
ABNEY PARK TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

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COMPANIES HOUSE

COMPANY NUMBER: 2634036
CHARITY NUMBER: 1005334

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

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ABNEY PARK TRUST

Report of the Management Committee for the year ended 31 March 2015

The Management Committee presents its report and financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2015.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Company / Charity Name	Abney Park Trust
Company Registration Number	2634036
Charity registration number	1005334
Registered Office and operational address	The South Lodge Abney Park Stoke Newington High Street London N16 0LH
Directors / Trustees	Richard Allen (appointed) Cllr. Sophie Cameron (appointed) Cllr. Susan Fajana-Thomas (appointed) Peter Cummings (appointed) Joanna Bending (appointed) Alan Gartrell Justina Kochansky – Events Manager Graham Loveland Deborah McGurk (appointed) Neil Morkunas (appointed) Ross Perkin (appointed) Spencer Thomas (appointed) Shelagh Taylor (appointed) Bernard Bourdillon (resigned) Catherine Harding (resigned) Kirsten Foster (resigned) Sara Green (resigned) Cllr. Linda Smith (resigned)
Company Secretary	(John Baldock (appointed)
Non-voting invitees to the Management Committee	Arthur Torrington OBE Patron John Baldock Com. Dev Manager John Price-Grounds Manager APUG Representative Catherine Halcrow - Volunteers

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (continued)

Accountants

Community Accountancy Project
The Print House
18 Ashwin Street
London
E8 3DL

Bankers

HSBC
150 Stoke Newington High Street
London
N16 7JP

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Our Aims and Objectives

Purposes and Aims

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

The Trust exists to promote the conservation, restoration, management and active use of Abney Park, a 13ha (32) acre memorial park and local nature reserve in Stoke Newington London. The park includes wooded grounds inclusive of an arboretum, operational buildings, historic monuments, archives and memorials and partially disused buildings. It has significant historical, religious, family history, museum / archival, ecological and architectural importance.

Designations at Abney Park include:

- (i) Registered Historical Park and Garden
- (ii) Local Nature Reserve
- (iii) Conservation Area
- (iv) Brown Plaque site and
- (v) A number of statutorily Listed monuments and buildings.

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

The Trust works to promote the park as an inner city heritage and community resource, running a classroom, children's garden and activities, practical conservation volunteering opportunities, stone and wood craft courses, community events and cultural entertainments and guided walk programmes.

A commitment to equal opportunities underpins the work of the Trust including the long-standing decision of the Trust to open its grounds to free public access most days of the year.

The public benefit of our activities

Without the work of the Trust the Park would close. The people of Stoke Newington's dense urban area clearly benefit from free access to this extra-urban jewel in their mist. They experience calm and tranquillity, natural woodland and biodiversity, a very individual connection with history and past generations. We estimated some 65,000 people passed through Abney's gates during the year.

Many benefitted from the park as a place of remembrance. Some 350 people came to make family burial enquiries. Others regularly visited the graves of family members.

Adults gained skills, social connections and personal validation through our workshops, which had a total attendance of some 1,500 during the year, and through volunteering in some of the 2,750 hours pa in which we hold supervised sessions.

Families relaxed while they experienced classic pieces of al fresco theatre and cinema during one of the year's 35 performances.

Nearly 500 young people learnt about nature, self-reliance and safety in our Forest School sessions.

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES (continued)

Abney Park

The Trust, together with LB Hackney, runs Abney Park in Stoke Newington, London. The 32-acre park includes densely wooded grounds based on a Victorian arboretum; operational buildings, listed historic monuments, 40,000 memorials, and a disused listed funerary chapel. It has significant historical, religious, family history, museum/archival, and ecological and architectural importance.

Designations at Abney Park include:

- (i) Registered Historic Park and Garden,
- (ii) a number of statutorily Listed monuments and buildings.
- (iii) Local Nature Reserve,
- (iv) Conservation Area, and
- (v) Brown Plaque site.

The work of the Abney Park Trust

The Trust works to promote the park as an inner city heritage and community resource, running a classroom, children's garden and activities, practical conservation volunteering opportunities, stone and wood craft courses, community events and cultural entertainments and guided walk programmes.

A commitment to equal opportunities underpins the work of the trust including the long-standing decision of the Trust to open its grounds to free public access most days of the year.

The work of the Trust represents exceptional value for money. This is thanks to the enormous amount of good will, hard work and commitment of the volunteers and staff.

Activities during 2014/15

Activities during the year included:

- Grounds maintenance of the memorial park and nature reserve
- Opening the park for free public access most days of the week throughout the year, closing it to the general public only during high winds or for occasional special events
- Running twice-weekly supervised sessions for conservation volunteers
- Opening the park's visitor centre on weekdays and, increasingly, at weekends
- Making use of educational facilities for Nursery, Primary, Secondary school visits.
- Offering stone-craft and woodcraft workshops – largely facilitated through external providers
- Offering the Children's Garden for Forest School, storytelling and wildlife gardening – again, often facilitated through local nurseries/external providers
- Laying on winter and spring Fun Days, which generated both crowds and money.

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES (continued)

- Expanding on the park's availability for cultural events as well as student projects (e.g. music festival, theatre and other shows, open air films)
- Facilitating public as well as private walks and talks (themed around e.g. botanical or historical topics, dawn chorus, music hall history)
- Facilitating the repair of monuments of cultural significance, such as the memory of Music Hall figures
- Assisting in grave searches

Improvements

During the year the Trust

- Increased membership to 100
- Significantly strengthened its links with the local community
- Continued to develop a strong liaison with the User Group (APUG)
- Continued to develop a lively Twitter account which has raised the profile of Abney to a wider community
- Used the recently obtained Entertainments licence to promote a wide range of events
- Finalised new employment contracts with staff
- Continued to review financial systems
- Determined telephone contract thus saving £2,000pa and negotiating £3,600 compensation package
- Submitted the 2013/14 accounts on time
- Continued to review arrangements and contracts with venue users
- Open days and EGM's have been used together with other means to consult with stakeholders, users and the wider community on future proposals for Abney

Negotiations with the Freeholder

During the year there had been ongoing negotiations with the London Borough of Hackney, which, as freeholder had opposed the granting of a new lease.

Day to day management was little affected as the Trust and the Council worked together on the upkeep and maintenance of Abney, with Hackney continuing to carry out substantial works to the perimeter wall and to review works that could reopen the Chapel and obviate the need for the hoarding.

Hackney has come to accept that there must be a continuing major role for the Trust and negotiations have continued. The retirement through ill health of their lead negotiator has complicated matters but negotiations have progressed on a suite of documents, comprising a Licence, a Memorandum of Understanding and a Grant Agreement, which together ensure the Trust support and a continued presence at Abney.

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES (continued)

Financial Review

Principal Funding Sources

London Borough of Hackney Grant £40,000
Commonwealth War Graves Commission £5000

Photocopier Donation

Abney Park Trust received a donation of a photocopier from Fair Contract Ltd. We value the photocopier at £900.

Investment Policy

Abney Park Trust has no investment policy.

Reserve Policy

The management Committee have established a policy whereby the unrestricted income funds of the Trust represent 3 months running costs for the core activities of the Trust and sufficient designated funds to meet redundancies and other exceptional costs, from unrestricted funds.

Plans for Future Periods

Our principal aim is to move forward in our lease negotiations with Hackney, but in the light of the uncertainty over the lease, the plans at the year-end are primarily to consolidate the improvements and gains of the last year, particularly in relation to:

Financial procedures

Recruitment of more trustees

Cultural and educational events, including classroom activities, storytelling, walks and talks.

Volunteers – continuing to develop a core base of regular volunteers, as well as further identifying ways to benefit from occasional volunteers groups (e.g. corporate volunteering).
Build on our experience in social media to link more people into Abney.

If this progressing, then to find ways of attracting grant funding in spite of uncertainty over the lease.

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES (continued)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 10th October 2000 and registered as charity on 9th September 1999. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and power 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.

Recruitment and Appointment of Management Committee

Management committee members are appointed or elected from a number of categories as stated in the Memorandums Of Articles under Membership.

Trustee Induction and Training

The Chair of the Trust inducts trustees by way of an introduction to Abney Park Trust. The new trustees are provided with a job description on the roles and responsibilities of being a Trustee as well as background reading on the Trust. New trustees are also guided to the regular training sessions for staff and trustees provided by Ealing Community Voluntary Service training providers and as well established for a for staff and trustees.

Risk Management

The following risk issues have been identified: -

- (1) The non-renewal of the lease and thus the precise nature of the continuing relationship between the Trust and Hackney and how that will develop.
- (2) The effect of a proposed new development on the southern boundary on the historic setting and biodiversity. Complex legal issues are before the Courts.

A formal Risk Register has been developed

Organisational Structure

The governance and management of the Trust is provided by a Board of Trustees elected by the members and operating in accordance with the Articles of Association. The Board of trustees seeks advice from time to time, from employees and other people from the community.

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES (continued)

Relationship between funders and Committee members

Councillors are appointed to the Board by Hackney in accordance with the Trust's Constitution. Graham Loveland has indicated that he is an ex-employee of Hackney with an interest in some outstanding matters but none, which raise a conflict of interest.

Responsibilities of the Management Committee

Company and Charity laws require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements the management committee should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Charities Statement Of Recommended Practice (SORP) and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Management Committee are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Management Committee are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

Members of the Management Committee

Members of the Management Committee, who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 3.

In accordance with company law, as the company's directors, we certify that:

- So far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's Accountant are unaware: and

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES (continued)

- As the directors of the company we have taken all step that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information

Review and Results

The Directors / Trustees report a small surplus of £12,046 on operations for the year under review.

Balance Sheet

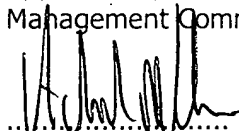
Details of the major items on the balance sheet can be found in the notes to the accounts. The fluctuations in debtors and creditors year on year are purely the result of the timing of receipts and payment around the year-end.

Accountants

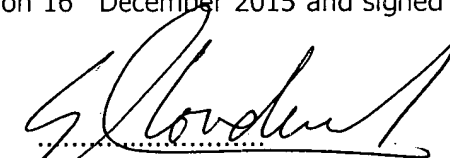
Community Accountancy Project was appointed as the charitable company's accountant during the year and has expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in March 2005) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Management Committee on 16th December 2015 and signed on behalf of the Management Committee.



Richard Allen
Director / Trustee



Graham Loveland
Director / Trustee

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS OF ABNEY PARK TRUST

I report on the accounts of Abney Park Trust on pages 13 to 14 which have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Company Act 2006 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (the FRSSE), effective April 2008, as modified by the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting issued by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales, effective March 2005, under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 15.

Respective responsibilities of directors and independent accountant:

As described on page 10 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The directors / trustees consider that the audit requirement of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply, and that there is no requirement in the memorandum and articles of the charitable company for the conducting of an audit, and that the charitable company is exempt from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006. We agreed to report whether particular matters have come to our attention, on the basis of the procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act, as they would apply to unincorporated charity, but modified, where necessary, to meet the circumstances of incorporated charity.

Basis of independent accountant's report:

We conducted an examination in accordance with the General Directions given by the charity Commissioners for England & Wales, as if the company were an unincorporated charity, except where those directions are not consistent with the incorporated status of the charity. Such an examination includes a detailed review of the accounting records kept by the Company and have the accounting systems employed by the Company and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of the Charities legislation and that the accounts comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice issued by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales (effective March 2005), on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amount and disclosures in the accounts.

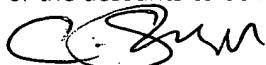
The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and information supplied by the trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

I planned and performed our examination so as far as to satisfy ourselves that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report we obtain written assurances from the trustees of all material matters

Independent Accountant's Statements:

In connection with the examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- 1) Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- 2) To which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Date: 17th December 2015

Community Accountancy Project

The Print House
18 Ashwin Street
London E8 3DL

ABNEY PARK TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Including Income & Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2015 Total Funds £	2014 Total Funds £
Incoming Resources					
<i>Incoming resources from</i>					
<i>Generated funds</i>					
L.B Hackney		0	40,000	40,000	40,000
Headley Trust		0	5,000	5,000	0
Esmee Fairbairn		3,000	0	3,000	0
Veolia		0	0	0	14,665
CWGC		4,000	0	4,000	4,000
Natural England Access to Nature		0	0	0	9,111
Donations/ Fundraising		5,687	0	5,687	5,420
Income from Activities		19,375	0	19,375	20,046
Other Income		3,600	0	3,600	2,418
Bank Interest		1	0	1	0
Total Incoming Resources		35,663	45,000	80,663	95,660
Resources Expended					
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
Staff Related Costs		11,184	33,552	44,736	44,100
Projects Costs		6,684	1,885	8,569	29,981
Woodworkers		0	5,000	5,000	0
Training & Education		0	356	356	1,763
Volunteer Expenses		0	1,036	1,036	2,400
Operational / Premise Costs		5,126	3,171	8,297	7,770
<i>Governance costs</i>					
Companies House		13	0	13	0
Accountancy Services		610	0	610	5,800
Depreciation		0	0	0	742
Total Resources Expended		23,617	45,000	68,617	92,556
Net incoming (outgoing) resources					
For the year		12,046	0	12,046	3,104
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2014		1,346	0	1,346	(1,758)
Balance carried forward at 31 MARCH 2015		13,392	0	13,392	1,346
		=====	=====	=====	=====

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2015**

	Notes	2015 £	2014 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	5	0	0
Current assets			
Debtors	4	585	585
Cash at bank and in hand		22,266	15,631
		<u>22,851</u>	<u>16,216</u>
Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year	3	(9,459)	(14,870)
Net current Assets		<u>13,392</u>	<u>1,346</u>
Net Assets		<u>13,392</u>	<u>1,346</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted income funds:			
General		13,392	1,346
Restricted funds:	6	0	0
		<u>13,392</u>	<u>1,346</u>

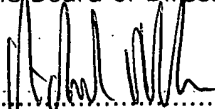
For the year ended 31 March 2015 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

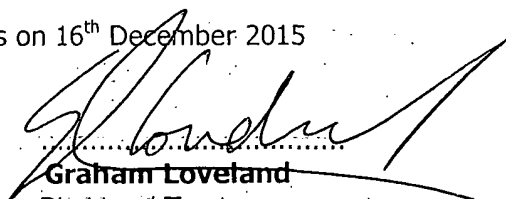
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to small companies' regime.

The Board of Directors approved these accounts on 16th December 2015


.....
Richard Allen
Director / Trustee


.....
Graham Loveland
Director / Trustee

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

(i) These accounts are the accounts of Abney Park Trust.

(ii) These accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis and include income and expenditure as they are earned or incurred, rather than as cash are received or paid.

(iii) The recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice (Accounting by Charities) have been followed in the preparation of these accounts.

(b) Fund accounting

(i) The charity's general fund consists of funds, which the charity may use for its purposes at its discretion.

(ii) The charity's restricted funds are those where the donor has imposed restrictions on the use of the funds, which are legally binding.

(c) Voluntary income

(i) All voluntary income is included upon receipt.

(ii) Grants receivable is credited to income immediately upon receipt.

(d) Investment income

Credit is taken for interest when the interest falls due for payment.

(e) Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are included in the accounts at their historical cost and are written off through the statement of financial activities.

(f) Administration expenditure

Administration expenditure comprises costs incurred in running the charity. Where applicable, some of these costs have been treated as direct charitable expenditure

ABNEY PARK TRUST
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

2 Interest receivable and similar income

	2015	2014
	£	£
Bank interest	1	0
	=====	====

3 Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year

	2015	2014
Accruals - Professional fees	475	788
- PAYE	3,184	3,167
- Deferred Income	0	5,000
- Accountant's fees (KH)	5,800	5,800
- Other Creditors	0	115
	-----	-----
	9,459	14,870
	=====	=====

4 Debtors / Prepayments

	2015	2014
	£	£
Trade Debtors	0	0
Income from activities	585	585
	-----	-----
	585	585
	=====	=====

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
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**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

5. Tangible Fixed Assets

Provision is depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charitable company is made at annual rates calculated to spread the cost of each asset over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates currently in use are:

Short leasehold	over life of lease
Office equipment	over four years
Furniture & Fittings	over four years

	Short Leasehold	Office Equipment	Furniture & Fittings	TOTAL
COSTS:				
@ 1 April 2014	17,323	14,372	18,716	50,411
Additions	0	0	0	0
@ 31 March 2015	17,323	14,372	18,716	50,411
DEPRECIATION:				
@ 1 April 2014	17,323	14,372	18,716	50,411
Charge for Year	741	0	0	741
@ 31 March 2015	17,323	14,372	18,716	50,411
NET BOOK VALUE @ 31 MARCH 2015	0	0	0	0

6 Restricted Funds:

	Balance B/fwd at 1 April 2014	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance C/fwd at 31 March 2015
	£	£	£	£
LB Hackney	0	40,000	(40,000)	0
Headley Trust	0	5,000	(5,000)	0
	0	45,000	(45,000)	0

**ABNEY PARK TRUST
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**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

7 Taxation

No provision for taxation is included in the accounts as the charitable company is entitled to exemption from tax afforded by Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

8 Share Capital

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital.

9 Remuneration of Directors / Trustees

No directors / trustees received any remuneration in the year.

10 Small Company Exemptions

The Directors have taken advantage of the Companies Act 2006 in not having these accounts audited under Section 477 (2) (total exemption).

Confirmed that no notice has been deposited under Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Acknowledged their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records, which comply with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.

Acknowledged their responsibilities for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the company and of its surplus for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of Section 393 of the Companies Act 2006 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to this company.

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Company Act 2006 relating to small companies (Section 246(8) of the Act.