm of our members and volunteers to disseminate knowledge and education about food and farming
- In Education: to provide facilities/facilitation for learning about food, farming, the countryside and wider environmental issues enabling informed connection between tomorrow's consumers and producers, and to

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

Objectives and activities (continued)

contribute to the growth of the rural economy through inspiring particularly younger people to explore the wide range of careers the sector offers.

- Through the Suffolk Show (a fundraising event for the Charity): to continue to be a 'best in class' county show which is relevant and appealing to a modern and increasingly urban based consumer/visitor. To also be a focal point for the 'Suffolk brand' and promote the county's culture.
- At Trinity Park: to manage the estate to best advantage in order to contribute to the long-term financial sustainability of the SAA, whilst enhancing the Show infrastructure and educational activities.

b. Public benefit

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing their aims and objectives and in planning their future activities. The section entitled 'Achievements and Performance' below identifies and explains the various activities undertaken, many of which are specifically directed at young people in Suffolk, with a view to enhancing their knowledge about farming and the source of their food. To enhance this message, children under 15 have been admitted to the Suffolk Show free of charge since 2015.

The SAA continues to work with different communities in the county and nationally to offer free trade stand space, valued at £35,373 and/or grants to organisations such as Suffolk Sports, Scouts, Girl Guides, Suffolk Rural, Suffolk New College, West Suffolk College, the Army, Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force, Suffolk Young Farmers Clubs, Suffolk Horse Society, Suffolk Punch Trust, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, St John's Ambulance, Colchester Poultry Club, Suffolk Bee Keepers, East Anglian Wine Growers, the Suffolk Community Foundation, The Green Light Trust and Suffolk Wildlife Trust. For the third time the Show welcomed members of the United States (US) Air Force who work collaboratively with their UK counterparts. The Show also remembered the Normandy '80 D Day landings by providing a static display of period vehicles and as well a parade at the end of the Show with c300 participants culminating in the Duke of Gloucester (the Royal visitor) taking the salute.

Achievements and performance

In November 2023 the Association was informed that it had been awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS), the highest award given to local volunteer groups across the UK and equivalent to an MBE. Recognising the significant contribution made by hundreds of Association volunteers in delivering education about food and farming to our community the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk formally presented the award to the SAA Chairman at the pre 2024 Suffolk Show Judges and Stewards dinner.

The Association ran several education activities aimed at primary and secondary school pupils, including Agricultural Apprentice of the Year (the winner was Callum Hayes, the runner up Archie Keenan).

In February the Association hosted a Farming Conference welcoming 104 delegates, plus many online delegates. The conference (run every two years) theme was 'How To Thrive, Not Just Survive'. The keynote speaker was Henry Dumbleby MBE. In March the biennial gardening conference was held (postponed from November 2023 because of major traffic disruption caused by high winds closing the Orwell Bridge) and attended by 230 delegates and exhibitors. In April the Association held its annual School Farm and Country Fair (SFCF) welcoming 3,917 children.

In June a farm visit was organised welcoming over two hundred primary school children.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

Financial review

a. Introduction

The Show was considered a great success as an event and very well supported by our volunteers. That said, poor weather forecasting during the run up to the event with some rain over the two days of the Show impacted the expected number of visitors attending. Whilst expenditure was controlled costs had again increased from the previous year.

VAT treatment. Having taken advice and continuing to be supported by a subject matter expert, the Suffolk Show, which promotes the fact that it 'raises funds to support the SAA's charitable purpose' is considered largely exempt from VAT. In the year the accounting method applied has been to retain or not charge out the VAT 20% value against all but tradestand activity. However, along with many other organisations similar or the same as us there is an ongoing legal challenge from HMRC which is currently in a window of appeal. The assumption is that if we/other organisations are successful then HMRC will be required to re-imburse us past VAT payments going back four years and going forwards, as has been done in this accounting year, submit a reduced tax return to HMRC as part of the normal quarterly submissions. Further details can be found within note 24.

Trinity Park Events Limited ("TPEL") continued to trade positively and had a successful Christmas Party season. In May the catering provision was taken back in house as previously this had been outsourced to a third party contractor. The expectation is that greater control will be achieved for event provisions and at reduced costs resulting in improved margins. The TPEL year-end net position was significantly better than planned for and going forwards the order book is strong with new offerings being promoted in 2025.

Education activities went to plan and were successful. Of note the student day at Hollow Trees Farm, aimed at secondary level students, returned (the first time post Covid) and was very well received.

With planning permission granted for the AFC Kesgrave football club the aim is to see them established from August 2025. Of note the Chairman and Chief Executive met with the local Council to discuss a range of strategic aspirations for the Trinity Park site which will, on a regular basis, be reviewed with Council officials; the plan is to have twice yearly meetings.

In the year Trustees took the decision to use reserves to mitigate the impact of using the bank overdraft facility. Funds transferred amounted to £900,000. Prior to the transfer the maximum cash negative position was £692,480 (2023: £700,129), the overdraft facility is £750,000.

The prospects for the Suffolk Show in 2025 are positive with planning for the event already underway. Tickets went on sale in November 2024.

b. Operating results

Total consolidated income achieved £3,531,625 (2023: £3,133,296), total expenditure was £3,825,735 (2023: £3,752,297). The SAA maintains tight control over its costs to ensure that it continues to offer value for money. The SAA's consolidated balance sheet remains strong with net assets of £11,700,793 (2023: £11,590,449), still providing a secure base for the Association in the future.

c. Capital investment

The Association continues to invest in capital expenditure that is necessary for discharging its operations in an efficient manner.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

d. Trinity Park Events Limited (TPEL)

The Association's specialised conference and events centre along with the significant outdoor space at Trinity Park provides a vehicle to diversify income for the Association with the aim of supporting its charitable activities. TPEL performed better than anticipated. Whilst food and drink wholesale costs continue to place pressure on margins the hope is that inflation will further reduce in the coming year and by taking the catering back 'in house' margins will improve.

e. Investment property

The two residential properties, tenanted on a long-term basis, were professionally reviewed regarding their market value. They are carried in the Balance Sheet at their year-end value of £845,000 (2023: £845,000). This resulted in an unrealised loss of £nil (2023: loss of £45,000).

f. Investments

The Association has a portfolio of investments which was originally established from the proceeds of sale of portions of land, the biggest being in 2001. The investments are held to provide a return on the Association's retained reserves, and to generate income for its principal charitable activities. The Association's policy is to appoint authorised, professional investment managers who are regulated by the FCA to manage its portfolio and the Trustee Board has delegated investment decisions related to its portfolio to its Investment Committee. The investment objective over a three-year horizon has been to generate a total annual return of 3.5% above the Consumer Price Index (CPI) (in the financial reporting period, the managed portfolio made total realised and unrealised gains of £404,454).

The Association conducted a tender process in compliance with its investment policy, and as a result, appointed CCLA replacing Sarasin & Partners LLP who had been the investment manager since 2012 and Ruffer who had managed c10% of the portfolio since 2019 with effect from 1 October 2023.

The SAA invested in the CCLA's COIF Charities Investment Fund and the CCLA Deposit Fund to hold liquid funds. The CCLA COIF Charities Investment Fund had approximately £2.1 billion of assets under management as of 30 September 2023 and during the year (to 30 September 2024) the SAA's CCLA portfolio returned 6.5%.

Schroder & Co Ltd ("Schroders") continues to oversee the management of holdings in two collective investment schemes branded Schroder Private Equity Fund of Funds (SPEFoF) which are in the process of closing and paying back funds to investors. The two SPEFoF funds made distributions during the year totalling £99,365 (2023: £95,811) which were transferred to the CCLA Fund (see below).

There were unrealised gains in the portfolio of £404,615 (2023 gains of £64,664). The unrealised gain compares the market value of investments at the year end to the net book value as at 30 September 2023. These investments have not yet been sold

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

g. Reserves policy

At 30 September 2024, the Association had total funds of £11,700,793 (2023: £11,590,449) comprising general funds of £6,235,081 (2023: £5,837,816) and designated funds of £5,465,712 (2023: £5,752,633). The Association did not hold any restricted funds at either year end.

The Association's current policy is to maintain free reserves (that is funds not designated) at a level to provide sufficient income to underwrite any potential deficits. In May 2023 the Trustees assessed that a total of £6,100,000 would cover any/all risks (calculated by assessing the likelihood of the risk occurring and the maximum financial impact of the occurrence) should they occur in a single year period.

This assessment is being reviewed in 2024/2025.

h. Remuneration policy - key management personnel

The Trustee Board (all unpaid) assess and approve cost of living increases, where appropriate, annually.

i. Market value of land and buildings

Included in the financial statements, the land and buildings are stated at cost to ensure these financial statements are not subject to the significant fluctuations of property markets, except for the investment properties which are valued at the year-end market value by an approved agent.

j. Charitable contributions

£4,019 was expended in support of other charities (2023: £2,080). Charities also received £35,373 of Suffolk Show stands free of charge.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The Suffolk Agricultural Association is a company limited by guarantee and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 5 May 2021. Under Section 60 of the Companies Act 2006 it is exempt from the requirement to use the word 'limited' after its name. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. Subject to the approval of the Trustees, membership is open to all and at 30 September 2024 there were 1,565 (2023: 1,873) members, each of whom has agreed to contribute £1 in the event of the Charity winding up.

b. Trustee board

The Trustee Board has control of, and responsibility for the assets, affairs and general policy of the Association. It has between eight and twelve individuals who are the Trustees and Directors of the Association. Up to ten members of the Trustee Board are nominated by the Nominations Committee and ratified by Council and may serve up to two periods of three years and thereafter may stand for re-election on an annual basis for a maximum of four more years in total. In addition, the Trustee Board may co-opt, up to two members of the Association to be Trustees.

The Trustee Board must meet at least six times each year. In the year ending 30 September 2024, the Trustee Board formally met on seven occasions. A quorum for Trustee Board meetings is 50% of its members and decisions are made by a simple majority of the votes cast.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

Structure, governance and management (continued)

The Trustee Board operates through several committees which report to, and are chaired by members of, the Trustee Board. These committees are the Education Committee which meets twice per year, the Show Committee, which meets at least five times a year and is responsible for the organisation of the Suffolk Show; the Investment Committee, which appoints independent investment managers to monitor the performance of the portfolio meeting at least twice per year, the Audit Committee, which meets at least twice a year and the Risk Committees, which meets annually. The Board of Directors of the Association's wholly-owned subsidiary, Trinity Park Events Ltd (TPEL), met once independently in the year in addition to attending the SAA/TPEL joint Board meetings. The TPEL Board is chaired by the Chairman of the Association.

The Chief Executive continues to provide weekly update reports to both the Trustees and TPEL Directors. The senior management team comprising the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Show Director, Chief Executive, Finance Officer and TPEL lead manager also met regularly to consider issues.

c. Trustees' induction and training

On appointment, Trustees are provided with induction training. Trustees received update training as to matters of relevance to the charity sector from their auditors and the Trustee responsible for governance in February 2023 and were provided with additional information about revised Charity Commission guidance during the year.

d. Council

Council is a forum for debate and the primary channel for encouraging volunteers and ensuring the goodwill and continuity of the Association. Council consists of up to 60 elected members (currently 20), 8 co-opted members, 19 Honorary Life Vice Presidents, 17 Senior Stewards and the SAA Trustees. Elected members of Council are nominated by the Nominations Committee, approved at the AGM and serve for an initial period of five years.

The Trustee Board consults Council on significant matters e.g. investment in new facilities, the main objects of the Association or the general strategic policies of the Association.

e. Nominations committee

Under the SAA's Rules the Nominations Committee is chaired by a past Chair of the Association and is independent of both the Council and the Trustee Board.

The Nominations Committee comprises the Chair and:

- Four members of Council appointed by the Show Committee to include the Show Director;
- Two members of Council appointed from time to time by the Council;
- Two members of Council appointed from time to time by the Trustee Board.

The Nominations Committee is responsible for recommending candidates for:

- a) membership of the Council, including co-opted members, and of the Trustee Board;
- b) the appointment of the Chair and the Vice Chair, the Treasurer, the President Elect and the Honorary Life Vice Presidents; and
- c) endorsement of the appointment of the Show Director (as recommended by the past Show Directors).

The Nominations Committee also, on an annual basis:

- a) assesses the performance of the Chair;
- b) monitors the Trustee Board's review of its performance; the senior management team and
- c) monitors the training of Trustees.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Structure, governance and management (continued)

f. Third party indemnity provision for Trustees

The Association has purchased Charity and Charity Trustees Indemnity Insurance which protects the Charity and its subsidiary from loss arising from the neglect or default of their Trustees/Directors and employees, and Trustees/Directors from costs if negligence or default is wrongly alleged.

g. Related parties

The Association, in carrying out its principal activities, has undertaken transactions with related parties. All transactions were carried out on an arm's length basis and are summarised in the accounts.

h. Risk management

The Trustees meet annually to review the risks that the Charity may face, and the Audit and Risk Committee reviews the establishment and implementation of systems and procedures to mitigate the risks identified.

Since the cancellation of the second day of the 2012 Show due to high winds, incurring a financial loss in the region of £500k, the Association has placed insurance with Lloyds syndicates to mitigate similar losses at future Shows. In 2020, and due to Covid, the policy was activated when the Show could not proceed resulting in a claim of nearly £800k. The insurance policy covers several risks that, in addition to bad weather, could cause cancellation or abandonment of the Show, including some communicable diseases in animals. However, from 2025 the Trustees have decided, due to increases in premiums making it unaffordable, to self-insure the Show.

i. Governance

The Trustee Board is responsible for the SAA's activities, and decisions on all key issues are taken by the Board. It has delegated some day to day and monitoring activities to the Show Committee, the Education Committee, the Audit and Risk Committee, the Investment Committee, and the Health and Safety Working Group. One Trustee has been designated with oversight of Governance matters.

The Board has oversight of its subsidiary, TPEL, through joint Board meetings throughout the year, and via Trustees who also sit on the TPEL Board.

j. Volunteers

The Association continues to be very grateful for the outstanding voluntary contribution, (c600 individuals during the year) of particularly the non Trustee committee members, those on Council and the many individuals who provide support and act as stewards in the staging of events, particularly the School Farm and Country Fair and Suffolk Show.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that each Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable group's auditors are unaware, and
- that each Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable group's auditors are aware of that information.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the situation of the Group and the Charity and of their incoming resources and application of resources, including their income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Group will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the group and the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the group and the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Group and the Charity, and hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


RJ Baker
Chairman

Date:

28th January 2025

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Suffolk Agricultural Association (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 30 September 2024 which comprise the Consolidated statement of financial activities, the Consolidated balance sheet, the Charity balance sheet, the Consolidated statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 30 September 2024 and of the Group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Group's or the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION (CONTINUED)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Group's and the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION (CONTINUED)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Due to the field in which the group- operates, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: healthy and safety; employment laws; GDPR, and compliance with the UK Companies Act and charity law and regulations.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- Enquiries with management about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, accidents in the workplace and fraud;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates; and
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL
ASSOCIATION (CONTINUED)**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Graham Mummery FCCA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

Larking Gowen LLP

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

1 Claydon Business Park

Great Blakenham

Ipswich

IP6 0NL

Date:

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND
EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

	Note	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	-	189,313	189,313	182,857
Charitable activities	4	47,068	1,799,141	1,846,209	1,766,276
Other trading activities	5	-	1,334,928	1,334,928	1,042,689
Investments	7	-	161,175	161,175	141,474
Total income		47,068	3,484,557	3,531,625	3,133,296
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		-	1,251,792	1,251,792	991,922
Charitable activities		47,068	2,526,875	2,573,943	2,760,375
Total expenditure		47,068	3,778,667	3,825,735	3,752,297
Net expenditure before net gains on investments		-	(294,110)	(294,110)	(619,001)
Net gains on investments	15	-	404,454	404,454	79,407
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		-	110,344	110,344	(539,594)
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
Other losses		-	-	-	(45,000)
Net movement in funds		-	110,344	110,344	(584,594)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	20	-	11,590,449	11,590,449	12,175,043
Net movement in funds	20	-	110,344	110,344	(584,594)
Total funds carried forward		-	11,700,793	11,700,793	11,590,449

The Consolidated statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 21 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

All income, expenditure, gains and funds were unrestricted in the prior year.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01775897

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	6,930,114	7,144,740
Investments	15	4,207,456	5,133,289
Investment property	14	845,000	845,000
		<u>11,982,570</u>	<u>13,123,029</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	16	23,126	22,565
Debtors	17	201,542	141,085
Cash at bank and in hand	22	619,448	21,870
		<u>844,116</u>	<u>185,520</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(701,431)	(1,238,295)
Net current assets / liabilities		<u>142,685</u>	<u>(1,052,775)</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>12,125,255</u>	<u>12,070,254</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	(424,462)	(479,805)
Total net assets		<u><u>11,700,793</u></u>	<u><u>11,590,449</u></u>

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01775897

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Charity funds			
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds	20	5,465,712	5,752,633
General funds	20	6,235,081	5,837,816
Total unrestricted funds	20	<u>11,700,793</u>	<u>11,590,449</u>
Total funds		<u><u>11,700,793</u></u>	<u><u>11,590,449</u></u>

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



RJ Baker

Chairman

Date:

28th January 2025

The notes on pages 21 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01775897

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	6,930,114	7,144,740
Investments		4,607,458	5,533,291
Investment property	14	845,000	845,000
		<u>12,382,572</u>	<u>13,523,031</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	16	-	701
Debtors	17	124,259	32,566
Cash at bank and in hand		587,741	4,173
		<u>712,000</u>	<u>37,440</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(796,650)	(1,264,393)
Net current liabilities		<u>(84,650)</u>	<u>(1,226,953)</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>12,297,922</u>	<u>12,296,078</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	(408,629)	(453,972)
Total net assets		<u><u>11,889,293</u></u>	<u><u>11,842,106</u></u>

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01775897

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

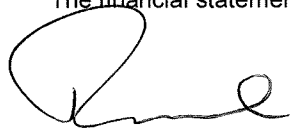
	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Charity funds			
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds	20	5,465,712	5,752,633
General funds	20	6,423,581	6,089,473
Total unrestricted funds	20	<u>11,889,293</u>	<u>11,842,106</u>
Total funds		<u><u>11,889,293</u></u>	<u><u>11,842,106</u></u>

The Charity's net movement in funds for the year was £47,187 (2023 - £(575,978)).

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



RJ Baker
Chairman
Date:

28th January 2025

The notes on pages 21 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(32,481)	(299,934)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	161,175	141,474
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(72,295)	(210,117)
Proceeds from sale of investments	5,432,171	99,365
Purchase of investments	(3,672,893)	(131,037)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	1,848,158	(100,315)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayments of borrowing	(102,247)	(89,667)
Net cash used in financing activities	(102,247)	(89,667)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	1,713,430	(489,916)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	(653,812)	(163,896)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	1,059,618	(653,812)

The notes on pages 21 to 46 form part of these financial statements

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

1. General information

Suffolk Agricultural Association is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated and domiciled in England and Wales, registration number 01775897. The address of the registered office is Suffolk Agricultural Association, Trinity Park, Felixstowe Road, Ipswich, IP3 8UH.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The Suffolk Agricultural Association (the "Charity" or the "Association") is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 5 May 2021. Under Section 60 of the Companies Act 2006 it is exempt from the requirement to use the word 'limited' after its name. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. Subject to the approval of the Trustees, membership is open to all and at 30 September 2024 there were 1,565 (2023: 1,873) members, each of whom has agreed to contribute £1 in the event of the Charity winding up.

The nature of the Charity's operations and principal activities are: (1) to promote and encourage the advancement and improvement of agriculture (including forestry, horticulture, food production and all allied occupations) whether through the development of skills and techniques or research, and the dissemination of knowledge of such skills and techniques or research both as to the methods of husbandry and use of science and the use and development of agricultural implements and machinery, the application of land management, marketing and conservation and the development of new agricultural products including renewables. (2) In pursuance of this purpose, to hold regular agricultural shows provided that the Association shall not be obliged to hold a show in any year if the Trustee Board shall resolve otherwise.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019. The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are presented in Sterling (£) and all values are rounded to the nearest £, except where indicated.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

2.2 Group financial statements

These financial statements consolidate the results of the Charity and its wholly owned subsidiary undertaking, Trinity Park Events Limited, on a line by line basis. A separate Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure account are not presented for the Charity itself following the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Going concern

The Trustees believe the going concern nature of preparation of these financial statements is appropriate as no material uncertainties exist. This is the result of the existence of sufficient investments which are readily realisable and will enable the group to meet its liabilities as they fall due, for a period of at least twelve months from the date of the signing of these financial statements.

2.4 Income recognition

All income is included in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the Charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received. Members and Vice Presidents pay an annual subscription and may choose at any time to become a Life Member or Life Vice President. Life membership fees are recognised over a period of 20 years.

In line with the SORP (FRS 102), the notional financial value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements. Their contribution is recognised in the Report of the Trustees.

Where services are provided to the Charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from suppliers, if material, these are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably, and the Charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined based on the value of the gift to the Charity. For example, the amount the Charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure. The only such services were made by volunteers and were immaterial in value.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the Charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred. Recognition of any trading income invoiced in advance for events which will be held after the end of the financial year is deferred until the event has occurred.

As a result of its investment in solar panels in 2016, the Association receives Feed-in-Tariff income generated from the operation of those solar panels. The Feed-in-Tariff is a fixed fee paid by the government for each unit of electricity produced by the PV panels. This income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Investment income includes any dividends and interest earned from the investment portfolio. As it is not practicable to identify investment management costs within the Sarasin Endowments Fund and the Ruffer Total Return Fund with reasonable accuracy, the investment income is reported net of these costs. Interest and dividend income accumulating within the Endowments Fund is paid to the Charity quarterly and is recognised on an accrual basis.

The Charity also receives rental income from properties owned by it; rental income is recognised as the Charity's right to receive payment is established.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.5 Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds includes those costs incurred in attracting membership subscriptions, trading activities and running the investment portfolio;
- Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the cost of the annual Suffolk Show and the cost of arranging conferences, farm competitions and making charitable grants and donations;

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which the expenditure arose.

Grants payable to third parties are within the charitable objectives and are accounted for when the commitment arises.

Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the Charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs and governance costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to the cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

The analysis of these costs is included in Note 9.

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Group to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Group's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable, and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold land and challenge trophies are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold showground buildings	- over 10 to 50 years straight line
Motor vehicles	- at 25% per annum reducing balance
Showground equipment, fixtures and fittings	- over 3 to 10 years straight line

2.7 Investment property

Investment properties are measured at fair value at each reporting date with changes in fair value recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.8 Investments

The Association appoints asset managers regulated by the FCA to manage its investment portfolio. The majority of the portfolio (97.5%) is held in the CCLA COIF Charities Investment Fund, an open-ended collective investment scheme approved by the Charity Commission exclusively for investment by charities. The Association also owns units in two private equity funds of funds managed by Schroders that do not pay dividends and are in rundown.

Investments are recognised initially at fair value, which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value being their market valuation as at 30 September 2024 as advised by the investment manager, CCLA. The two private equity funds advised by Schroder & Co Ltd are valued as at the valuation date closest to 30 September 2024. Realised and unrealised gains or losses from the respective sale and revaluation of investments are recognised in 'net gains / (losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The investment in the trading subsidiary is measured at cost.

Current asset investments are short term highly liquid investments and are held at fair value. These include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity of less than one year.

2.9 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price and include bar stocks, food stocks and the unused value in the pre-paid postage meter. Cost is calculated using average cost. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow-moving stock where appropriate.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Consolidated statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.13 Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.14 Pensions

The group provides a defined contribution pension arrangement, whereby the group and its staff each fund schemes managed by third party pension providers, the assets of which are held by the providers separately from the assets of the group. Contributions are charged to the SoFA for the year in which they are payable to the schemes. The group adopted Auto-Enrolment in respect of all relevant employees, including casual staff, with effect from 1 July 2014.

2.15 Tax

The Association is an registered charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.16 Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date. Timing differences are differences between the subsidiary's taxable profits and its results as stated in the financial statements that arise from the inclusion of gains and losses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in the financial statements.

Deferred tax is measured at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is measured on a non-discounted basis.

2.17 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Group and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for investment in tangible assets.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Group for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.18 Critical accounting policies

In the application of the Group's accounting policies, which are described in note 2, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The judgements, estimates and assumptions which have significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities are addressed below:

Investment property

The valuation of the investment properties is performed by a professionally qualified organisation which, at the year end, offers a fair and reasonable market value taking account of local factors. For further details see note 14.

Show VAT Treatment

The SAA believes Suffolk Show income to be VAT exempt as it is considered to be a fundraising event. This has been disputed by HMRC, but a Third Tier Tribunal case hearing found against HMRC and in favour of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society on this matter on 9 January 2025. The benefit of VAT exemption of £216,589 for the current financial year has not been recognised in these financial statements, but a contingent asset has been disclosed. For further details please see Note 24.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Membership fees	189,313	189,313	182,857

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

4. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Conference and educational income	47,068	97,917	144,985
Suffolk Show income	-	1,701,224	1,701,224
	<u>47,068</u>	<u>1,799,141</u>	<u>1,846,209</u>
		<i>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</i>	<i>As restated Total funds 2023 £</i>
Conference and educational income		49,590	49,590
Suffolk Show income		1,716,686	1,716,686
		<u>1,766,276</u>	<u>1,766,276</u>

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Gross income from Commercial Trading	1,314,528	1,314,528	1,022,689
Rental Income	20,400	20,400	20,000
	<u>1,334,928</u>	<u>1,334,928</u>	<u>1,042,689</u>

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

6. Income from trading activities

The income and expenditure shown in the SoFA include those of the Charity's wholly owned subsidiary Trinity Park Events Limited. The subsidiary continues to promote the lettings and commercial utilisation of the Showground and Trinity Park facilities. A summary of the financial activities of the subsidiary are given below:

	2024 £	2023 £
Gross income	1,314,528	1,022,689
Cost of sales	(519,945)	(480,875)
Gross profit	<u>794,583</u>	<u>541,814</u>
Administration expenses	(731,426)	(550,430)
Other operating income	-	-
Operating and retained profit/(loss)	<u>63,157</u>	<u>(8,616)</u>

The assets and liabilities were:

	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets	459,827	375,164
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(232,492)	(200,986)
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(15,833)	(25,833)
Net (liabilities)/assets	<u>211,502</u>	<u>148,345</u>
Aggregate share capital and (deficit)/surplus on reserves	<u>211,502</u>	<u>148,345</u>

Trinity Park Events Ltd has not recognised a potential deferred tax asset of £32,775 (2023: £51,445) on the basis that any further profits will be donated to the Charity by Gift Aid.

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

7. Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from the Sarasin Endowments Fund	25,645	25,645	116,882
Income from the Ruffer Total Return Fund	9,387	9,387	24,391
Income from the CCLA Fund	125,960	125,960	-
Bank and other interest	183	183	201
	<u>161,175</u>	<u>161,175</u>	<u>141,474</u>

8. Analysis of expenditure - current year

	Staff costs 2024 £	Direct costs 2024 £	Governance & Support Costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Cost of Raising Funds				
Membership costs	-	-	4,606	4,606
Commercial trading operations	418,608	535,993	289,170	1,243,771
Investment manager fees rebated	-	(289)	-	(289)
Rental costs	-	3,704	-	3,704
	<u>418,608</u>	<u>539,408</u>	<u>293,776</u>	<u>1,251,792</u>
Charitable Activities				
Suffolk Show	402,876	1,320,692	438,100	2,161,668
Donations, grants & subscriptions	-	5,431	-	5,431
Conferences & Education	91,394	96,400	219,050	406,844
Total 2024	<u>912,878</u>	<u>1,961,931</u>	<u>950,926</u>	<u>3,825,735</u>

SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

Analysis of expenditure - prior year

	Staff costs 2023 As restated £	Direct costs 2023 As restated £	Governance & Support Costs 2023 As restated £	Total funds 2023 As restated £
Cost of Raising Funds				
Membership costs	-	-	4,626	4,626
Commercial trading operations	409,414	538,525	83,366	1,031,305
Investment manager fees rebated	-	(1,478)	-	(1,478)
Rental costs	-	3,645	-	3,645
	<u>409,414</u>	<u>540,692</u>	<u>87,992</u>	<u>1,038,098</u>
Charitable Activities				
Suffolk Show	334,241	1,345,485	620,103	2,299,829
Donations, grants & subscriptions	-	6,068	-	6,068
Conferences & Education	60,949	37,301	310,052	408,302
	<u>804,604</u>	<u>1,929,546</u>	<u>1,018,147</u>	<u>3,752,297</u>

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9. Allocation of support costs

The Association allocates its support costs as shown below. Support costs are allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources and may change from year to year.

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Raising funds: Charity 2024 £	Raising funds: TPEL 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Support cost analysis - current year				
Insurance	63,276	9,541	23,028	95,845
Printing, stationery, computer and postage	14,990	18,423	40,025	73,438
Staff and officials' expenses	1,936	-	705	2,641
Rates, light, heat, and telephone	142,211	-	51,754	193,965
Maintenance	151,964	-	55,303	207,267
Professional fees	25,460	-	12,516	37,976
Depreciation	210,365	-	76,557	286,922
Training	2,887	-	1,051	3,938
Advertising, promotion, public relations and education	-	-	2,406	2,406
Provision for bad debts	-	-	18,485	18,485
	613,089	27,964	281,830	922,883
Governance				
Trustees catering costs	3,247	-	-	3,247
Auditor's remuneration	13,650	-	7,340	20,990
Trustees' indemnity insurance	3,806	-	-	3,806
	633,792	27,964	289,170	950,926

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	<i>Charitable activities 2023 As restated £</i>	<i>Raising funds: Charity 2023 As restated £</i>	<i>Raising funds: TPEL 2023 As restated £</i>	<i>Total funds 2023 As restated £</i>
Support cost analysis - prior year				
Insurance	87,562	12,430	7,278	107,270
Printing, stationery, computer and postage	20,236	18,504	4,308	43,048
Staff and officials' expenses	4,593	-	382	4,975
Rates, light, heat, and telephone	248,204	-	20,630	268,834
Maintenance	187,274	-	15,566	202,840
Professional fees	45,083	-	3,747	48,830
Depreciation	277,476	-	23,064	300,540
Training	1,588	-	132	1,720
Advertising, promotion, public relations and education	-	-	1,374	1,374
	<u>872,016</u>	<u>30,934</u>	<u>76,481</u>	<u>979,431</u>
Governance				
Trustees catering costs	5,609	-	-	5,609
Auditor's remuneration	21,350	-	6,885	28,235
Trustees' indemnity insurance	4,872	-	-	4,872
	<u>903,847</u>	<u>30,934</u>	<u>83,366</u>	<u>1,018,147</u>

Investment management fees are charged at a percentage of the value of the Association's investment in the respective fund and are charged within the reported price of those funds.

10. Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Auditor's remuneration: in respect of audit services for SAA	13,650	12,825
Auditor's remuneration: in respect of audit services for TPEL	7,340	6,885
Auditor's remuneration - other non-audit services	498	8,525
	<u>21,488</u>	<u>28,235</u>

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11. Staff costs

	Group 2024 £	<i>Group 2023 £</i>	Charity 2024 £	<i>Charity 2023 £</i>
Wages and salaries	783,936	686,070	783,936	686,070
Social security costs	71,677	62,627	71,677	62,627
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	57,265	55,907	57,265	55,907
	<u>912,878</u>	<u>804,604</u>	<u>912,878</u>	<u>804,604</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	Group 2024 No.	<i>Group 2023 No.</i>
Raising funds	27	19
Charitable activities	10	11
Governance	1	1
	<u>38</u>	<u>31</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	Group 2024 No.	<i>Group 2023 No.</i>
Raising funds	15	10
Charitable activities	14	10
Governance	1	1
	<u>30</u>	<u>21</u>

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11. Staff costs (continued)

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	Group 2024 No.	<i>Group 2023 No.</i>
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

£12,523 (2023: £12,495) was paid into a defined contribution pension scheme on behalf of the above higher paid employee.

The Trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration or expenses during the year (2023: £Nil). Note 26 discloses the value of arm's length transactions undertaken between the Association and individual Trustees.

The key management personnel of the Association consisted of the Trustees and the senior management team. The total employee benefits of the three members of key management personnel was £211,099 (2023: £201,816).

12. Interest payable and similar charges

	2024 £	<i>2023 £</i>
Bank loans and overdrafts	<u><u>49,112</u></u>	<u><u>48,078</u></u>

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13. Tangible fixed assets

Group and Charity

	Freehold land and buildings £	Challenge trophies £	Showground equipment, fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 October 2023	10,793,131	44,309	1,027,729	9,500	11,874,669
Additions	6,595	-	65,700	-	72,295
At 30 September 2024	10,799,726	44,309	1,093,429	9,500	11,946,964
Depreciation					
At 1 October 2023	4,026,992	-	695,128	7,809	4,729,929
Charge for the year	253,200	-	33,298	423	286,921
At 30 September 2024	4,280,192	-	728,426	8,232	5,016,850
Net book value					
At 30 September 2024	6,519,534	44,309	365,003	1,268	6,930,114
At 30 September 2023	6,766,139	44,309	332,601	1,691	7,144,740

Included in freehold land and buildings of the Group and Charity is land at cost of £2,626,376 (2023: £2,626,376) which is not depreciated. All tangible assets of the Charity are used for charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets with a net book value of £6.2 million (2023: £6.2 million) have been pledged as security for liabilities of the Charity. These assets have restricted title as defined within the Charities Act and in respect of legal charges in favour of the Group's bankers.

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14. Investment property

Group and Charity

	Freehold investment property £
Valuation	
At 1 October 2023	845,000
At 30 September 2024	<u>845,000</u>

The 2024 valuation has been made by the Trustees of the Charity, on a fair value basis, taking into consideration of professional advice received.

15. Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Group		
Investment in the Sarasin Endowments Fund	-	3,985,010
Investment in the Ruffer Total Return Fund	-	882,273
Investments in the Schroder Private Equity Funds of Funds	105,057	253,900
Investments in CCLA COIF Charities Investment Fund	4,102,399	-
Total managed investments	<u>4,207,456</u>	<u>5,121,183</u>
Cash deposits in the investment portfolio	440,170	12,106
Group investment	<u>4,647,626</u>	<u>5,133,289</u>
Charity - Shares in subsidiary undertaking	400,002	400,002
Charity investment	<u>5,047,628</u>	<u>5,533,291</u>

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	2024 £	2023 £
Market value at previous 1 October	5,121,183	5,010,104
Additions at cost	4,113,990	131,038
Disposals at opening book value	(5,432,171)	(84,919)
Net unrealised gain / (loss) on investments	404,454	64,960
Market value as 30 September	4,207,456	5,121,183
	2024 £	2023 £
Total historic cost	3,684,151	4,043,350

The fair value of each of the Endowments Fund and the CCLA Fund is determined by reference to the net asset value published daily by the Investment Manager. The fair value of the Schroder Private Equity Fund of Funds is determined by reference to the net asset value published quarterly by the Investment Administrator.

The Suffolk Agricultural Association owns 100% of the issued ordinary share capital of Trinity Park Events Limited (company number 03383519), a company incorporated in England and Wales, which arranges the letting of the Showground and Trinity Park Conference Centre for charitable and commercial events. The investment is shown at cost. A summary of the subsidiary's profit and loss account and balance sheet is given in note 6.

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Principal subsidiaries

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Charity:

Name	Company number	Registered office or principal place of business	Class of shares	Holding
Trinity Park Events Limited	03383519	Trinity Park, Felixstowe Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP3 8UH	Ordinary	100%

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Income £	Expenditure £	Profit/(Loss)/ Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year £	Net assets £
Trinity Park Events Limited	1,314,528	(1,251,371)	63,157	211,502

16. Stocks

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Bar and food stocks	23,126	21,864	-	-
Postage	-	701	-	701
	<u>23,126</u>	<u>22,565</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>701</u>

Bar stocks are held for the bar activities of TPEL. Postage is the unused value in the pre-paid postage meter.

17. Debtors

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Due within one year				
Trade debtors	83,599	99,430	6,317	14,727
Other debtors	94,480	5,351	94,479	5,351
Prepayments and accrued income	23,463	36,304	23,463	12,488
	<u>201,542</u>	<u>141,085</u>	<u>124,259</u>	<u>32,566</u>

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18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Bank overdrafts	-	687,787	-	687,787
Bank loans	101,787	148,691	91,787	138,691
Trade creditors	51,433	114,103	34,957	77,148
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	327,711	227,084
Other taxation and social security	78,131	43,390	17,702	12,742
Other creditors	18,827	12,588	18,827	12,588
Accruals and deferred income	451,253	231,736	305,666	108,353
	<u>701,431</u>	<u>1,238,295</u>	<u>796,650</u>	<u>1,264,393</u>

The bank loans and overdraft are secured by means of a legal charge over the land and buildings at Trinity Park. The overdraft facility of £750,000 (2023: £750,000) is repayable at call, interest is payable thereon at 2.25% over base rate. There are four loans, the details of which are shown in note 19.

Included in the above is:

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Analysis of deferred income				
Deferred income	112,412	134,681	1,203	35,421
Life Membership fees	37,588	33,833	37,588	33,833
	<u>150,000</u>	<u>168,514</u>	<u>38,791</u>	<u>69,254</u>

Movements on Deferred Income

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Opening balance previous 1 October	134,681	98,996	35,421	1,260
Income recognised in the year	(497,910)	(397,392)	(93,607)	(11,794)
Income deferred in the year	475,641	433,077	59,389	45,955
Balance at 30 September	<u>112,412</u>	<u>134,681</u>	<u>1,203</u>	<u>35,421</u>

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Movements on Life Membership fees

	Group 2024 £	<i>Group 2023 £</i>	Charity 2024 £	<i>Charity 2023 £</i>
Opening balance previous 1 October	33,833	34,913	33,833	34,913
Income recognised in the year	(3,656)	(1,080)	(3,656)	(1,080)
Income deferred in the year	7,411	-	7,411	-
Balance at 30 September	37,588	33,833	37,588	33,833

The Charity's deferred income relates to membership income received in advance, the remainder of the Group's deferred income relates to amounts due in respect of events taking place after the year end but invoiced in advance. Life membership fees are recognised over a period of 20 years.

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19. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group 2024 £	<i>Group 2023 £</i>	Charity 2024 £	<i>Charity 2023 £</i>
Bank loans	424,462	<i>479,805</i>	408,629	<i>453,972</i>

The above loans are repayable as shown below. Excluding the Bounce Back Loans, they are secured by means of a legal charge over the land and buildings at Trinity Park.

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	Group 2024 £	<i>Group 2023 £</i>	Charity 2024 £	<i>Charity 2023 £</i>
Between one and two years				
Bank loans	195,595	<i>148,691</i>	185,595	<i>138,691</i>
Between two and five years				
Bank loans	228,867	<i>331,114</i>	223,034	<i>315,281</i>
Over five years				

The Group has four loans. The first two are at a variable rate loan with interest charged at 0.8% over base rate. The amount outstanding on these loans was £475,416 (2023: £557,663). The total interest charged on these loans was £26,913 (2023: £38,862) and is included as part of commercial trading operations within the cost of raising funds.

The Group also has two Bounce Back Loans totalling £50,833 (2023: £70,833). £1,634 interest was paid by the Group on the Bounce Back Loan during the year (2023: £2,578).

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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20. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 October 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Charitable fixed asset fund	5,752,633	-	(286,921)	-	5,465,712
General funds					
General Fund	5,837,816	3,484,557	(3,491,746)	404,454	6,235,081
Total Unrestricted funds	11,590,449	3,484,557	(3,778,667)	404,454	11,700,793
Restricted funds					
Restricted Funds	-	47,068	(47,068)	-	-
Total of funds	11,590,449	3,531,625	(3,825,735)	404,454	11,700,793

Restricted funds represent donations received for the School Farm & Country Fair, Show Gardens, Facilitators Training and the Rising Star Award. All funds received were spent in full during the year.

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20. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 October 2022 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 30 September 2023 £</i>
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Charitable fixed asset fund	6,053,173	-	(300,540)	-	5,752,633
General funds					
General Fund	6,121,870	3,170,608	(3,489,069)	34,407	5,837,816
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>12,175,043</u>	<u>3,170,608</u>	<u>(3,789,609)</u>	<u>34,407</u>	<u>11,590,449</u>

21. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	<i>Group 2024 £</i>	<i>Group 2023 £</i>
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses) (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	<u>110,344</u>	<u>(539,594)</u>
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	286,921	300,543
(Gains)/losses on investments	(404,454)	(79,407)
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(161,175)	(141,474)
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	(509)	1,510
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(60,457)	98,624
Increase in creditors	196,849	59,864
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(32,481)</u>	<u>(299,934)</u>

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22. Analysis of changes in cash and cash equivalents

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £
Cash in hand	619,448	21,870
Bank overdraft	-	(687,787)
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	440,170	12,105
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,059,618	(653,812)

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 October 2023 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 30 September 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	21,870	597,578	-	619,448
Bank overdrafts repayable on demand	(687,787)	687,787	-	-
Debt due within 1 year	(148,691)	102,247	(55,343)	(101,787)
Debt due after 1 year	(479,805)	-	55,343	(424,462)
	(1,294,413)	1,387,612	-	93,199

24. Contingent assets

Following the Tier one (T1) court ruling that income derived by the Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) from the Great Yorkshire Show is exempt from VAT (YAS submitted that the Show met the conditions of being a fundraising event as set out in item 12(1), Group 12 Sch 9 VATA 1994) the SAA presented its own exemption claim with respect to Suffolk Show income. HMRC appealed the YAS T1 decision leading to a Tier three (T3) tribunal; as at the SAA balance sheet date (30 September 2024) the appeal decision was outstanding. On 9 January 2025 the Appeal Court again found in favour of YAS and confirmed that the Yorkshire Show income does meet the conditions for exemption from VAT (HMRC has until 3 February 2025 to request a further appeal).

At the date of signing these financial statements (28 January 2025) the Trustee Board believes that, in accordance with FRS 102, para 21.16, "an inflow of economic benefits is probable (more likely than not) but not virtually certain" and has therefore recognised a contingent asset in this disclosure. The value of the VAT benefit for the current financial year is £216,529 less costs of £43,306, a net asset of £173,223. In addition, the Trustees have submitted a claim for refund of VAT paid on Suffolk Show income in previous years which, based on expert advice received, we, the SAA, believe to be recoverable.

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25. Capital commitments

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements	-	27,833	-	27,833

At the year end the Charity was committed to capital expenditure of £Nil (2023: £3,000) for its Show Management IT system and £Nil (2023: £24,833) for new Audio & Visual equipment.

26. Other financial commitments

The Charity is part of a group VAT registration and therefore is potentially liable for VAT liabilities of its subsidiary. As at 30 September 2024 its subsidiary, Trinity Park Events Limited owed £60,592 in VAT (2023: £30,648).

27. Related party transactions

All Trustees are either annual or life Members or Vice Presidents of the Association.

In addition the following Trustees provided services to the Association during the year:

- Morbeans Coffee Company - EC Morton - Vending machine supplies - £3,546 (2023: £2,979). £Nil was outstanding at the year end (2023: £214).
- JM Taylor (Show Director) provided services to the Show totalling £5,150 (2023: £4,255). £Nil was outstanding at the year end (2023: £Nil).
- JM Dinwiddy (trustee providing legal advice) Birketts partner. Birketts provided legal services totalling £4,134 (2023: £3,750). £Nil was outstanding at the year end (2023: £Nil).
- B Kemball provided haulage services (Debach Enterprises) totalling £520 (2023: £1,375). £Nil was outstanding at the year end (2023: £Nil).
- SA Bendall provided services (Hollow Tree Farm) totalling £1,959 (2023: £Nil). £Nil was outstanding at the year end (2023: £Nil).

During the year, the Charity charged £697,864 (2023: £539,546) to TPEL for staff costs, rental income and management charges. TPEL made a number of cash transfers to the Charity via the intercompany loan account. The net balance owed by the charity to TPEL at the year end was £327,741 (2023: £249,920).