

THE VERDERERS OF THE NEW FOREST

HIGHER LEVEL STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

Reference AG00350016 "The HLS Scheme"

Statement of Accounts for the period ended

31 December 2014



The Verderers of the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme

Statement of accounts for the period ended 31 December 2014

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The Verderers of the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme

Scheme details

Scheme name: The Verderers of the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme

Number: AG00350016

For the period to 31 December 2014

Board

Voting Members
Verderers of the New Forest
New Forest National Park Authority
Forestry Commission

Non-voting Members
Natural England Hants & IOW
Commoners Defence Association

The Verderers of the New Forest have entered into an agreement with Natural England to carry out environmental land management and capital works in the New Forest.

The objectives of the HLS Scheme will be implemented by a partnership of the Verderers of the New Forest, The New Forest National Park Authority and the Forestry Commission.

Financial Review

The Scheme has spent more in the year than its income in the year; however, this is catching up with expenditure which was planned but not made in the previous years, reducing the accrued surplus from £1,431,049 to £1,245,089. Further catching up will occur over the next few years, up to the end of the Scheme in 2020. The Scheme's assets and liabilities are reflected in the balance sheet on page 3.

The Verderers of the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme

Income and Expenditure Account For the period ended 31 December 2014

| | 31 Dec 2014 | 28 Feb 2014 As restated |
|--|------------------|-------------------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Income | | |
| Income from Natural England – annual entitlement | 1,675,609 | 2,028,052 |
| Add: income deferred from previous years | - | 35,000 |
| Less: income deferred to future years | - | - |
| | <u>1,675,609</u> | <u>2,063,052</u> |
| Income from Natural England – capital entitlement | 8,009 | 80,417 |
| Other income – contributions from 3 rd parties | 18,493 | 43,292 |
| | <u>1,702,111</u> | <u>2,186,761</u> |
| Total income | | |
| Expenditure | | |
| Forestry Commission managed project expenditure | - | - |
| - Deferred programme | 926,085 | 466,208 |
| - Annual programme | 180,873 | 184,150 |
| New Forest National Park Authority managed project expenditure | 752,513 | 752,326 |
| Verderers managed project expenditure | <u>1,859,471</u> | <u>1,402,684</u> |
| Total project costs | | |
| Administrative costs | | |
| Administration charge from Forestry Commission | 26,500 | 26,500 |
| Independent Accountant's Fee | 2,100 | 2,040 |
| | <u>28,600</u> | <u>28,540</u> |
| | <u>(185,960)</u> | <u>755,537</u> |
| (Deficit)/Surplus for the period | | |

The Verderers of the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme

General Fund Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2014

| | Note | 31 Dec 2014 | 28 Feb 2014 As restated |
|-------------------------------------|------|------------------|----------------------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| Current assets | | | |
| Accrued income from Natural England | | 686,964 | 1,000,066 |
| Accrued income from Third Parties | | - | - |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 560,225 | 433,023 |
| | | <u>1,247,189</u> | <u>1,433,089</u> |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| Accruals | | 2,100 | 2,040 |
| Deferred income | | - | - |
| Due to Verderers of the New Forest | | - | - |
| Due to Forestry Commission | | - | - |
| | | <u>2,100</u> | <u>2,040</u> |
| Net scheme assets | | <u>1,245,089</u> | <u>1,431,049</u> |
| Represented by: | | | |
| Funds | | | |
| Brought forward | | 1,431,049 | 675,512 |
| Arising in the year | | (185,960) | 755,537 |
| Funds | | <u>1,245,089</u> | <u>1,431,049</u> |

The notes on page 4 form part of these financial statements.

Approved on 21 April 2015 and signed on behalf of the Board of the Verderers of the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme by

Dominic May
Official Verderer

The Verderers of the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme

Notes to the accounts
For the period ended 31 December 2014

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

Income from Natural England is recognised in the year to which the Scheme relates. Grants received after the year end that relate to the scheme year are reflected in Income as Accrued income. Any income (allocated from the year's grant) that relates to project expenditure incurred after the year end is included in creditors as deferred income. Any unallocated income is carried forward in accumulated fund. Any other income is recognised when receivable.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on the accruals basis and is recognised in the period the costs are incurred by the scheme and the project partners. Any costs not paid or paid to third parties or reimbursed to the partners before the year end are accrued and included in creditors and accruals.

2 Related party transactions

The Verderers of the New Forest, New Forest National Park Authority and the Forestry Commission are partners to the Scheme. Each partner manages a number of projects and is reimbursed by the Scheme for the expenditure incurred. Amounts paid or payable to the parties were as follows:

| | 31 Dec 2014 | 28 Feb 2014 |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Forestry Commission | 952,585 | 492,708 |
| New Forest National Park Authority | 180,873 | 184,150 |
| Verderers of the New Forest | 752,513 | 752,326 |

The amounts payable included in the above are separately disclosed in the balance sheet.

Amounts paid to individual Verderers from the Verderers' Grazing Scheme totalled £14,606 in the period.

The Verderers of the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme

**Accountants Report on the unaudited statement of accounts for the period ended
31 December 2014**

In accordance with the letter of engagement letter dated 12 April 2013 we have compiled the financial information of the Verderers of the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme for the period ended 31 December 2014 from the accounting records and information and explanations you have given us.

The financial information has been compiled on the accounting basis set out in note 1 and is not intended to achieve full compliance with United Kingdom generally accepted accounting policies.

Our report has been prepared under the terms of our engagement with the Board of HLS and for no other purpose. No person is entitled to rely on this report other than the Board of HLS or any person expressly authorised to do so by our prior written consent. Save as above, we do not accept responsibility for the report to any other person or for any other purpose and we hereby expressly disclaim any and all such liability.

We have carried out this engagement in accordance with technical guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and have complied with the ethical guidance laid down by the Institute.

You have approved the financial information and have acknowledged your responsibility for it, for the appropriateness of the accounting policies adopted and for providing all information and explanations necessary for its compilation.

We have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial information.

Princercroft Willis Limited
Chartered Accountants
The George Business Centre
Christchurch Road
New Milton
Hampshire BH25 6QJ

Date 27 April 2015

Princercroft Willis Limited is a limited company registered in England and Wales (registered number 09080678)