

Company Registration Number: 05227778 (England and Wales)

**COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016**

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors

The Baroness L Golding
The Lord B L S Mancroft
W Tyrwhitt-Drake
G Portwin
T Vestey
T Bonner
A Arkwright
J Foster
R Fry
A Ogg

Secretary

S Hatcher

Company number

05227778

Registered office

1 Spring Mews
Tinworth Street
London
SE11 5AN

Independent Auditors

Saffery Champness
71 Queen Victoria Street
London
EC4V 4BE

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

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COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

The directors present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016.

Principal activities and review of the business

Countryside Alliance promotes the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by supporting access and conservation projects and programmes that protect features of wildlife, flora and fauna in the countryside generally and responsible and sustainable use of these environments. The Alliance promotes agriculture, game and food production for the public benefit. Education plays an important part in much of our work especially on subjects pertaining to the conservation protection and enjoyment of the countryside and the history, heritage and practices of agriculture and the management of the physical and natural environment. The Alliance is well known for its work to preserve, protect and promote the heritage and practice of activities relating to wildlife, the countryside, wildlife management, including hunting, shooting and fishing together with the management of the natural environment. In addition we continue to promote sustainable development for the benefit of the public, campaigning to ensure the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment and the prudent use of natural resources. This extends to disadvantaged parts of the community, particularly in relation to rural economies and the need to preserve and protect the rural environment whilst advancing rural community life. The Countryside Alliance strives to provide an energetic and effective campaigning platform but also to ensure a sound financial base for those operations.

Countryside Alliance is identified as a public benefit entity due to the nature of its activities.

In 2016 we achieved a surplus of £219,342 on expenditure of £4,287,335 and further reduced our net debt to £nil at 31st December. Membership income continues to account for the majority of income. For the remainder we are reliant on income from fundraising and donations which are inherently more variable. In 2016 we continued to enjoy some significant fundraising success although we have rationalised our fundraising activities. Expenditure in 2016 fell by £171,467 to help achieve a satisfactory surplus for the year. At the 2016 AGM Lizzie Pinney stood down as a director and Richard Fry and Andrew Ogg were appointed as directors.

Our application to the Charity Commission has not yet been successful and discussions are continuing with the Charity Commission.

The Alliance warmly acknowledges the generosity and hard work by its supporters that enables it to sustain its campaigns and activities. Without such dedicated and committed support, we would be unable to achieve many of the challenging goals and objectives that we have set ourselves. Given the Alliance's campaigning work and its range of activities, it is committed to best practice in everything it does. All regulatory issues including Health & Safety, Risk Assessment and other regulatory issues are taken as a matter of importance and are an integral part of this policy.

Future developments

The Alliance will continue to promote and protect the countryside, the rural economy and the rural way of life. As outlined above, we continue to benefit from loyal support from supporters which make our continued activities possible and whilst there are undoubtedly challenges ahead, there is every indication that this will continue to be the case

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

Directors

The following directors have held office since 1 January 2016.

The Baroness L Golding	
The Lord B L S Mancroft	
W Tyrwhitt-Drake	
G Portwin	
Ms E Pinney	resigned 18 October 2016
J Foster	
A Arkwright	
T Bonner	
T Vestey	
R Fry	appointed 18 th October 2016
A Ogg	appointed 18 th October 2016

Countryside Alliance is a private company limited by guarantee and as such has no issued share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1. The total liability of members is limited to £10 at 31 December 2016.

Auditors

A resolution proposing that Saffery Champness be re-appointed as auditors will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

Directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and the profit and loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the 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 company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

The directors confirm that, in the case of each of the persons who are directors at the time when this report is approved, so far as each director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and he has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provision of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

By order of the board



S Hatcher
Secretary
11 May 2017

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

We have audited the company's financial statements of Countryside Alliance for the year ended 31 December 2016 set out on pages 8 to 18. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's and the parent company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Directors' Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 December 2016 and of its surplus for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Emphasis of matter – Going concern

In forming our opinion on the financial statements, which is not modified, we have considered the adequacy of the disclosure made in note 1.3 to the financial statements concerning the company's ability to continue as a going concern. At the balance sheet date the company's liabilities exceeded its total assets by £23,614 (2015; the liabilities exceeded the total assets by £242,956). The directors have identified that they are going to require continuing support from their members to help them meet the forecast cashflow demands. These conditions indicate uncertainty which may cast some doubt about the company's ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements do not include the adjustments that would result if the company was unable to continue as a going concern.

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a strategic report in preparing the Directors' Report.



Timothy Gregory (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of

15 May 2017

Saffery Champness LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

71 Queen Victoria Street
London EC4V 4BE

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Notes	2016 £	2015 £
Revenue	1		
Subscriptions		3,215,471	3,230,267
Fundraising and donations		1,291,206	1,333,930
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		4,506,677	4,564,197
Direct costs		(2,457,651)	(2,916,451)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Gross surplus		2,049,026	1,647,746
Administrative expenses		(1,805,039)	(1,512,198)
Finance costs	2	(24,645)	(30,173)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation	3	219,342	105,375
Tax expense	6	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Surplus on ordinary activities after taxation		219,342	105,375
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The income statement has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Notes	2016		2015	
		£	£	£	£
Non-current assets					
Property, plant and equipment	7	78,982		65,997	
Investments in subsidiaries	8	5,100		5,100	
			84,082		71,097
Current assets					
Inventories	9	15,408		19,046	
Trade and other receivables	10	241,510		296,664	
Cash and cash equivalents		594,636		622,703	
		851,554		938,413	
Current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	11	(475,958)		(455,166)	
Financial liabilities	12	(400,000)		(500,000)	
		(875,958)		(955,166)	
Net current assets/(liabilities)			(24,404)		(16,753)
Total assets less current (liabilities)			59,678		54,344
Non-current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	13		33,292		22,300
Financial liabilities	14		50,000		275,000
Income and expenditure Account					
	17		(23,614)		(242,956)
			59,678		54,344

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

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 11 May 2017



T Bonner
Director

Company number

05227778

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

CASHFLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	2016		2015	
	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities				
Surplus for the financial year		219,342		105,375
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment		28,490		26,501
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment		6,909		-
Interest paid		24,645		30,172
Decrease / (increase) in inventories		3,638		(7,284)
Decrease in trade and other receivables		50,856		306,217
Increase / (decrease) in trade payables		36,082		(674)
Cash from operations		<u>369,962</u>		<u>460,307</u>
Interest paid		<u>(24,645)</u>		<u>(30,172)</u>
Net cash generated from operating activities		<u>345,317</u>		<u>430,135</u>
Cash flows from investing activities				
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	<u>(48,384)</u>		<u>(49,688)</u>	
Net cash from investing activities		<u>(48,384)</u>		<u>(49,688)</u>
Net cash from financing activities				
Repayment of borrowings	<u>(325,000)</u>		<u>(16,000)</u>	
Net cash flows from financing activities		<u>(325,000)</u>		<u>(16,000)</u>
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents		<u>(28,067)</u>		<u>364,447</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>622,703</u>		<u>258,256</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		<u><u>594,636</u></u>		<u><u>622,703</u></u>
Reconciliation to cash at bank and in hand				
Cash at bank and in hand		594,636		622,703
Cash equivalents		-		-
Cash and cash equivalents		<u>594,636</u>		<u>622,703</u>

Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 31 December 2015	Cash flows	Non-cash	At 31 December 2016
	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	622,703	(28,067)	-	594,636
	<u>622,703</u>	<u>(28,067)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>594,636</u>
Loans due within one year	(500,000)	250,000	(150,000)	(400,000)
Loans due after one year	(275,000)	75,000	150,000	(50,000)
Net cash	<u>(152,297)</u>	<u>296,933</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>144,636</u>

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting conventions

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Principles). These accounts only show the activities of Countryside Alliance and do not include those of its subsidiaries.

1.2 Statement of compliance

The individual financial statements of Countryside Alliance have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 1A and Companies Act 2006 (as applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime)

1.3 Going concern

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The company recorded a net surplus of £219,342 for the year ended 31 December 2016 and is forecasting a surplus and positive cash position for the forthcoming year. The continued activities and campaigns of the company are greatly assisted thanks to the provision of loans from supporters underpinning the Balance Sheet. Based on a review performance in 2017 together which together with a lower cost base and good prospects of expected income and cash flows over the forthcoming year, the board is satisfied that the going concern basis is a suitable basis on which to draw up the accounts.

1.4 Public benefit entity

Countryside Alliance is a public benefit entity

1.5 Revenue

Revenue represents subscriptions, voluntary revenue and donations and other revenue on a receivable basis and is net of Value Added Tax.

1.6 Life members

The Life Members subscriptions are transferred to the Income Account over ten years.

1.7 Property, plant and equipment

Computers and fixtures, fittings and equipment (FFE) are recognised on assets valued over £500 at cost. Depreciation is applied using the straight line method for the useful life of the asset as follows:

FFE	-	useful life 60 months on cost
Computer equipment	-	useful life 48 months on cost
Website development	-	useful life 36 months on cost

1.8 Investments

Investments held as fixed assets are stated at cost less provision for any impairment in value.

1.9 Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost (FIFO) and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

1.10 Operating leases

The relevant rentals are charged to the income and expenditure account on a straight line basis.

1.11 Pension costs

The Alliance operates a defined contribution scheme. Contributions payable to the Alliance's pension scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account in the year to which they relate.

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

1.12 **Taxation**

The Alliance is a mutual entity operating for the benefit of its members. Where appropriate, current tax is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

1.13 **Short term employee benefits**

FRS 102 1A requires a cost of short term compensated absences to be recognised when employees render the service that increases their entitlement.

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016**

2	Finance costs	2016	2015
		£	£
	Loans and overdrafts	24,645	30,172
<hr/>			
3	Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation	2016	2015
		£	£
	The surplus is stated after charging:		
	Staff costs (Note 4)	1,583,661	1,781,498
	Depreciation	28,472	26,501
	Auditors' remuneration	25,000	25,000
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4	Staff costs	2016	2015
		£	£
	Wages and salaries	1,342,970	1,522,673
	Social Security costs	146,930	166,424
	Other pension costs	93,761	92,401
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		1,583,661	1,781,498
<hr/>			
	The average number of persons, including Executive directors, employed by the company during the year was:	Nos	Nos
	Management and administration	17	13
	Campaigning	17	27
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		34	40
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COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

5	Directors	2016	2015
		£	£
	Remuneration	110,000	136,483
	Pension contributions to money purchase schemes	7,000	2,260
		<u>117,000</u>	<u>138,743</u>

No remuneration was paid to any of the directors other than the Chief Executive Tim Bonner.

The aggregate staff cost of key personnel for the year ending 31 December 2016 is £211,519 which include the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive.

6	Taxation	2016	2015
		£	£
	Current tax charge	-	-

No tax charge arises on the income for the year. Taxable losses carried forward at 31 December 2016 are £110,941 (2015: £93,891).

7 Property, plant and equipment

	Fixtures and show equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 31 December 2015	31,222	73,472	104,694
Additions for year	2,061	46,323	48,384
Disposals	(5,621)	(8,848)	(14,469)
At 31 December 2016	<u>27,662</u>	<u>110,947</u>	<u>138,609</u>
Amortisation/ Depreciation			
At 31 December 2015	3,508	35,189	38,697
Charge for the year	6,244	22,246	28,490
Disposals	(2,436)	(5,124)	(7,560)
At 31 December 2016	<u>7,316</u>	<u>52,311</u>	<u>59,627</u>
Net book value			
31 December 2016	<u>20,346</u>	<u>58,636</u>	<u>78,982</u>
31 December 2015	<u>27,714</u>	<u>38,283</u>	<u>65,997</u>

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

8	Investment in subsidiaries	£
	Cost at 31 December 2015 and 2016	5,100

BFSS Investments Limited is a wholly owned dormant subsidiary. The aggregate amount of BFSS Investments Limited capital and reserves as at 31 December 2016 was £100 (2015: £100) and the loss for the year was £nil (2015: £nil).

Countryside Alliance Insurance Services Limited is also a wholly-owned subsidiary. It is registered with FSA as an insurance intermediary. The aggregate of its capital and reserves was £8,770 (2015: £9,024) and its loss for the period was £(254).

9	Inventories	2016	2015
		£	£
	Merchandise	15,408	19,046
		<u>15,408</u>	<u>19,046</u>
10	Trade and other receivables	2016	2015
		£	£
	Other debtors	55,227	141,038
	Trade debtors	41,922	38,118
	Prepayments and accrued income	144,361	117,508
		<u>241,510</u>	<u>296,664</u>

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

11	Current trade and other payables	2016	2015
		£	£
	Other taxes and social security costs	144,627	158,282
	Other creditors	199,125	200,409
	Accruals and deferred income	127,902	92,394
	Amounts owing to subsidiary undertaking	4,304	4,081
		<u>475,958</u>	<u>455,166</u>

12	Current financial liabilities	2016	2015
		£	£
	Bank loans (secured)	50,000	200,000
	Loans (unsecured)	350,000	300,000
	As at 31 December 2016	<u>400,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>

The bank loans are guaranteed by supporters of Countryside Alliance. All bank and unsecured loans carry a variable market rate of interest.

13	Non-current trade and other payables	2016	2015
		£	£
	Life members' subscriptions	33,292	22,300
	As at 31 December 2016	<u>33,292</u>	<u>22,300</u>

It is considered appropriate to transfer Life memberships over a ten year period to the Income and Expenditure Account. The Movement on the Life Memberships is shown below.

	2016	2015
	£	£
Life Members Subscriptions		
At 1 January 2016	22,300	23,955
Life Members Income received	18,000	4,500
Transferred to Income and Expenditure Account	(7,008)	(6,155)
As at 31 December 2016	<u>33,292</u>	<u>22,300</u>

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

14	Non-current financial liabilities	2016 £	2015 £
	Loan notes	50,000	50,000
	Long term loans	-	225,000
	As at 31 December 2016	<u>50,000</u>	<u>275,000</u>

The loan notes, which were originally issued in 2004 with further issues subsequently, are unsecured and are redeemable at the discretion of the Countryside Alliance at any time following the first anniversary of their issue. They are repayable no later than 1 November 2019.

15 **Share capital**

The company is limited by guarantee and as such has no issued share capital.

16 **Operating lease arrangements**

Countryside Alliance has the following operating lease agreements:

Main office photocopier	36 month term
Headquarters fit out	60 month term
Rent	60 month term

The total outstanding liability for all operating leases at 31 December 2016 is:

	2016 £	2015 £
Less than one year	112,529	111,592
One to five years	<u>323,429</u>	<u>406,522</u>
	<u>435,958</u>	<u>518,114</u>

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

17 **Income and expenditure account**

	2016	2015
	£	£
As at 31 December 2015	(242,956)	(348,331)
Surplus for the year	219,342	105,375
As at 31 December 2016	<u>(23,614)</u>	<u>(242,956)</u>

18 **Related party transactions**

Short term loans to the company (note 12) include amounts lent by the directors totalling £25,000 (2015: £25,000)

19 **Short term employee benefits**

FRS 102 1A requires a cost of short term compensated absences to be recognised when employees render the service that increases their entitlement.

Consequently, an accrual of £28,440 has been made to reflect this in the year ended 31 December 2016.

