

# **THE MERE AT ELLESMERE**

## **ACCOUNTS AND TRUSTEE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

Registered Charity No 504672

## **THE MERE AT ELLESMERE**

### **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2024**

The Mere at Ellesmere Charity, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury. SY2 6ND is registered with the Charity Commissioners (No. 504672) and constituted by Deed of Trust

Shropshire Council is Corporate Trustee but administered by management committee

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the policies set out in Note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and 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 Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

#### **Principle Office**

The Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND.

#### **Structure, governance and management:**

The Mere at Ellesmere is registered with the Charity Commission.

The day to day management of the Charity is undertaken by staff from Shropshire Council

#### **Officers**

Countryside and Heritage Sites Manager (North)	Mr S Burkey
Hon Treasurer	Mr J R Walton
Hon Accountant	Ms C Banfield

#### **Objectives and activities for the public benefit:**

The object of the Charity is to maintain the Mere property so that "the property shall forever hereafter be preserved as far as may be expedient in its natural state for the benefit of the public and so as to be available for open air recreation by the public".

Usually the Mere property is used extensively by the public for open air.

#### **Financial Review**

The Charities' performance for the year and that of its funds are laid out in the financial statement on pages 3 to 5. The Charity had a net income of £54429 and expenditure of £54429.

#### **Audit**

These accounts are covered within the normal External Audit Arrangements for Shropshire Council

**THE MERE CHARITABLE ACCOUNTS 2023-24**  
**Receipts and Payments Account for the Year to 31st March 2024**

2022-23		2023-24	
Actual		Actual	
£		£	£
<b>Trading Activities</b>			
18,538	Car Parking Fees (Moors)	23,079	
31,330	Rents/Other	31,350	
			54,429
<b>49,868</b>	<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>54,429</b>
<b>Direct Charitable Expenditure</b>			
20,320	Direct Employee Expenses	20,320	
577	Energy Costs	1,117	
1,728	Equipment Furniture and Materials	799	
810	Finance	1,570	
6,000	Grounds maintenance costs	6,000	
40	Insurances	40	
485	Miscellaneous Expenses	1,580	
690	Private Contractors	229	
2,336	Repairs alterations and maintenance of buildings	375	
341	Services	70	
-	Cleaning and domestic supplies	3,339	
-	Grants and Subscriptions	913	
16,541	Other expenditure	18,077	
<b>49,868</b>	<b>Total payments</b>		<b>54,429</b>
<b>-</b>	<b>Net receipts / (Payments) for the year</b>		<b>-</b>

Signed by Shropshire Council

  
 .....  
 James Walton  
 Executive Director of Resources  
 Shropshire Council

30/01/2025

.....  
**Date**

## **The Mere Charitable Trust Note to the Account 2023-24**

### **1 Accounting Policies**

#### **(a) Basis of preparation of accounts**

The financial statements have been prepared under in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

The Mere at Ellesmere meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assetes and liabilities are initially recognised at historical value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting poilcy nortes(s).

#### **(b) Income**

All Income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, and there is sufficient certainty that receipt of income is considered probable and the amount can be measured reliably. The income from fundraising ventures is shown gross, with the associated costs included on fundraising costs. Donated services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt. Donations and Legacies are recognised when they have been communicated in writing and the amount and settlement date is known. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

#### **(c) Value Added Tax**

Value added tax is not recoverable by the Charity, but as Shropshire Council is the Trustee, VAT was recovered through their accounts and as such is not included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

### **2 Basis of accounting**

The accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis.

### **3 Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

### **4 Staff, Volunter & Trustees' Costs**

No Staff were employed by the Charity but staff employed by Shropshire Council have time apportioned to the Charity.

### **5 Taxation**

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

## 6 Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives.

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is credited or charged to income and expenditure.

## 7 Investments

Investments are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with changes recognised in 'net gains / (losses) on investments' in the SoFA if the shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably. Other investments are measured at cost less impairment.

## 8 Property

Assets were bequeathed to North Shropshire Council to be run on behalf of the local community. Shropshire Council took over this role in 2009 after the merger of the County Council and District Council. The Charity does not own the property but merely maintains it.

	<b>2022-23</b>		<b>2023-24</b>	
	<b>Land</b>	<b>Buildings</b>	<b>Land</b>	<b>Buildings</b>
The Mere Wardens Bungalow, Cremorne Gardens	52,500	122,500	52,500	122,500
The Kiosk, Ellesmere	19,090	44,530	2,000	109,000
	<u>71,590</u>	<u>167,030</u>	<u>54,500</u>	<u>231,500</u>
Asset value on transfer		245,280		238,620
Asset revaluations		-6,660		47,380
		<u>238,620</u>		<u>286,000</u>

## **9 Debtors**

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

## **10 Creditors and Provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

## **11 Going Concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustee believes that no material uncertainties exist. The trustee has considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern