

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: NI621885 (Northern Ireland)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 100201

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 December 2022

for

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purposes and aims

Our charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the company's memorandum of association.

- 1) (a) Promote for the benefit of the community and future generations the conservation, protection and improvement of biodiversity through the provision of a botanical garden, a seed bank and repatriation of lost plant species, to protect endangered species in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

(b) Source viable Irish native and naturalised seed.
- 2) Advance the education of the public so as to increase their knowledge, understanding, appreciation and awareness of:
 - a) vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation;
 - b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;
 - c) the design and application of seed conservation projects in the community;
 - d) educating trainers and teachers and developing training aids for schools to tie in with their curriculum;
 - e) the benefits arising from the maintenance of organic principles.
- 3) Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.
- 4) Promote, foster and carry on study and research into the principles and practice of seed saving and to publish the useful results of such research.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our main activities undertaken to further our aims

- Maintaining and further development of headquarters at Kilclief Seed Centre we have been able to continue conservation of Ireland's native-origin flora, plants that are indigenous to this island. Following on from 2021 wasn't easy and coming out of the pandemic in 2022 presented yet another set of challenges. Covid funding stopped entirely, yet the after effects were still in play.

- Debbie continued as CEO contributing vision throughout paid and voluntary hours. Continuing laying the ground work for the imminent creation of a permanent purpose-built seed bank for our islands' flora. The maintenance of the online shop and its population of items through continuing website development. Content is carefully selected for the advancement of people, nature and sustainability, all proceeds go to keeping core costs met and new projects emerging.

Seed packing including creation of all seed packets.

Making up and posting out all orders.

Saintfield market one Sunday a month.

Write quotes for various seed requests, outings and training.

Overseeing the growing and harvesting, cleaning and storing of seed.

Seed bank maintenance.

Kilclief site maintenance, including machinery and equipment.

Coordinating the work of our volunteers, including training.

Maintaining governance issues, accounts and payroll.

Developing and looking after conservation projects.

Maintaining contact with the architect, Gerry Irvine of HIP Architects, councillor Colin McGrath and the planning department because the temporary planning permission on our temporary buildings was to run out on 16th March 2023. A new application must be made. John Hutcheson of HIP architects was contacted in February and discussions with his business partner Gerry Irvine and outside assistance on seed bank requirements began. An application to Jobstart in February saw us successfully achieve funding for a person for 25 hours per week on living wage. However, we were not find anyone to recruit; no applications were received despite much local advertising.

- Debbie continues as a committee member of ENSPA and BNFC.

- Mike Thompson led the project to obtain the CRESI funding from the Department for Communities, administered by Heritage Lottery. Starting in late January and working with Debbie they created and lodged an application on 16th March, for a marketing coordinator for £96,000 over a 3 year period. Professional assistance for the application was received from Glenn Oakes. Award was confirmed on 31st March. After a lengthy recruitment period, and the helpful guidance of our HLF funding officer Jacqueline Grant, we recruited Kathryn Shaw.

- Mike T also led the funding application to Live Here Love Here as part of their Climate Environment Challenge. A large part of the £3,500 was for THS to award a subsidy to schools and community groups for their wild flower seed purchases from us. There are still funds available which are carried forward to use in 2023.

- Last but by no means least Mike availed of Newry Mourne and Down Council's Digital Growth Programme, valued at £440, however the help we received from Johanne Jefferson was invaluable, many thanks to her.

An onboarding system for the new marketing position was developed to ensure all training materials and supplies are provided.

A brand book was developed to define official logo, colour scheme and font.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- Helen's voluntary contribution is reliable and stable, she cut her days back to pre-pandemic levels of one afternoon a week. Her contribution to seed cleaning and processing makes her the most expert in this field in THS. She contributes greatly to Debbie in terms of advice and discussion on day to day issues as well as longer term thinking.
- Mike's (Mike Bennet) quiet and reliable weekly voluntary contribution offers much stability, dependable work contribution and a delightfully dry wit.
- Our team of volunteers comprised Fergus, Sue, Kathy and Bob, Isabella, Mary and new start Gill. Each regularly and reliably brought and shared different skills and talents and asked lots of seed growing questions. Unfortunately Isabella returned to England and had to leave us in January, but not before her valuable contribution was made.
- Karen largely ceased volunteering as the world opened up. To take over from her regarding funding applications was Mike Thompson, trustee.
- Kathryn started on 26th September 2022. She has a track record of organisational skills, moderate marketing skills and was highly enthusiastic about the mission of True Harvest Seeds. Mike T is Kathryn's manager, helping her with onboarding, outside training and day to day workload. Debbie is providing the inhouse training on an ongoing basis, onsite and HR support, time management on a day to day basis. Kathryn is proving to be a real help to develop and facilitate training courses for 2023.

Purpose 1a: Provision of a seed bank.

- The seed bank continued to be maintained by Debbie and Helen. Funded by voluntary hours and money generated by the online shop sales.
As of December 2022 the seed bank contains 331 collections. There are 18 more to be accessioned once they are ready.

Purpose 1a, 2 (a) (b): To protect endangered species.

- We worked with Aisling Gribben of Causeway Coast and Glens Partnership to locate and collect further Schedule 8 plant populations which live at Binevenagh. We made a collection of *Dryas octopetala*. We attempted to locate *Saxifraga oppositifolia* but had no luck, despite being given the coordinates by Karl Hamilton, we were not able to locate it. A major hold up to proceedings is the distance. To make things easier for Debbie, she rented a room there and visited Aisling at Binevenagh one day and Adam Mantel at Magilligan the next. With Adam, Debbie surveyed the *Hypochaeris glabra* that had been planted out in 2022, none had survived, Adam felt it was the cattle grazing that had killed them off.
- *Hypochaeris glabra* was sown again in February 2022 from the seed collected in 2021 at 36 Ardglass Road raised bed, and a subsequent population of 108 plants were cared for, again in the raised beds and eventually a very successful seed collection was made and banked in the order of many grams. We did collect again from Magilligan sand dunes and can now cross breed in order to increase the genetic diversity of the samples in the seed bank as this population derives from just two plants, located side by side at Magilligan.
- The four *Crambe maritima* plants in the raised beds remain alive and well, but very few seed were collected in 2022. Organic seaweed feed was applied and will continue to be so.
- An attempt was made to start SOS8 part 2, with kind help from Marcus Mally on a zoom meeting in January, however Karl was not available to continue this work. He gave his blessing that THS continue without him and the project remains on hold until we can manage it.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purpose 1b: Source viable Irish native seed.

- Contributions were made to the seed bank via collections from Ardtole ASSI and also with an expedition out with Grassroots Group from Belfast to Minnowburn, with kind permission from Craig Somerville at the National Trust.
- Contributions of yellow rattle were made to THS by Michael and Rachel of Ardtole and also Greer and Maureen of Slievemoyale. Both generously allowed Debbie to harvest yellow rattle free of charge and use it as a funding income for the charity. Both sites are naturally occurring populations.

Purpose 2: Advance the education of the public.

- Debbie continues to give talks and now we are suggesting donations as the norm.
- The website for SOS8 is kept up but was not added to in 2022. Payment is still made for it to stay live using unreserved funds raised by the shop.
- Volunteer numbers dwindled slightly in 2022 because of the opening up of the world again after the pandemic.
- Our SERC students, led by Joanne and Joe, came from SERC Downpatrick campus, we are delighted and honoured to host the students. Their volunteering gives THS a much needed work boost every fortnight and gives the students practical experience which adds to the quality of their portfolios. The students have helped with sowing seeds, plant care and site maintenance. Two students who loved the THS dogs, went on to study animal care. Everyone at THS have really taken to all of the students, we have got to know them as individuals, they brighten up our week and we very much appreciate their regular and valuable contribution.
- We attended Down High's Eco fun-day on 30th April. Funded by the council we were able to give away seed trays with seed in having shown people how to sow up the seeds. We gave out information on how to look after the young plants and bring them on to be large plants suitable for the garden.
- In May we started talks with Glebe House's Andrew McCracken for Debbie to help them with setting up their community gardens. Glebe House included Debbie as a consultant in their funding application.
- Sunday 26th June saw our last monthly attendance at Saintfield Market. New owners came in and they didn't invite THS to come back. Thank you to Peter and Yvonne who gave us the stand free of charge for over a year over 2 springs and summers, which allowed us to raise funds, very much appreciated.
- In conjunction with Riverdale Primary School and with funding from Live Here Love Here, we made a video on how to make Protected Sowing, the video is available on our YouTube channel.
- The YouTube channel was taken up by Kathryn and made to work. She has been creating and publishing very informative and increasingly popular short videos. We will be creating content going forward, as time allows.
- In August we received the Irish group from the GAIA seed training course, onsite at Kilclief. The aim of their visit was to demonstrate and inform participants how we do what we do in terms of seed handling. The same is planned for 2023.
- In September we participated in Belfast Naturalists Field Club, conversazione bringing information leaflets and seeds for sale. Much of the evening was used to discuss the merits of yellow rattle, *Rhinanthus minor* and how to sow and maintain it.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- In October we worked with local Dublin artist Rachel Doolin. Rachel was constructing an in depth study on seed and seed growers across Ireland. Rachel held an interview with Debbie on the work of THS and after editing published the talk as a podcast on the internet. You can still access it here: <https://www.racheldoolin.com/debbie-gillies>

- In November Tracy Megoran kindly took a stock of our seed down to the Show in Dublin's RDS. She singlehandedly raised £184 for the charity over the weekend as well as raising awareness with the public.

- December saw a soft launch of our single Membership packs, this will be furthered in Qs 3&4 of 2023. The mailing list of people interested in following THS with our personalized emails containing insider information, first dibs on training course places, special offers was started. Volunteers, trustees and staff enjoyed Christmas dinner together at Summer Flame in Ardglass which was well attended.

Purpose 2 (a): Vegetable and other appropriate seeds, their value and the benefits arising from their conservation; and

(b) the principles and practice of maintaining seed biodiversity and sustainable development;

- We continue to source the best quality organic and often Demeter standard, open pollinated vegetable seed from reputable seed houses across Europe. For each variety we hold we give as much information as we can on the webpage for each.

We stock seed that does well in Ireland. With the invaluable help of Fergus, we grow out samples of many of the seed lots, this helps us with descriptions, photographs and forms a large part of the germination testing that we do ourselves.

By supplying only open pollinated varieties people are empowered to save their own seed and use them next season. By actually doing the seed saving, people are learning how to manage seeds themselves. This has many benefits and we are seeing the opening of various amateur seed saving and seed swap events across the country.

In an ever increasingly uncertain future, seed knowledge is a vital part of sustainability on any island.

Purpose 2 (c): Design and application of seed conservation projects in the community.

- We continue to supply grasses for Lecale Conservation and have featured in a few times on the BBC in various programmes, Debbie gives a short description of the essential conservation work the THS undertakes in general, and is, as before, then featured helping plant some of the grass plants at the shore in Ballyhornan beach. Grasses included native-origin Marram, Lyme and Sand couch grasses. They help maintain the integrity of the foreshore by mitigating coastal and water run off erosion. The funding from Lecale conservation £700 for THS paid for the above grasses in 2022.

- In conjunction with Newry Mourne and Down Council we participated in the Giant Festival at Warrenpoint. With their funding we brought seed trays, seeds and compost to the festival, we were located in the horticultural tent on both the Saturday and the Sunday in August. With a queue out the door both days we "sold out" of everything. We sent over 450 families home with seed trays, that we had shown them how to sow themselves and provided information on how to care for the seedlings going forward. A massive thanks to our volunteers Sue, Kathy and Bob for helping out, it wouldn't have worked without you!

- We were invited to the Newcastle Eats and Beats festival, but Debbie was too tired to do more, so we said we'd consider it for 2023.

- We joined up with Sonairte, co Meath and ran a Seed Collection Workshop. The workshop was attended by one person. It was a good day and we made a high quality seed collection for the seed bank, *Lapsana communis*. We realised that we must put a lower limit on participants for future courses.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purpose 2 (e): Organic principles.

- We became fully certified as organic on 5th May with the Soil Association for our field. This means we are now fully certified for these areas:
 1. Growing at Kilclief and
 2. For selling bought in organic seed, (which we were already certified for).
- Debbie looks after inspections and certification.
- We have an onsite apiary run by Debbie in her spare time which did greatly assist in the pollination of the wild flowers throughout the year.
- Mark continues to maintain the field's weeding by tractor.
- Debbie concentrates on site maintenance, grass cutting using the tractor, stormier and mower and removal of Schedule 9 weeds. Putting out the bins, general tidiness. Cleaning of all facilities and maintenance of cleaning rotas.

Purpose 3: Provide and promote information and interpretive material about vegetable seeds.

- Maintenance and improvement of the website. The decision to continue, enhance, promote and increase stock on the online shop has increased sales, providing our customers with greater choice and information. This in turn provides unrestricted funds for the charity, which helps cover core costs. In this way the charity continues to function.

Purpose 4: Making our information and knowledge available to the public.

- The collections are a source of native Irish-origin plant material and most are available to the public upon request. This is excepting the endangered species which will require special permission to administer.
- Information about the collections is currently on the website. We published a list of collections from 2015 - 2018 on our website www.trueharvestseeds.org from data collected at the seed collections. The list is in need of updating to show new collections. We are still holding open our project to put a dynamic database of the collections online. This is a matter for fundraising either from core funding or raised. A dynamic database would enable easier updating of the online record and provide paid staff hours.
- Through our work we have generally raised public awareness of the plight of our native plants by engaging with botanists, land owners and volunteers while delivering training courses and open days. Debbie now has help from Mike T to maintain the website on Siteground server including the online shop. Mike separated out the shop from the main website to enable faster loading of both, the shop now exists on shop.trueharvestseeds.org while the main conservation website remains as trueharvestseeds.org. This was a large body of work and Mike's contribution was gratefully received.
- THS had permission from DAERA for wildlife licences for endangered plants and permission from NIEA for working on Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSIs).

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

Restricted funds

- In partnership with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO). The DIO granted THS £1,200 in 2020 to work with 3 species from Magilligan, because of covid this work was delayed and re-scheduled for 2021. We weren't able to complete in 2021 so work has again been deferred to 2022. With this funding we were able to continue to work with *Hypochaeris glabra* here at head office in our raised beds. In 2022 we grew out our most successful population to date and made a good seed collection from the plants we grew. We left the old plant remains in place as a final check against hybridisation against *Hypochaeris radicata*, which is present in the surrounding area. *Glabra* is an annual and *radicata* a perennial, so if any plants survived to re-emerge in 2023 then we would know that in that plant hybridisation had occurred. Thankfully, none was seen. Debbie visited Magailligan with Adam Mantel to view the planted out plants from 2021. As mentioned above no plants survived. Other species of keen interest were sought out and photographs taken.

Unrestricted funds

- Sales of wild flower, vegetable, herb and garden flower seeds raised cash which was used to pay for ongoing overheads, and new stock.

Reserves policy

- THS have secured property from which to operate and buildings to work from for the long term, with no ongoing costs other than conacre and utilities. However, whilst the land is secure the temporary buildings were only granted temporary planning status by the planning department. Starting in February 2022, discussions with HIP Architects and seed banking experts from various sources we started to develop a plan for a permanent building. To pay for this we must use unrestricted funds, raised from the shop and courses.

- Mike T, trustee was instrumental in setting up a membership scheme. By raising funds and working with Debbie to fill our marketing coordinator position, THS has launched its individual membership scheme.

Going concern

- At the close of 2022 we are happy that the charity will continue to be a going concern.

- THS' shift from submitting funding applications to various bodies to reflect a more self sustaining attitude is ongoing. The natural capital of the seed bank has been given a value for insurance purposes.

- Our market research had shown an appetite for small seed packets of wild flowers in 2022.

- We continue to import seeds into NI from the EU throughout 2022.

- We continue to:

to use our expertise to provide seeds to the small packet market in Ireland as a whole. This service was used by many customers throughout 2022. to keep prices low and offer postal service as an extra, rather than subsume the cost of post to provide "Open Pollinated" seeds. The seeds we provided are either Organic or Demeter standard and are of a quality that can be used in seed breeding. This decision was taken with a view to potentially alleviating food shortages in the future, empowering people to save their own seeds, to swap viable seeds going forward.

- We added seed mixtures to our range of products. These have proved to be more popular than individual seed packets. They are better value for money, but asking customers why that is, has shown us that it is our expertise in putting together the seed mix that has been of greatest value.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

FUTURE PLANS

- Marketing trustee Mike, CEO Debbie and Marketing Coordinator Kathryn have been investigating corporate membership and sponsorship.

With the need to develop a new seed bank building project fundraising will be of the essence.

- With the above in mind a large, £880,880 funding application was submitted to DAERA for the building of a superior plant resource centre at Kilclief. This application was unsuccessful (March 2023) and new ideas, for a much reduced building were conceived.

- An application will be made to the planning department in early 2023, for a permanent building in line with our organic and sustainable principles. It will blend into the environment, it will be passive, generate its own power, harvest grey and rain water and be purpose built for swifts, swallows, bats and insects. The building will be agricultural in nature, with facilities for staff and volunteers to enable selling seed and other economic activity, all profits remain in the charity to further our aims.

- A position for a Retail Assistant has been created, we intend to search for initial funding to help us make this a paid permanent post. If Stormont reconvenes we may be able to avail of the Back to Work scheme and help someone local get back to work after a period of unemployment. This situation remains open for consideration.

- THS trustees and CEO would welcome help and or trustee applications from persons interested in advancing the charity through use of their expertise in finance and fundraising.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

- The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on the 11 December 2013 and registered as a charity on 14th April 2014. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Report of the Trustees FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

- The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles and shall manage the business of the Charity. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

- All member of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity. Mr M Bryson, Miss K Lawrence, Ms J Cross, Miss R Knight Mr M Thompson retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the next annual general meeting. To be appointed as a charity trustee each trustee must be nominated and seconded by other charity trustee members.

Director's skills

- Mark Bryson has run the worker's co-op EcoSeeds since 1997, growing out native origin wild flower seeds. EcoSeeds assists in native wild flower restoration projects both as consultant and / or contractor.

- Katie Laurence has experience in being on the committee of another NI environmental charity and has made herself available as staff liaison officer for THS. Katie is currently studying a masters in environmental management.

- Rebecca Knight is a chartered accountant working for global tax justice, she assists THS with governance.

- Julia Cross is a trained primary school teacher. She has extensive networking capabilities and is a perfect advocate for THS' ethos of saving our native and naturalised seeds.

- Mike Thompson is a director at Iconic Biscuits, with 20 years in marketing, sales and digital content production for international brands. He is a keen environmentalist and expert photographer who appreciates that THS is protecting future biodiversity on the island.

Operational Structure

- The chief executive officer is responsible for the day to day running of the charity. Four quarterly meetings is held with between CEO and directors. Issues are dealt with as they arise with the appropriate director.

Related parties

- The charity had no new related party transactions during the year.

- Ms Debbie Gillies (CEO) is a related party of Miss Rebecca Knight's (Treasurer). However Miss Knight has not undertaken any financial transactions (or other transactions) with Ms Gillies while acting as an agent of the charity. Miss Knight was excluded from all employee on-boarding matters and has no oversight or input into Miss Laurence's role of staff liaison officer.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

NI621885 (Northern Ireland)

Registered Charity number

100201

Registered office

36 Ardglass Road

Kilclief

Co. Down

BT30 7NS

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Report of the Trustees
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Trustees

M W Bryson
Mrs J C Cross
R V Knight
K L Laurence
M D Thompson

Ms D Gillies CEO

Company Secretary

M W Bryson

Independent Examiner

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27 September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R V Knight', is written over the signature line.

R V Knight - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of True Harvest Seeds

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages twelve to twenty three.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees (and also the directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Mr Conaill McGrady FCA

M.B.McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants
Rathmore House
52 St Patricks Avenue
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6DS

27 September 2023

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31/12/22 Total funds £	31/12/21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		583	10,425	11,008	30,225
Other trading activities	2	21,519	-	21,519	19,942
Investment income	3	39	-	39	6
Total		22,141	10,425	32,566	50,173
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	2,980	-	2,980	10,897
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activity		25,214	10,857	36,071	31,467
Total		28,194	10,857	39,051	42,364
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(6,053)	(432)	(6,485)	7,809
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		148,054	10,576	158,630	150,821
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		142,001	10,144	152,145	158,630

The notes form part of these financial statements

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Balance Sheet
31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31/12/22 Total funds £	31/12/21 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	9,416	4,781	14,197	15,272
Heritage assets	10	133,538	5,363	138,901	138,901
		<u>142,954</u>	<u>10,144</u>	<u>153,098</u>	<u>154,173</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		42,393	-	42,393	6,201
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(43,346)	-	(43,346)	(1,744)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>(953)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(953)</u>	<u>4,457</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>142,001</u>	<u>10,144</u>	<u>152,145</u>	<u>158,630</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>142,001</u>	<u>10,144</u>	<u>152,145</u>	<u>158,630</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				142,001	148,054
Restricted funds				<u>10,144</u>	<u>10,576</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>152,145</u>	<u>158,630</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Balance Sheet - continued
31 DECEMBER 2022

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27 September 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R V Knight', written in a cursive style.

R V Knight - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgments made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgments made in applying the Trust's accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Heritage assets - seed collections

Seed collections are collection of wild flowers from all over Ireland. The cost of the collections have not been capitalised up to 2020 as many of the collections has been donated to True Harvest Seeds. However the Board of Trustees have revalued the collections as at 31 December 2020. The basis of this revaluation is detailed in note 9.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued****Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31/12/22	31/12/21
	£	£
Earned Income	<u>21,519</u>	<u>19,942</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31/12/22	31/12/21
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>39</u>	<u>6</u>

4. RAISING FUNDS**Raising donations and legacies**

	31/12/22	31/12/21
	£	£
Support costs	<u>51</u>	<u>-</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31/12/22	31/12/21
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,682	3,153
Other operating leases	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022****7. STAFF COSTS**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31/12/22	31/12/21
Management	1	1
Other	1	1
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	1,035	29,190	30,225
Other trading activities	19,942	-	19,942
Investment income	6	-	6
Total	<u>20,983</u>	<u>29,190</u>	<u>50,173</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	10,033	864	10,897
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activity	10,834	20,633	31,467
Total	<u>20,867</u>	<u>21,497</u>	<u>42,364</u>
NET INCOME	116	7,693	7,809
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	147,938	2,883	150,821
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>148,054</u>	<u>10,576</u>	<u>158,630</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £
COST			
At 1 January 2022	12,036	6,700	2,190
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	12,036	6,700	2,190
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2022	4,139	4,792	1,044
Charge for year	790	476	287
At 31 December 2022	4,929	5,268	1,331
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2022	7,107	1,432	859
At 31 December 2021	7,897	1,908	1,146
	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2022	1,556	7,248	29,730
Additions	-	1,607	1,607
At 31 December 2022	1,556	8,855	31,337
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2022	1,187	3,296	14,458
Charge for year	92	1,037	2,682
At 31 December 2022	1,279	4,333	17,140
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2022	277	4,522	14,197
At 31 December 2021	369	3,952	15,272

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

10. HERITAGE ASSETS

	Total £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	<u>138,901</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2022	<u>138,901</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>138,901</u>

True Harvest Seeds is conserving Ireland's indigenous seed-bearing plants by securely storing their seeds. Through the generous donations of seeds from local public and private landowners we are populating a seed bank. The seeds and associated material are cared for at our Seed Centre, Kilclief, Co Down. This work will ensure the security of our natural capital into the future. Seed and access to material and data may be requested by bona fide individuals and organisations.

True Harvest Seeds have approximately over 300 seed collections from various native species, some of which are Schedule 8 species meaning they are endangered and require a licence to collect and grow.

The majority of True Harvest Seeds collections are held indefinitely and cared for to maintain their quality and to make them available to the public.

The cost of the seed collections have not been capitalised before 2020. All collections are, by their nature, donations from land owners. Costs to collect were by True Harvest Seeds via various funding streams including voluntary work. Prompted via discussions with our insurance company, the Board of Trustees have taken the decision to revalue the assets and recognise them in the balance sheet as heritage assets (which are biological in nature) based on their fair value. To determine this value, for collections made in 2020 or earlier True Harvest Seeds have used the same calculation that is used by Kew's Millennium Seed Bank which is based on the cost to replace collections. For the additions in 2021, we have used the actual cost of the seed collections as the heritage asset value.

As a charity we do not charge for bona fide projects to withdraw seeds from the seed bank and therefore no cost to the users is associated.

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/12/22 £	31/12/21 £
Accrued expenses	1,446	1,044
Deferred government grants	<u>41,900</u>	<u>700</u>
	<u>43,346</u>	<u>1,744</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	148,054	(6,053)	142,001
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	492	(124)	368
DAERA/SLL	752	(188)	564
Co Down Rural Community	270	(68)	202
DAERA/SOS8	648	(162)	486
Awards For All	6,426	(415)	6,011
Newry Mourne Down District Council Department for Communities Heritage Fund	1,988	(801)	1,187
	-	1,326	1,326
	<u>10,576</u>	<u>(432)</u>	<u>10,144</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>158,630</u>	<u>(6,485)</u>	<u>152,145</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	22,141	(28,194)	(6,053)
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(124)	(124)
DAERA/SLL	-	(188)	(188)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(68)	(68)
DAERA/SOS8	-	(162)	(162)
Awards For All	-	(415)	(415)
Newry Mourne Down District Council Department for Communities Heritage Fund	-	(801)	(801)
	7,025	(5,699)	1,326
LHLH	2,700	(2,700)	-
DBS	700	(700)	-
	<u>10,425</u>	<u>(10,857)</u>	<u>(432)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>32,566</u>	<u>(39,051)</u>	<u>(6,485)</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	147,938	116	148,054
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	656	(164)	492
DAERA/SLL	1,003	(251)	752
Co Down Rural Community	360	(90)	270
DAERA/SOS8	864	(216)	648
Awards For All	-	6,426	6,426
Newry Mourne Down District Council	-	1,988	1,988
	<u>2,883</u>	<u>7,693</u>	<u>10,576</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>150,821</u>	<u>7,809</u>	<u>158,630</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	20,983	(20,867)	116
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(164)	(164)
DAERA/SLL	-	(251)	(251)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(90)	(90)
DAERA/SOS8	17,201	(17,417)	(216)
Awards For All	10,001	(3,575)	6,426
Newry Mourne Down District Council	1,988	-	1,988
	<u>29,190</u>	<u>(21,497)</u>	<u>7,693</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>50,173</u>	<u>(42,364)</u>	<u>7,809</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	147,938	(5,937)	142,001
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	656	(288)	368
DAERA/SLL	1,003	(439)	564
Co Down Rural Community	360	(158)	202
DAERA/SOS8	864	(378)	486
Awards For All	-	6,011	6,011
Newry Mourne Down District Council	-	1,187	1,187
Department for Communities Heritage Fund	-	1,326	1,326
	<u>2,883</u>	<u>7,261</u>	<u>10,144</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>150,821</u>	<u>1,324</u>	<u>152,145</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	43,124	(49,061)	(5,937)
Restricted funds			
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	(288)	(288)
DAERA/SLL	-	(439)	(439)
Co Down Rural Community	-	(158)	(158)
DAERA/SOS8	17,201	(17,579)	(378)
Awards For All	10,001	(3,990)	6,011
Newry Mourne Down District Council	1,988	(801)	1,187
Department for Communities Heritage Fund	7,025	(5,699)	1,326
LHLH	2,700	(2,700)	-
DBS	700	(700)	-
	<u>39,615</u>	<u>(32,354)</u>	<u>7,261</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>82,739</u>	<u>(81,415)</u>	<u>1,324</u>

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022.

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	31/12/22 £	31/12/21 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	423	280
Grants	10,585	29,945
	<u>11,008</u>	<u>30,225</u>
Other trading activities		
Earned Income	21,519	19,942
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	39	6
	<u>32,566</u>	<u>50,173</u>
Total incoming resources		
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Purchases	2,929	10,897
Charitable activities		
Wages	16,899	7,457
Conacre	200	200
	<u>17,099</u>	<u>7,657</u>
Support costs		
Management		
Insurance	851	929
Light and heat	1,165	761
Telephone	402	339
Postage and stationery	2,366	1,692
Advertising	226	-
Sundries	1,424	963
Equipment & Tools	116	827
Motor and travel	2,636	749
Subscriptions	51	893
Website	842	797
Professional fees	3,847	11,595
Depreciation of tangible and heritage assets	2,682	3,153
	<u>16,608</u>	<u>22,698</u>
Finance		
Bank charges	175	512

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

TRUE HARVEST SEEDS

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	31/12/22	31/12/21
	£	£
Finance		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	<u>2,240</u>	<u>600</u>
Total resources expended	<u>39,051</u>	<u>42,364</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u><u>(6,485)</u></u>	<u><u>7,809</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

