

**THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2016**

# THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

---

Trustees	Alan Bird
	Mark Dixon
	Richard Taylor
	Alan Mogridge
	David Stoker

Charity number	1159088
----------------	---------

# THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

## CONTENTS

---

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 3
Independent examiners report	4
Statement of financial activities	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes to the accounts	7 - 9

---

# THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2016

---

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 October 2016.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005.

### Objectives and activities

The objectives of the Trust are to promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in the area of West Mersea harbour, involving:

- Protection of West Mersea harbour including the BAP European Flat Oyster beds from excessive erosion by climate change induced storm waves but still allow natural coastal process to apply and impact;
- Providing new and more robust nesting sites for the BAP Little Tern;
- Enhancing wherever possible within the project, the conservation designation and integrity of protected species and habitats.
- Preservation of the long term viability of the harbour for maritime commercial and leisure interests
- Preservation of the character of the Mersea waterside area.

This would be achieved by a Recharge to reinforce the seaward faces of Cobmarsh, Packing Marsh and Old Hall and Tollesbury Wick frontage which protect the harbour from erosion by storm waves with 98,000 cu metres of sand and shingle from a new planned dredge of the approaches to Harwich Harbour. The Trustees had first to communicate with the wider local community to get a consensus of support behind the project. Besides arranging local publicity for the plan, a number of Public Consultations were held in both West Mersea and Tollesbury, the conclusions of which were almost universally positive. Before the Recharge can proceed or any negotiation with Harwich Harbour Authority (HHA) for the supply and delivery of the material, formal application is required to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and other bodies for the necessary consents and licences including arranging any environmental impact and hydrodynamic assessments required.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The charity's policy is to consult and discuss with employees, through unions, staff councils and at meetings, matters likely to affect employees' interests.

Information of matters of concern to employees is given through information bulletins and reports which seek to achieve a common awareness on the part of all employees of the financial and economic factors affecting the group's performance.

Applications for employment by disabled persons are always fully considered, bearing in mind the aptitudes of the applicant concerned. In the event of members of staff becoming disabled, every effort is made to ensure that their employment within the charity continues and that the appropriate training is arranged. It is the policy of the charity that the training, career development and promotion of disabled persons should, as far as possible, be identical to that of other employees.

# THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2016

---

### Achievements and performance

Over the period, the Trust, together with our consultant Carol Reid and local surveyor Jim Pullen, have been active in progressing the project. The main work has been:

- Additional surveys on marine wildlife, bird count and sediment have been undertaken and submitted to MMO/CEFAS for analysis.
- Final preparation and submission of the Environmental Impact Statement to Marine Management Organisation including Water Framework Directive Assessment, assessment against government policy and marine/land use planning.
- Meanwhile, we have continued to keep our main partners the RSPB, Essex Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency and Essex County Council informed of progress.
- In anticipation that Harwich Harbour Authority may charge us £300,000 on top of which we would need at least £50,000 for brushwood fencing, maintenance and monitoring - we have been in discussion with a number of potential sources of funds.

### Financial review

Expenditure during the period was £32,349 of which £13,500 was directly related to the consenting process. We have raised a further £20,000 including further generous grants from Essex County Council Community Initiatives Fund and Colchester Borough Council, bringing the total funds raised since April 2014 to £75,000. (See Statement of Accounts)

In addition pledges have been received totalling just under £10,000 to be available should extra funds be required.

The completed Environmental Statement and Application for consent was submitted to Marine Management Organisation. Final response is expected in March 2017. Once the necessary consents for the re-charge have been granted, the Trust will be able to commence negotiation with Harwich Harbour Authority for the supply and delivery of the material from the dredge. However the date of the Harwich Capital Dredge and therefore the Mersea Recharge is expected to be subject to some postponement.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

# THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2016*

---

### Structure, governance and management

The charity was established as a charitable incorporated organisation by a constitution dated 29 September 2014.

The trustees who served during the year were:

Alan Bird

Mark Dixon

Richard Taylor

Alan Mogridge

David Stoker

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

.....  
**Richard Taylor**

Trustee

Dated: 24 April 2017

# THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THE UNAUDITED STATUTORY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2016

---

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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met.

Louisa Tippet ACA

24 April 2017

121 Colchester Road  
West Bergholt  
Colchester

# THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2016

---

		2016	2015
	Notes	£	£
<u>Income from:</u>			
Donations and legacies	3	1,575	7,705
Grants received	4	<u>19,000</u>	<u>46,807</u>
Total income		<u>20,575</u>	<u>54,512</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Charitable activities	5	31,741	30,828
Governance costs		-	600
Total expenditure for the year		<u>31,741</u>	<u>31,428</u>
Net movement in funds		(11,166)	23,084
Fund balances at 1 November 2015		23,084	-
Fund balances at 31 October 2016		<u>11,918</u>	<u>23,084</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.



# THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2016

	Notes	2016 £	2015 £
Current assets			
Debtors	10	275	267
Cash at bank and in hand		11,643	23,417
		<u>11,918</u>	<u>23,684</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			(600)
			<u></u>
Net current assets		<u>11,918</u>	<u>23,084</u>
Income funds			
Unrestricted funds		11,918	23,084
		<u>11,918</u>	<u>23,084</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 24 April 2017



Richard Taylor  
Trustee

# THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2016

---

### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

The Mersea Harbour Protection Trust is a Community Interest Organisation.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102"), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102, the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

#### 1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

# THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2016

---

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current

### 3 Donations and legacies

	2016	2015
	£	£
Donations and gifts	1,575	1,160
Grants receivable for core activities	-	6,545
	<u>1,575</u>	<u>7,705</u>

### 4 Grants received

	2016	2015
	£	£
Save Mersea Harbour	<u>19,000</u>	<u>46,807</u>

### 5 Charitable activities

	2016	2015
	£	£
Share of governance costs (see note 6)	<u>31,741</u>	<u>30,828</u>

**THE MERSEA HARBOUR PROTECTION TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2016**

---

**6 Support costs**

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2016 £	2015 £	Basis of allocation
Accountancy	-	-	-	600	Governance
	-	-	-	600	
Analysed between Charitable activities	-	31,741	31,741	30,828	

**7 Trustees**

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the

**8 Employees**

There were no employees during the year.

**9 Creditors**

	2016 £	2015 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Accruals	-	600

**10 Debtors**

	2016 £	2015 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	275	267

**11 Related party transactions**

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2015- none).