



## **Northamptonshire ACRE**

### **Trustees Annual Report And Accounts 2019 - 2020**

## Mission Statement

Northamptonshire ACRE, an independent charitable organisation, works with rural communities to improve their quality of life, especially for the disadvantaged. We help rural communities to help themselves, to value diversity and to work to create a vibrant, sustainable future.

## Strategic Aims

- To encourage and support community-led planning such as neighbourhood plans and rural community action.
- To facilitate the identification of rural needs, particularly for the disadvantaged through community consultation and engagement
- To raise awareness of rural issues, lobby and influence policy
- To support the provision of affordable, accessible rural services
- To work in partnership with others, encouraging co-operation and influencing the allocation of resources
- To monitor our performance and provide value for money to our funders
- To encourage the development of staff and those working on behalf of the organisation

Board of Directors  
Northamptonshire ACRE  
(Action with Communities in Rural England)

## Contents

THE OFFICIALS OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE	4
THE STAFF OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE	6
VOLUNTEERS WITH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE	6
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES	7
REVIEW OF TRANSACTIONS AND FINANCIAL POSITION	8
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE	11
STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES	12
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES 2019- 2020	13
BALANCE SHEET	14
NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 <sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2020	16
<i>NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>NOTE 2: ACTIVITIES.....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>NOTE 3: INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES.....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>NOTE 4: TOTAL EXPENDITURE.....</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>NOTE 5: RESOURCES EXPENDED INCLUDES:- .....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>NOTE 6: FIXED ASSETS .....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>NOTE 7: DEBTORS.....</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>NOTE 8: CREDITORS.....</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>NOTE 9: FUND ANALYSIS.....</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>NOTE 10: CONTROL RELATIONSHIPS .....</i>	<i>24</i>

## **THE OFFICIALS OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE**

Northamptonshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) is an independent voluntary organisation, registered charity (**no. 1080038**) and company limited by guarantee (**no. 3937576**) working to support rural communities and community groups throughout the County.

### **President**

David Laing, Lord Lieutenant for Northamptonshire

### **Vice-Presidents**

The Right Reverend Donald Allister Bishop of Peterborough  
Lord Boswell of Aynho  
Canon Paul Rose  
Mr Gordon Shorley  
Mr Jeffrey Greenwell

### **Independent Examiners**

Messrs Jervis & Partners

### **Board of Directors**

#### **Chair**

Mr Gareth Lugar-Mawson

#### **Vice-Chair**

Mr Ken Christy

### **Members**

Mr Bernard Lock  
Mr David Scudamore  
Mrs Fabienne Fraser-Allen (resigned 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019)  
Mr Richard Hollingum  
Mr Cameron Waldron  
Mrs Rachael Boyd (appointed 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019)

### **Observers**

From District & Borough Local Authorities  
and Voluntary Sector Agencies

### **Bankers**

Yorkshire Bank plc

**Principal Address**

The Hunsbury Hill Centre  
Harksome Hill  
Northampton  
NN4 9QX

Telephone (01604) 765888

Email: [acre@northantsacre.org.uk](mailto:acre@northantsacre.org.uk)

Website: [www.northantsacre.org.uk](http://www.northantsacre.org.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/northantsacre/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NorthantsACRE>

## THE STAFF OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE

### Chief Executive

Elaine O'Leary

### Village Halls Adviser

Frances Harris

### Rural Officer

Rebecca Breakwell (resigned 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019)  
Jennifer Hedges (appointed 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019)

### Rural Support Worker

Jessica Gooding (resigned 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019)

### Project Administrator

Natasha Jimenez Sanchez (appointed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019)

### Communications Administrator

Charlene Browne (appointed 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019)

### Administration Officer NACRE

Sarah Clarke

### Site Caretaker

James Davidson

### The Hunsbury Hill Centre Ltd.

#### Events Team Manager

Elaine O'Leary

#### Events Co-Ordinator

Sarah Clarke

## VOLUNTEERS WITH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE

### Best Village Volunteers

Village of the Year Judges

### Other volunteers

Good Neighbour Volunteers

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

### “Working with rural communities to improve the quality of life for all”

Northamptonshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) is a countywide, independent charitable organisation.

We work with rural communities to improve their quality of life, especially with the disadvantaged.

We're one of 38 Rural Community Councils working across England, which makes up the ACRE network. Our national body, ACRE, works to make sure that government bodies listen to the needs and voices of rural communities.

- ✓ Our focus is on community development and engagement. If your village or parish wants to carry out any form of community planning, including Neighbourhood Plans, ACRE is there to help and advise. This includes assisting you with accessing funds for projects.
- ✓ We work with local communities to reduce rural isolation and vulnerability and help to make life more affordable for those living in rural areas.
- ✓ We help to deliver improved services for these communities. This can be through better communications links, strong community facilities or more accessible education and health services and supported by a range of training courses.
- ✓ We support and advise rural community groups on a wide range of issues and encourage local action and participation in decision-making.
- ✓ We campaign to ensure that the interests of people living in rural Northamptonshire are taken into account in policy making and strategic planning affecting the County.

Our Chief Executive is Elaine O'Leary and we are based at the Hunsbury Hill Centre, which offers facilities for conferences and social events, including civil weddings and receptions, in a delightful and tranquil setting.

At the point these accounts go up to, which is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, the Coronavirus Pandemic had started and the country had just gone into lockdown. The charity's staff moved to home working and we will continue to work at home until early Spring 2021. We have had to put on hold much of our normal rural services work but this has been replaced by the increased support we are providing to the many Covid-19 groups that have appeared during the pandemic as well as helping a number of groups to become Good Neighbour Schemes. Our Community Facilities Advisory service has been working extremely hard to help the many village hall members during this very difficult time.

At the time of writing this report, the weddings scheduled for 2020 through our trading arm, The Hunsbury Hill Centre Ltd, had either been moved to 2021 or 2022 or had cancelled. It is likely this will have a major impact on the income in the trading arm and subsequently any donation the Hunsbury Hill Centre Ltd may make to the charity for 2020-21.

**Our Annual Review of 2019 – 2020, which covers our activities, projects and achievements during the year and our plans for the future is available to download at <https://www.northantsacre.org.uk/nacre-minutes-reports>**

## **REVIEW OF TRANSACTIONS AND FINANCIAL POSITION**

### **Strategic Aims**

Northamptonshire ACRE is a company limited by guarantee (company number 3937576) and registered charity (charity number 1080038).

Northamptonshire ACRE's aims are:

- To encourage and support community-led planning such as neighbourhood plans and rural community action.
- To facilitate the identification of rural needs, particularly for the disadvantaged through community consultation and engagement
- To raise awareness of rural issues, lobby and influence policy
- To support the provision of affordable, accessible rural services
- To work in partnership with others, encouraging co-operation and influencing the allocation of resources
- To monitor our performance and provide value for money to our funders
- To encourage the development of staff and those working on behalf of the organisation

Northamptonshire ACRE has a strategic business and implementation plan, which is reviewed and revised regularly.

The reviews look at the success of each key activity carried out by the charity and the benefits they have brought to the groups of people with whom we work. These reviews also help us ensure that our aims, objectives and activities remain focused on our stated purposes. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissions General Guidance on Public Benefit when carrying out our review and in planning our future activities.

The main activities and achievements of the charity from April 2019 to March 2020 are detailed in the 2019 – 2020 Trustees Annual Report, which is available to download from our website: <http://northantsacre.org.uk/> and the Charity Commission.

### **Retirement and Recruitment of Trustees**

During the year Mrs Fabienne Fraser-Allen resigned as a trustee and Mrs Rachael Boyd was appointed as a trustee. Northamptonshire ACRE has an established process for the recruitment, appointment, induction and training of new trustees and continually works to encourage suitable applicants to apply. There is trustee documentation specific to recruitment and appointment and each new trustee is provided with a comprehensive trustee handbook and induction course.



**Application and source of Funds**

The core rural work undertaken by Northamptonshire ACRE is funded by funding from DEFRA, consultancy and membership work, from project income (management/overheads/support fees) and rent, staff-cost contributions, and donations from The Hunsbury Hill Centre Ltd, the charity's trading arm, also known as The Barns at Hunsbury Hill. These funds are used to raise awareness of issues affecting people living in rural communities throughout the county and supporting community groups, including village hall committees and parish councils, on issues relating to sustainable development, transport, fund-raising and rural service provision.

Under restricted funds are the income and expenditure relating to a number of specific projects including the Northamptonshire Village Awards, Daventry Citizens Advice Empowered for Life project and South Northants Good Neighbour schemes.

The breakdown of unrestricted expenditure between cost of generating funds, charitable activities and governance costs is based initially on the nature of the expense and whether it falls directly in to one of these categories. Should it fall across several categories it is allocated based on either an individual staff member's percentage allocation or the overall staff percentage allocation.

**Assets**

Northamptonshire ACRE's key asset is the Hunsbury Hill Centre. The Centre provides office accommodation for Northamptonshire ACRE's staff. It provides the community and us with an affordable and unique setting in which to host events. The Centre was professionally revalued in 2018 at £1,262,000. Further details of the revaluation are covered in Note 6 Fixed Assets.

**Reserves Policy**

The Board established a policy where the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets ('the free reserves') held by the charity should ideally be equivalent to approximately three months of the resources expended. In addition the Board established a Reserves (Dilapidation) Fund in the 2017-18 financial year, which would be used to build up reserves to cover future major repair and maintenance costs of the Hunsbury Hill Centre buildings. The Reserves Fund stood at £20,000 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

The charity agreed that funds would be added to the Reserves Fund as applicable, depending upon the current economic situation. During the 2019 – 2020 financial year the charity has been able to move a further £5,000 from the General Fund into the Reserves (Dilapidation) Fund, which now stands at £25,000 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

The charity intends to continue building up the Reserves Fund each year as the economic situation permits until the Fund reaches a limit of £50,000.

**Risk Management**

Northamptonshire ACRE has conducted its own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and has put in place a Risk Management Policy and systems devised to mitigate those risks. External risks to funding have been mitigated by diversification of funding and activities including a robust approach to discussions with funders with the aim of covering infrastructure costs i.e. full cost recovery. Internal risks are minimised by the devising and implementing of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. These procedures ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company as well as the refinement and improvement of Human Resources and Health and Safety policies. The procedures and policies are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity.

**Financial Dependence**

The key funders of Northamptonshire ACRE's core unrestricted activities are DEFRA, Parish and Community Facilities members, donations from the Hunsbury Hill Centre Ltd and Bulk Oil members.

**Independent Examination**

A resolution proposing that Jervis & Partners be re-appointed to conduct an independent examination of the Charity was passed at the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

**Approval**

This report was approved by the Board of Directors on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and signed on their behalf:



Gareth Lugar-Mawson  
Chair

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE

We report on the accounts of Northamptonshire ACRE for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, which are set out on pages 13 to 24.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied ourselves that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, we report in respect of our examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out our examination we have followed the Directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination giving us cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

We have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jervis & Partners  
Chartered Accountants  
30 Harborough Road  
Kingsthorpe  
Northamptonshire  
NN2 7AZ

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020

## STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

Company Law and Charity Law requires the trustees/directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have 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 charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees/directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the Board of Directors



Gareth Lugar-Mawson  
Chair

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES 2019- 2020

(Incorporating an Income & Expenditure Account)

	Note	2019/20			2018/19
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>					
From Generated Sources					
Hunsbury Hill Centre		70,406	0	70,406	55,255
Generated income		14,650	0	14,650	10,325
Office Accommodation		2,300	0	2,300	2,300
Donations		15,055	0	15,055	20,028
		<u>102,411</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>102,411</u>	<u>87,908</u>
From Charitable Activities	3	40,280	10,856	51,136	96,582
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>142,691</b>	<b>10,856</b>	<b>153,547</b>	<b>184,490</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Cost of Raising Funds					
Hunsbury Hill Centre		20,506		20,506	£29,585
Fundraising & Publicity		41,013		41,013	£59,169
		<u>61,519</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>61,519</u>	<u>£88,754</u>
Charitable Activities		52,127	9,392	61,519	£88,754
Other Costs		41,013		41,013	£59,169
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	4	<b>154,659</b>	<b>9,392</b>	<b>164,051</b>	<b>£236,677</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>(11,968)</b>	<b>1,464</b>	<b>(10,504)</b>	<b>(52,187)</b>
Transfers between Funds		14,778	(14,778)	(0)	0
<b>Net Income after transfers</b>		<b>2,810</b>	<b>(13,315)</b>	<b>(10,504)</b>	<b>(52,187)</b>
Other Recognised Gains / (Losses)					
Unrealised gain on property valuation		0		0	0
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		<b>2,810</b>	<b>(13,315)</b>	<b>(10,504)</b>	<b>(52,187)</b>
Revaluation in year	9	0		0	752,000
Total Funds Brought forward prior year	9	1,284,994	24,032	1,309,025	609,212
<b>Total Funds carried forward at year-end</b>		<b>1,287,804</b>	<b>10,717</b>	<b>1,298,521</b>	<b>1,309,025</b>

### Continuing Operations

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities. The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

## BALANCE SHEET

As at 31st March 2020

	Note	As at 31/3/20 £	As at 31/3/19
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	6	1,262,000	1,262,000
Investment in Subsidiary	6	1	1
		<u>1,262,001</u>	<u>1,262,001</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	7	15,686	20,476
Short Term Deposits		20,556	20,267
Cash at Bank & in Hand		18,417	35,076
		<u>54,659</u>	<u>75,819</u>
Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year	8	18,139	28,793
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)		<u>36,520</u>	<u>47,026</u>
<b>Assets Less Current liabilities</b>		<u>1,298,521</u>	<u>1,309,027</u>
Liabilities: amounts falling due after one year	8	0	0
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u>1,298,521</u>	<u>1,309,027</u>
<b>Funds</b>			
Unrestricted - General/dilapidation	9	95,984	93,174
Unrestricted - Capital	9	1,191,820	1,191,820
Total Unrestricted		<u>1,287,804</u>	<u>1,284,994</u>
Restricted	9	10,717	24,033
<b>Total Funds</b>		<u>1,298,521</u>	<u>1,309,027</u>

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)**

The directors' statements required by Section 475(2) and (3) are shown below, which form part of this balance sheet.

In approving these financial statements as directors of the charitable company we hereby confirm:

- (a) That for the year stated above the charitable company was entitled to the exemption conferred by Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006;
- (b) That no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the charitable company pursuant to Section 476 requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020; and
- (c) That we acknowledge our responsibilities for:
  - a. Ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - b. Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial year and of its result for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of Section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:



Gareth Lugar-Mawson  
Chair

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## NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

### NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **a) General information and basis of preparation**

Northamptonshire ACRE is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee registered in England. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per trustee of the Charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 5 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are given in the report of the Directors/Trustees on pages 7 – 10.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 (as updated through Update Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The charity has applied Update Bulletin 1 as published on 2 February 2016 and does not include a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is applying FRS 102 Section 1A.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

#### **b) Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are



charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

**c) Income**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial affairs (SOFA) when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the Charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated facilities are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

**d) Expenditure**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Fundraising costs includes the expenditure costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Management and administration costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

**e) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows: -

Description	Depreciation Period
Hunsbury Hill Centre (freehold)	Nil
Office equipment	Over 2 to 10 years
Trophies	Nil
IT equipment	100% in year of purchase
Fixtures & fittings	Over 5 to 10 years

As detailed in note 6, certain fixed assets have been re-valued in previous years. These valuations have been adopted as the historical costs.

Depreciation is not charged on the buildings at the Hunsbury Hill Centre, as the residual value is considered to be not less than the carrying value.

**f) Investment**

The Charity owns The Hunsbury Hill Centre Limited, which was incorporated on 26th March 2013. The investment represents the entire share capital of that company.

**g) Going Concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which assumes that the Charity will have sufficient resources to continue its charitable activities for the foreseeable future.

**NOTE 2: ACTIVITIES**

The activities of this organisation, which is a registered Charity (registered no. 1080038), continue to be the support of the rural communities of Northamptonshire through the provision of advice and support on issues affecting them.

**NOTE 3: INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2019/20	Total 2018/19
	£	£		£
DEFRA - ACRE	40,280		40,280	43,810
Big Lottery		0	0	40,392
Best Village entry fees		0	0	355
NVA		4,330	4,330	0
SNC map & GNS work		0	0	5,500
Empowered for Life		3,371	3,371	3,370
SNC GNS project		3,155	3,155	3,155
	<u>40,280</u>	<u>10,856</u>	<u>51,136</u>	<u>96,582</u>

The Big Lottery funded Rural Wellbeing Service finished at the end of March 2019. There was a small underspend of £10,350 on the budget at the end of March 2019 and after discussions with the National Lottery, this funding was carried across into the 2019/20 financial year. It was used to carry out activities under the Rural Wellbeing Service project as agreed with the National Lottery. The underspend was completed by the end of September 2019.

During the four years the project ran the information bus made 227 visits to 88 villages across Northamptonshire, reaching 1,832 people and making an additional 97 home visits for people unable to access the RIC. Over half (55%) the people accessing the service lived alone, 41% had a disability, 45% had poor health and 21% were carers. The majority of people supported were aged between 60 and 70 years, with 28% being aged over 70. A review of the project was carried out by an external evaluation company, Capidale, and

their final report can be downloaded at <https://www.northantsacre.org.uk/rural-wellbeing-service>.

The Empowered for Life (Efl) project is run by Daventry Citizen's Advice and is aimed at providing support and advice about debt and benefit to people in the Daventry District, particularly those who are unable to visit the office and may be suffering from poor mental wellbeing. Northamptonshire ACRE is working with Daventry CA as part of the project, linking the Efl fieldworkers to Good Neighbour schemes in the district in order to deliver debt and benefit support to people in rural areas. This is an on-going project over 3 years.

Northamptonshire ACRE was commissioned by South Northamptonshire Council to help set up 7 Good Neighbour schemes in the district by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 and to provide them with support, mentoring, a toolkit and help to access funding from the council for start-up costs. The 7 schemes are set up and now active.

The Northamptonshire Village Awards (NVA) replaced the Best Village Competition for 2019 and was sponsored by CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England). All villages that entered were presented with their awards at the Awards Evening in July 2019. We are grateful for CPRE's sponsorship and look forward to working with them again next year.

#### NOTE 4: TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	Fund raising	Charitable Activities	Governan. other costs	HHC	Total 2019/20	Total 2018/19
	£	£	£		£	£
Staff Costs	24,190	36,285	24,190	12,095	96,761	125,920
Premises	2,721	4,081	2,721	1,360	10,882	11,540
Insurance	3,146	4,718	3,146	1,573	12,582	12,417
Professional Services	4,376	6,563	4,376	2,188	17,502	50,961
Telephones	856	1,284	856	428	3,423	2,947
Postage, Printing & Stationery	257	386	257	129	1,029	2,885
Equipment & Materials	683	1,024	683	341	2,730	3,132
Advertising	1,040	1,560	1,040	520	4,159	7,282
Catering	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	1,966	2,950	1,966	983	7,866	14,672
Subscriptions inc. ACRE	1,779	2,669	1,779	890	7,117	4,920
	<b>41,013</b>	<b>61,519</b>	<b>41,013</b>	<b>20,506</b>	<b>164,051</b>	<b>236,676</b>

Total expenditure on Charitable Activities includes expenditure from restricted funds. Refer to Note 9 for breakdown of expenditure from restricted funds. The amounts shown for Professional Services in the years 2018/19 and 2019/20 should be reduced by £47,044.40 following the settlement of a claim

with the Charity's former insurers. This will be shown in the 2020-21 accounts.

### NOTE 5: RESOURCES EXPENDED INCLUDES:-

No employee had emoluments in excess of £60,000 in the year or preceding year.

	2019/20	2018/19
The average number of employees calculated on a full time equivalent basis was:-	5	5

NACRE Staff Costs	2019/20 £	2018/19 £
Salaries	88,290	115,521
Employers National Insurance	3,076	5,562
Payroll provision costs	144	186
Pension Contribution	1,593	2,285
Training	200	36
Travel mileage allowance	548	620
Travel - other costs (train, parking)	0	0
Recruitment costs	1,083	0
	94,934	124,210

Other Expenses	2019/20 £	2018/19 £
The director/trustees receive no emoluments but were paid expenses	1,827	1,710
Independent Examiners Fee	870	1,500

### NOTE 6: FIXED ASSETS

	HHC £	F&F £	Office Equip £	Trophies £	Total 2019/20 £	Total 2018/19 £
<b>Cost/Valuation</b>						
As at 1 April 2019	1,262,000	3,072	11,639	4,531	1,281,242	529,242
Additions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation in the year	0	0	0	0	0	752,000
As at 31 March 2020	1,262,000	3,072	11,639	4,531	1,281,242	1,281,242
<b>Depreciation</b>						
As at 1 April 2019	0	3,072	11,639	4,531	19,242	19,242
Provided in Year	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disposals					0	0
As at 31 March 2020	0	3,072	11,639	4,531	19,242	19,242
<b>Net Book Value</b>						
As at 1 April 2019	1,262,000	0	0	0	1,262,000	510,000
As at 31 March 2020	1,262,000	0	0	0	1,262,000	1,262,000

- 1) All the above assets are used for direct charitable purposes
- 2) The historical cost of the fixed assets is £89,422.
- 3) The Hunsbury Hill Centre and its surrounding site is professionally revalued every five years. The site was valued in November 2018 by Godfrey Payton Chartered Surveyors, with the valuation as at the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018. The Centre and site was valued at £1,262,000 at the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018. The property is due to be revalued in 2023.
- 4) The trustees consider that the current values are not less than the value as stated in the accounts.

<b>Investments</b>			
		<b>As at 31/03/20</b>	<b>As at 31/03/19</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Investment in the wholly owned subsidiary company		1	1

Northamptonshire ACRE owns the whole of the issued share capital of the Hunsbury Hill Centre Limited, a company incorporated in England. The company's principal activity is the provision of event facilities.

In the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 the Hunsbury Hill Centre Ltd made a profit for the year of £189 and at the balance sheet date the capital and reserves amounted to £363.

During the year the company donated £15,000 to Northamptonshire ACRE and this is included within Donations in the SOFA.

#### **NOTE 7: DEBTORS**

	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2018/19</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Control account	686	476
Amounts due from subsidiary	15,000	20,000
Sundry	0	0
	<b>15,686</b>	<b>20,476</b>

The amount due from the subsidiary relates to the year-end donation from trading activities of the Hunsbury Hill Centre Ltd.

**NOTE 8: CREDITORS**

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Creditors control account	2,004	10,356
Receipts in advance	3,925	0
Sundry Creditors/accruals	1,850	1,858
PAYE creditors	0	0
Pension creditors	360	351
Deferred income	0	6,228
Amounts due to Subsidiary	10,000	10,000
	<b>18,139</b>	<b>28,793</b>

The amount due to the subsidiary of £10,000 was an internal loan to the charity from HHC Ltd without interest. The Trustees have repaid the £10,000 to HHC Ltd in the current financial year 2020-21.

There are no creditors due after one year.

**NOTE 9: FUND ANALYSIS**

	b/forward 1 April 2019	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Revaluation	Incoming Transfers	Outgoing Transfers	Net Transfers	Balances c/forward 31 March 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>								
General fund	73,173	142,691	151,347		14,778	8,311	6,467	70,984
Capital Fund	1,191,820			0	0		0	1,191,820
HHF	0	0	3,311	0	3,311		3,311	0
Dilapidation/Reserves Fund	20,000				5,000		5,000	25,000
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<b>1,284,993</b>	<b>142,691</b>	<b>154,659</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,089</b>	<b>8,311</b>	<b>14,778</b>	<b>1,287,804</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>								
Best Village Competition	5,454	0	165	0	0	1,749	(1,749)	£3,540
Rural Wellbeing Service	10,350	0	5,192		0	5,158	(5,158)	£0
SNC - Map & GN Pilot	1,754	0	273		0	1,482	(1,482)	£0
Daventry EFL	3,370	3,370	0	0	0	1,292	(1,292)	£5,448
SNC GNS	3,105	3,155	5		0	4,525	(4,525)	£1,731
Northants Village Awards		4,330	3,758		0	572	(572)	£0
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>24,033</b>	<b>10,855</b>	<b>9,392</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,778</b>	<b>(14,778)</b>	<b>£10,717</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>1,309,026</b>	<b>153,546</b>	<b>164,051</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,089</b>	<b>23,089</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>1,298,521</b>

**Fund Analysis Explanation****Unrestricted Funds**

The General Fund represents the free funds of the charity, which are not designated for particular purposes. The General Fund is used to cover the charity's core costs.

The General Fund is made up from several sources including membership fees from our Parish Council and Community Facility members, a yearly grant from DEFRA (made through the national ACRE network), the donation from the trading arm, office rentals and the bulk oil membership scheme that Northamptonshire ACRE runs for off gas rural communities. This is a standalone scheme using an online system called Olive. The system is maintained on behalf of the charity by eSmartMetrics. This company is also responsible for negotiating prices for the oil delivery with various oil companies and ordering the oil deliveries. Northamptonshire ACRE receives a small commission on each oil order. In 2019/20 the scheme received £3,179 in commission.

The Hunsbury Hill Centre is an established event venue and was incorporated as a trading arm, The Hunsbury Hill Centre Limited, to take over the non-primary activities of the charity. The trading arm is marketed as The Barns at Hunsbury Hill. In 2019/20 84 weddings were held at the centre.

Hunsbury Hill Centre Limited pays Northamptonshire ACRE rent for office accommodation and pays a proportion of the combined operating costs, i.e. insurance, utilities and managerial staff time. At the end of the financial period 2019/20 the Hunsbury Hill Centre Ltd donated its profits of £15,000 to Northamptonshire ACRE.

The Capital Fund represents the fixed asset revaluation fund for tangible fixed assets that were re-valued as required by the Companies Act of 2006. The reserve reflects the amount by which the fixed assets exceed their historical cost.

At the beginning of the financial year, the Reserves (Dilapidation) Fund stood at £20,000. A further £5,000 has been transferred to this Fund in the current year. As at 31st March 2020 the Reserves (Dilapidation) Fund was in surplus by £25,000. The reserve will be capped at £50,000.

As at 31st March 2020, the General Fund was in surplus by £70,984, which is a slight decrease on the previous surplus at 31st March 2019. However the total unrestricted funds carried forward at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 is a slight increase on the previous amount at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and is a testament to the hard work and effort from all the staff and trustees of Northamptonshire ACRE and its trading arm, The Hunsbury Hill Centre Ltd.

### ***Restricted Funds***

The Best Village Competition fund was used for the running and supporting of the annual Northamptonshire Best Village competition. The Northamptonshire Village Awards is the new name by which the Best Village Competition is now known. We are delighted to welcome CPRE Northamptonshire (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England) as sponsors of the 2019 Awards. Like Northamptonshire ACRE, CPRE Northamptonshire recognises the importance of community involvement as well as the care for the natural and built environment, which creates not just an attractive village but a vibrant



community. Together we want to encourage initiatives by the village community and the provision of facilities for all the population.

In November 2014 Northamptonshire ACRE was awarded £287,648 from the Big Lottery (now known as the National Lottery Community Fund). This was a four year project to deliver a Rural Wellbeing Service to older people in rural communities with the aim of alleviating social isolation and providing support, advice and signposted referrals to other agencies. The project came to an end on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. There was a small underspend of just over £10,000, which was carried forward into the 2019-20 financial year as agreed with the National Lottery. The underspend was completed by September 2019.

A full evaluation of the project was carried out by an external company, Capidale, which gives details of the work carried out during the 4 years and all the outcomes achieved. The report is available to download here: <https://www.northantsacre.org.uk/sites/acre.1pcswdesign.co.uk/files/Capidale%20Rural%20Wellbeing%20Service%20Evaluation%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>. Northamptonshire ACRE is grateful to everyone who purchases a ticket from the National Lottery as this enables organisations like us to carry out the work we do on projects such as the Rural Wellbeing Service.

Following a successful pilot to set up two Good Neighbour Schemes in South Northamptonshire, South Northants Council commissioned the charity to set up a further 7 schemes in the district by March 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. This work was completed at the end of March 2020.

Daventry Citizens Advice was awarded funding from the Big Lottery to run a project called Empowerment for Life. This project aims to provide debt management and benefits advice to people who may have financial difficulties that is impacting on their mental wellbeing. In particular the project offers support to people in rural communities who are often unable to travel to the Citizens Advice office in Daventry for vital help. Northamptonshire ACRE is a partner in this project to link the Citizens Advice fieldworkers with local residents in rural communities through the Good Neighbour Schemes we have supported to set up in the district.

#### **NOTE 10: CONTROL RELATIONSHIPS**

The charitable company is controlled by the Board of Directors/Trustees.