

Trustees report for the year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 10.

Constitution

Armagh County Agricultural Show Society is an incorporated body and is a recognised charity by HM Revenue and Customs. Armagh County Agricultural Show Society was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission Northern Ireland on 14 June 2003 under number 104972.

Organisation

The Trustees who have served during the year are detailed out on page 3.

Who are Armagh County Agricultural Show Society

The Show Committee has the power to have and exercise general supervision and control over the affairs of the Society. The property, funds and securities of the Society are vested in Committee to be utilised in the purpose of fulfilling the charitable objectives of the Society.

The Society's charitable objectives are:

- The promotion of agriculture in Northern Ireland by holding an annual agricultural show, and by delivering agricultural instruction through exhibitions, lectures, and other such means as may from time to time be found expedient.
- The promotion of industries, art, sciences, and literature. These have always been treated as minor in relation to the main objective of promoting agriculture.

The Society seeks to achieve its objectives through:

- The delivery of the annual agricultural show which seeks to:-
 - Contribute to the enhancement of public awareness and understanding of the Province's agri-food sector.
 - Promote good farming practices and development of the skills and crafts needed to enhance the sector.
 - Encourage the advancement of breeding and rearing of livestock (including horses and poultry).
- Presentation of awards to those engaged in agriculture.
- Working in partnership with other bodies to assist in the promotion of the sector.
- The promotion of the arts through maintaining facilities and services to enable the venue to host a range of cultural events.

Furthermore, the Society is engaged in:

- Making its facilities and resources available for utilisation by other charitable bodies.

The Strategy of the Society is as follows:

- Ensure the objective as detailed are delivered.
- Ensure that the assets, investments, and funds of the Society are prudently managed.
- Utilise the assets, investments, and funds of the Society to put in place sustainable enabling finance streams.

Statement of Public Benefit

The Trustees believe that both our purposes and the activities undertaken in this last financial year clearly satisfy elements of the public benefit requirement.

The committee considers that these objectives, activities, and goals have a clear public benefit in enhancing the social, economic, and cultural well-being of rural communities.

The public benefits include:

- Improving standards of livestock and agricultural practices within the agricultural sector in Northern Ireland in particular, and beyond.
- Preserving and maintaining high standards and skill levels within the agricultural sector in Northern Ireland, and beyond.
- Developing and preserving rural crafts and craftsmanship necessary to enhance the agricultural sector in the Province.
- Ensuring that rural traditions and skills are passed down through successive generations of the agricultural community.
- Improving the welfare of agricultural animals through the recognition of high standards of agricultural husbandry throughout the Province and beyond.
- Enhancing the general public's knowledge and understanding of the Province's agri-food sector.

Achievements and Performance

Armagh County Show is one of the longest-running shows in Ireland with a report of a show being held in the City of Armagh as far back as 1829.

The agriculture, local food, and rural life elements of our Show continue to be the driving force behind our organisation. However, we make sure every effort is made to cater for all tastes and interests of the thousands of visitors that attend the event each year and the programme is constantly updated to reflect and respond to those interests.

Financial Review

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the charity received total income of £161,249 and had total expenditure of £126,108, yielding a surplus of £35,141.

Movements in tangible assets during the year are shown in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to reduce these risks.

By order of the Trustees

S Hamilton
Trustee

12/4/24
Date

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in the United Kingdom (accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council in the UK, including Charities SORP (FRS 102). Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in the United Kingdom and United Kingdom Law). Under that law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the statement of financial activities of the charity 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 in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the application of accounting standards has 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 charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement as to disclosure to our independent examiner

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the company's independent examiner is aware of that information.

Independent Examiner

A resolution to re-appoint the independent examiner, Noel Conn & Company, will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

By order of the Trustees

S Hamilton
Trustee

12/4/24
Date