

**The Arnside/Silverdale
AONB Landscape Trust**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2017**

**Registered Charity in England and Wales
Charity Number 702624**

Contents

	Page
Trustees Annual Report	2
Treasurer's Report	3
Chairman's Report	4-5
Financial Accounts for 2016/2017	6-9
Independent Examiners Report	10

Reference and Administrative Information

Name of Charity: The Arnside/Silverdale AONB Landscape Trust
Registered Charity Number: 702624

Contact details:

Address: The Old Station Building, Arnside, Carnforth LA5 0HG
Telephone: 01524 761034
Web: www.arnsideandsilverdaleaonb.org.uk
Email: landscapetrust@arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk

Trustees:	Date of election	Date of re-election	Date of resignation
Fiona Allen (Chairman)	01/06/2013	01/06/2017	
Ray Anslow (Treasurer)	07/06/2013	01/06/2017	
Andrew Greenwood	01/06/2013	01/06/2019	
Gary Marsh	12/06/2015	01/06/2018	
Colin Peacock (Vice-Chairman)	01/06/2012	01/06/2017	
Brenda Penn	12/06/2015	01/06/2018	
Adrian Walker	12/06/2015	01/06/2018	
Peter Stevens	12/06/2015	01/06/2018	
Michael Warren (Secretary)	01/06/2012	01/06/2017	

Bankers:

Cumberland Building Society, Cumberland House, Castle Street, Carlisle, CA3 8RX
Nationwide Building Society, Nationwide House, Pipers Way, Swindon, SN38 1NW
National Westminster Bank plc. 44, Market Street, Carnforth, Lancs, LA5 9WY
Santander UK, Bridle Road, Bootle, Merseyside LG30 4GB

Independent Examiner: Mr Peter Bates ACMA, CGMA

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Documents: Constitution 1986.
Amended at the AGMs in 1989, 1991, 1997, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

Trustees/Management Committee

The Trustees/Management Committee met four times during the year.

Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit

The objects of the Landscape Trust are: To work for the public benefit of both residents and visitors within the Arnside/Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty by stimulating and encouraging both understanding of and active involvement in the protection, conservation and practical improvement of features of general public amenity or historical interest within the landscape.

Payments to Trustees

There were no payments to Trustees apart from authorised expenses and re-imbursments for expenditure made on behalf of the Trust.

Serious Incidents

No serious incidents occurred during the year.

Treasurer's Report - Funds

The Landscape Trust holds the following funds.

- (i) A general unrestricted fund used for normal day-to-day transactions using National Westminster Bank plc. and Santander Bank.
- (ii) Restricted Funds for amounts held for
 - i) a partner in the Entry Stewardship Agreement, and
 - ii) funds designated for a specific purpose and
 - iii) for books sold on behalf of the AONB unit.
 - iv) There is a further Restricted Fund relating to the AONB Partnership Grant Fund shown separately.
 - v) The Entry Level Stewardship agreement began on 1st December 2013.

The Landscape Trust is providing the link with Natural England and acting as agent for the submission of claims, and receiver and distributor of payments under the Scheme for the eight landowners involved.

The Agreement allows for an annual land management payment payable half-yearly in June and December until 2023.

A Woodland Improvement Grant has been awarded for work at Teddy Heights.

All Income is held in a Trust Reserves designated Fund shown in the Accounts

The Trust's Financial Reserves are held in Short-term Deposit Accounts to enable land purchases at short notice; and/or to meet any shortfall between Income and Expenditure.

Budgets

A Budget was approved for the Reserves Committee of £4,000 for 2016/2017 the expenditure of £3,574 coming from the funds held in the Financial Reserve Fund from the HLS/ELS/EWGS schemes.

The Events were granted a Budget of £1,500. (net cost £1,075 for the year).

Report

The Trust made a surplus on its General activities of £7,353 for the year 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 after allowing for Contingent Liabilities, Prepayments and Debtors.

The Higher Level Scheme Capital Projects work has been completed.

The Entry Level Scheme continues until November 2023. This year £6.056 has been paid by the Rural Payments Agency and distributed to the 8 landowners who are signatories to the Agreement.

A Woodland Improvement Grant was awarded for 80% of the total cost of a project at Teddy Heights. It is anticipated that Volunteers will contribute the Trust's 20%, about £5,000 in value. During the year £7,857 was received.

The Trust has a holding in the Bittern Countryside Community Interest Company of 1,020 ordinary £1 shares. No dividend was paid during the past twelve months.

Gift Aid claimable for subscriptions and donations paid between 6 April 2016 and 5 April 2017 will be received during the 2017/18 financial year. It is anticipated that this will amount to approximately £2,400 (2015/2016 - £2,456).

At the year end the Trust had debtors of £729 (Advertising fees invoiced 1 March 2017).

The Arnside & Silverdale AONB Partnership Grant Fund was set up in 2016 with equal funds from AONB and the Landscape Trust totalling £5,000.

During the year £4,785 has been committed of which £2,785 has been paid out on 4 Grants.

A Contingent Liability has been created for Grant monies agreed of £2,000 but not yet paid out.

The Trust will ensure that the same amount of grant funding is available in 2017/2018.

Chairman's Report for 2016/2017

ARNSIDE AND SILVERDALE AONB Landscape Trust

With over 1000 members, the Trust has been celebrating its 30th anniversary year with a range of activities and a special edition of our excellent journal Keer to Kent.

The events programme for 2016 was full and varied and very well received. All the activities were oversubscribed and feedback indicates that members were very pleased with them. The 'Meet the Villages' weekend featured Arnside and involved several venues and a whole range of outdoor activities. It was standing room only at the lecture venues and the lists for the walks filled very early on.

The study weekend, evening lectures and seasonal walks were also extremely well attended and again we took part in the Silverdale and Arnside Arts Trail with a display in the cemetery chapel. We are very fortunate to have the support of a whole range of people who are prepared to share their expertise on a wide range of topics – from bats to fossils and local history to butterflies.

Thanks to the leadership of our events Manager, Peter Standing, there is an even greater programme of events for 2017 and it is already generating a great deal of interest.

Keer to Kent continues to maintain an extremely high standard thanks to the editorship of Sheila May. She seeks out some remarkable articles and they are beautifully illustrated.

The reserves go from strength to strength thanks to many hours of volunteer work led by our Reserves Manager Bob Pickup. The management plans for each of the reserves for the last twelve months has been completed. Feedback from the reserves indicates that year by year we are seeing a wider diversity and density of plants in Coldwell Meadow, more butterflies on Teddy Heights and a rare butterfly (and eggs) on Coldwell Parrock to name but a few successes. We have opened up woodland corridors where appropriate, coppiced areas according to a rotation scheme, planted native bulbs – and seen last year's plants come up. The spreading of herb rich hay from one area to another is slowly enriching the areas, but is inevitably a long-term project.

All three reserves are freely open to members to explore and we hope you will do so. Paths will be mown as appropriate; to protect any ground nesting birds which may be about. We are looking at ways to encourage more use of the reserves – including investigating the installation of an eco-friendly composting toilet – but that is for next year's report.

We did look at buying a further piece of land which came up for sale – and which met our criteria for interest of flora and fauna and importance of conservation. We worked with colleagues in other organisations such as the RSPB, National Trust, Natural England etc. and agreed we would bid for it at auction. Unfortunately the nature of the auction was that the land was sold as a lot with a house – and so was beyond our means.

The experience did have a positive aspect in that it helped to consolidate relationships between us and others working with the same ethos in this area.

We have been trialling a grants scheme in partnership with the AONB and so far have been involved with barn restoration in Silverdale, Arnside Sailing Club, Westmorland Red Squirrels and the monitoring of Swifts. We have also been involved with Signpost renovation in Arnside and a similar project at Slackhead in conjunction with the Parish Council.

We have been fortunate in being chosen as one of the Cooperative Society's local charities for the last few months and we recently received a cheque from them for just under £1500 and they have also committed to help with some volunteer activities – so we are very grateful to them.

The number of members has remained in excess of 1000 all year and appears to be an upward trend. It is interesting that a significant proportion of members are not local – but are regular visitors to the area. Some of them say that they make a point of coming to the area when we are holding events – so in a small way we can perhaps claim to be generating income for the area.

The membership secretary Liz Anslow has worked hard to put together an up to date membership list – including email addresses – so that we can contact members quickly and easily should we need to.

We are aware that not all members have email and we are currently debating when, and how and for what reasons we should contact members.

We recently used the email list to inform those members about an application for planning permission which we felt was significant and which members may wish to comment on. Unfortunately such things are usually on a very tight time scale and we did not have the time – or the manpower resources - to send out letters to all those members not on email.

Discussion is ongoing on this matter and comments are welcomed.

Overall this has been a very busy year and there has been a great deal of time put in by officers and volunteers. For example, the volunteer hours recorded for work on the reserves in the last twelve months is 2,671.5. This does not include the time put in by volunteers helping with events or those involved with production and delivery of Keer to Kent. Nor does it recognise the work of our Secretary, Mike Warren, or our Treasurer, Ray Anslow, – both of whom regularly put in many hours. As well as other Trustees who put in a lot of time outside of the regular meetings.

We are always happy to welcome new members and volunteers of all types to our ranks.

Fiona Allan
(Chairman)

ARNSIDE AND SILVERDALE AONB LANDSCAPE TRUST
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

	£	£	£	£	£	2016/2017	2015/16
	General	Designated	AONB	LT	A/S	£	£
	Purposes	Funds	Grant	ELS/HLS	ELS/HLS	Total	Total
	Fund		Fund	& EWGS		Income	2014
							Funds
RECEIPTS							
<u>Grants and donations</u>							
Membership subscriptions	9,165					9,165	9,145
Subscription Prepayments 2017/18	(2,625)					(2,625)	(2,660)
Donations	2,881					2,881	3,128
Donations Prepayments 2017/18	(635)					(635)	(683)
Donations from Events	306					306	372
MyDonate receipts	70					70	
Grants	100					100	500
Gift Aid	2,254					2,254	2,456
<u>Designated Funds</u>							
Restricted Funds (Steele and others)		750				750	9,128
AONB Partnership Grant Scheme							5,000
<u>Other Income</u>							
Keer to Kent sales	650					650	638
Keer to Kent adverts	1,490					1,490	1,460
Events	969					969	1,099
<u>Trading activities</u>							
Sales of stock items	110					110	114
TK Book	58					58	112
BA Book	70					70	32
L Smith book						-	
<u>Entry Level and Higher Level Stewardship Agreement</u>				9,248	3,872	13,121	19,138
Interest received	1,463					1,463	2,179
SUB-TOTAL	22,847	750		9,248	3,872	36,717	54,501
Less Prepayments	- 3,260					-3,260	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	19,587	750		9,248	3,872	33,457	54,501

ARNSIDE AND SILVERDALE AONB LANDSCAPE TRUST
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

	£	£	£	£	£	2016/2017 £	2015/16 £
	General Purposes Fund	Designated Funds	AONB Grant Fund	LT ELS/HLS & EWGS	A/S ELS/HLS	Total Expenditure Funds	Total Exps
PAYMENTS							
<u>General charitable expenditure</u>							
Costs - Keer to Kent	5,328					5,328	5,294
Postage - Keer to Kent	1,333					1,333	1,269
Site management		451		3,574		4,025	1,244
Grants	233					233	1,137
AONB Partnership Grant Fund			2,785			2,785	2,500
<u>Promotions and capital expenditure</u>							
Events costs	2,131					2,131	1,580
Storth Geotrail							-
Bowerbank Signpost Project	309					309	1,493
Computer expenditure							44
<u>Management and administration</u>							
Administrative costs							-
Printing, stationery and postage	677					677	606
Conference fees and Subscriptions	575					575	1,065
Insurance	765					765	710
Sundries							24
Repairs and replacements,	45					45	94,
Sales items purchased and Book Sales to AONB Unit							179
Cost of L Smith book							
<u>Entry Level and Higher Level Stewardship Agreement exp.</u>					3,872	3,872	22,275
<u>Governance Costs</u>							
Costs of AGM, AGM printing							-
Hire of rooms for AGM + Trustee meetings and Provision	789					789	880
Independent Examiners Fee	50					50	50
SUB-TOTAL	12,234	451	2,785	3,574	3,872	22,916	40,446
Contingent Liabilities			2,000			2,000	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	12,234	451	4,785	3,754	3,872	24,916	40,446

NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	7,353	299	-4,785	5,674	0	8,541	-
CASH AND BANK BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2016	114,766	585	5,000	6,472	0	126,823	126,822
CASH AND BANK BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2017	122,119	884	215	12,146	0	135,364	-

ARNSIDE AND SILVERDALE AONB LANDSCAPE TRUST
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2017

						2017	2016
	£	£	£		£	£	£
	General	Designated	AONB	LT	A/S	-	Total
	Purposes	Funds	Grant	ELS/HLS	ELS/HLS	-	
	Fund		Fund	& EWGS		-	
MONETARY ASSETS						-	
General purposes fund	122,119	884	215	12,146	0	135,364	126,822
						-	
	122,119	884	215	12,146	0	135,364	126,822
Represented by:						-	
Petty cash	32					32	37
Santander current account	567					567	796
Nat West current account	23,454	884	215	2,146		26,699	28,517
Cumberland Building Society	72,156					72,156	70,980
Nationwide Building Society	30,441			10,000		40,441	30,154
Debtors (Keer to Kent advertisers)	729					729	562
Provisions							-880
Contingent Liabilities*	-2,000					-2,000	
Prepayments of Subscriptions	-2,625					-2,625	-2,660
Prepayment of Donations	-635					-635	-570
	122,119	884	215	12,146	0	135,364	126,823
						-	

- Amount agreed to be paid under Arnside and Silverdale AONB Partnership Grant Fund scheme subject to completion of stipulated conditions

FIXED ASSETS USED BY THE CHARITY

	COST	EST
	£	VALUE
Land -Coldwell Parrock purchased 2000/2001	15,044	15,044
Land - Teddy Heights purchased 2003/2004	15,213	15,213
Land - Coldwell Meadow purchased 2013/2014	41,334	41,334
Photo quality printer purchased 2003/2004	-	-
Computer equipment purchased 2005/2006	-	-
Projector purchased 2006/2007	-	-
Cupboards - Cemetery Chapel purchased 2008/2009	-	-
Laptop computer and software purchased 2009/2010	-	-
Laptop computer and software purchased 2013	300	
Laptop computer and software purchased 2014	477	-
Weather station	1,000	-
Mac Computer (Keer to Kent)	1,034	-
Reserve Equipment	7,185	2,500
	<u>81,587</u>	74,091
Stock holding – Terry O’Keefe’s & Barry Ayre’s books @ £2 per copy	544	544
-		-

FIXED ASSETS OWNED BY THE CHARITY

Bittern Countryside Community Interest Company	<u>1,020</u>	1,020
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DEBTORS

Amounts due for 2017 Advertising in Keer to Kent	<u>729</u>
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Approved by the Trustees

Signed.....
 Chairman
 Arnside/Silverdale AONB Landscape Trust

Date: 9 May 2017



CC65(b)

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts (Accruals Accounts)

Report to the trustees/members of	Charity Name <u>THE ARNSIDE/SILVERDALE AONB LANDSCAPE TRUST</u>
On accounts for the year ended	<u>310317</u>
Set out on pages	<u>6-9</u> <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>
Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	<p>The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.</p> <p>It is my responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • examine the accounts (under section 43(3)(a) of the Act); • to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the Act); and • to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.
Basis of independent examiner's statement	<p>My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.</p>
Independent examiner's statement	<p>In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed overleaf*):</p> <p>(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and • to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act <p>have not been met; or</p> <p>(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.</p> <p>* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.</p>
Signed	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 60%;"><u>P. L. BATES</u></div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 35%;">Date <u>24/4/17</u></div> </div>
Name	<u>P. L. BATES</u>
Relevant professional qualification or body (if any)	<u>ACMA, CGMA</u>
Address	<u>25 INGLEMERE CLOSE</u> <u>ARNSIDE</u> <u>CUMBRIA</u> <u>LAS OAP</u>