



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT

**Report of the Trustees
For the Year ended 30th September 2016**



Research & Recorders at Thorpe Hall, East Yorkshire

**The Annual General Meeting of the Yorkshire Gardens Trust
To be held at Masham Town Hall
Saturday 18th March 2017.**

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03256311 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1060697

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 SEPTEMBER 2016
FOR
YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST**

UHY Calvert Smith
Chartered Accountants
31 St Saviourgate
York
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YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

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YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

The Yorkshire Gardens Trust was incorporated in September 1996, became a registered charity in February 1997 and is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives, aims and activities

Set up in 1996 by people concerned with the need to protect, conserve and treat appropriately the designed landscapes, parks and gardens of Yorkshire; these aims and objectives remain constant. We now have about 350 members which is a pleasing increase, thanks in part to some new members joining towards the end of Noble Prospects, and the annual honorary membership that we give to event hosts.

The Trustees are aware of the guidance published by the Charity Commission on Public Benefit and the guidance is taken into account when the aims, objectives and activities are reviewed.

Aims

Wherever possible the Trust works to promote the conservation of historic designed landscapes, parks and gardens in Yorkshire and raise awareness of the appropriate treatment of these unique places, with private owners, planners, archaeologists, gardeners, horticulturists and other professionals. Through its work with schools, the Trust hopes to develop the interests of children (and teachers) in these landscapes. To further this, the Trust has established links with other heritage organisations, local authorities and other bodies with complementary aims.

Objectives:

The Memorandum and Articles of Association 1996 describe the objects for which the Trust is established as follows:

- 4.1. To promote the education of the public on matters connected with garden land
- 4.2. To promote the protection, conservation and appropriate treatment of whatever garden-land may exist or have existed in and around the counties of North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, East Yorkshire and West Yorkshire for the education and enjoyment of the public.

The Trust has educational and conservation links with:

The Yorkshire Philosophical Society	Other Country Gardens Trusts
The Folly Fellowship	Royal Horticultural Society
The Harewood House Trust	Historic England
The Gardens Trust	Yorkshire Local Authorities
Wentworth Castle and Stainborough Park Heritage Trust	York Civic Trust
The Yorkshire Dales National Park	The National Trust
The Borthwick Institute, University of York and other educational institutions.	
National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Society (NADFAS)	
Some local history groups and Civic Societies	

Co-operation with these organisations is maintained in pursuit of the Trust's charitable objectives.

To achieve its objectives, the Trust endeavours to organise a range of activities and to establish and maintain the resources necessary for this. It maintains communication with members, professionals in related fields, private land-owners and public authorities, heritage bodies, the wider public and also with Government through the Gardens Trust. Overall the strategy is one of promoting advocacy and consultation.

To support these activities the Trust encourages the active participation of all of the members, seeks to recruit new members and endeavours to manage its budget to maximum effect.

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives, aims and activities

Activities

Running the Trust requires considerable voluntary activity, planning and producing a surplus from events. This work will, as necessary, be assisted and supported with funding from the Pippa Rakusen legacy. A major concern remains the increasing need for the specialist knowledge that the Trust holds as government funding is cut to local authorities and Historic England, (formerly the policy and advisory section of English Heritage), and as development pressures on some of Yorkshire's historic parks and gardens increase. With insufficient active YGT volunteers and an ageing membership this is a concern. Requests for advice and comments on planning applications are very frequent.

The activities of each sub-committee are described below:

Research and Recording

The YGT project to identify, research and record significant, mainly unregistered, parks and gardens by volunteers is led by Louise Wickham, Yvonne Boutwood and Mary Ratcliffe. It continues in three areas of Yorkshire: East Riding, Selby District and Hambleton District (both in North Yorkshire). The results will be shared with District planners and conservation officers. The historic information on the sites will be added to the Parks and Gardens UK Database and to the YGT website and the Historic Environment Record. The material will also be archived at the Borthwick Institute in York, enhancing our YGT research already deposited there.

Our current estimate is that there are at least 449 important historic designed landscapes across the historic county of Yorkshire (the three former Ridings plus the City of York). Of those, 121 are on Historic England's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England. In addition, there are a further 160 on Parks & Gardens UK national database (although some are brief entries i.e. no detailed history or description), which leaves 168 sites that have not been centrally documented. We have 52 sites currently on our 'Research' list in various stages of completion (excluding CB300 research that was undertaken by Karen Lynch) and 18 volunteers across the three areas. We have found many recruits from outside the present YGT membership, in local societies, which is encouraging, as it spreads the message re the importance of historic parks and gardens in Yorkshire.

Conservation and Planning

The Conservation sub-committee work was very ably led by trustee Kathryn Gibson for eight months, but due to changing family and other circumstances, she resigned in June. We are actively looking for someone to take over this role and can offer training/mentoring to anyone interested but to date no-one has emerged. As a result only a limited number of planning applications have been commented upon since Kathryn resigned and those have been dependent upon the relevant knowledge and expertise of two or three members.

During the year comments and advice have been given on various planning applications including those affecting York House at Malton, the designed landscapes at Temple Newsam, Harewood House, Burton Constable, Gledstone, Sedbury, Temple Grounds, Cleveland Lodge and Middleton Lodge. As a result of Anne Tupholme's research, she and Kathryn were able to give advice to Historic England on Reginald

Farrer's Rock Garden in Clapham. In addition there have been proposals for several large scale development projects in the Leeds and Rotherham areas and for a new Innovation Technology Centre in conjunction with Bradford University based at Milner Field, Bingley. Recently YGT was contacted by concerned villagers from Snape, near Bedale, regarding the Parish Council proposal to fell some of the trees in the early Victorian Lime Avenue, which forms the entrance to the village and is on the southern boundary of Thorp Perrow Arboretum. YGT's concerns about the future of the valuable parkland work achieved via Natural England's Environmental Stewardship has also been raised with The Gardens Trust who have been asked to take this forward nationally.

The YGT also has a nominated representative as a Trustee for the Wentworth Castle and Stainborough Park Heritage Trust; Jane Furse is Vice Chair of the Wentworth Castle & Stainborough Park Heritage Trust Charity, Chair of the Estates and Heritage Sub Committee and also sits on their Steering group and Archives Committee.

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives, aims and activities

The Small Grant Scheme - Yorkshire Gardens Trust Conservation and Education Fund

We have been without a co-ordinator but this role has recently been taken on by trustee, Ray Blyth. During recent years we have not been receiving the number of applications which we did in the past, so we are making some changes next year following a meeting with new member, Maddy Jago, who has made some helpful suggestions. This year we have supported the repair/restoration of the Tuscan Temple at Duncombe Park and this is virtually complete. Application forms for the Small Grant Scheme are on the website www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

Events

A new member Vicky Price joined the events team this year, making the sub-committee six members: John and Liz Barker, Fiona Barlow, Ray Blyth and Val Hepworth. In October 2015 we had a very successful visit to the park and pleasure grounds of the Aske Estate where 'Capability' Brown was consulted by Sir Lawrence Dundas, and then after the winter break and a February visit to Austwick Hall for the snowdrops, continued with 'Capability' Brown at Scampston and Hornby Castle; all visits with expert guides.

Our Research and Recording sub-committee Chairman and webmaster, Louise Wickham gave our joint lecture with the Yorkshire Philosophical Society; Gardens in History: a Political Perspective in May. Other visits included South Cliff Gardens Scarborough with Scarborough Civic Society, the weekend tour to Northumberland: 'In the footsteps of Mr Brown', midsummer picnic at Three Haggas Wood Meadow and Skipwith Hall, and visits to Calm Cottage, Yorke House, Greencroft at Littlethorpe and finishing the year with a guided visit to Wortley Hall Gardens.

Some of the visits were at garden/landscapes owned by YGT members who kindly donated all event proceeds to the Trust to assist with funds; we are very grateful for their support. Some events also supported other charities such as the National Gardens Scheme and the Bowes Museum. With the help of the National Trust at Beningbrough in May, we hosted a day for refugees with their children and volunteers/trustees from Refugee Action, York, organised by YGT trustee Ray Blyth with the help of two other YGT members and their spouses. We had a lovely picnic under the cherry trees, saw the ha-ha, walked in the gardens, played football and enjoyed the superb play area and dressing up in the house.

In early June, Caroline Legard with Penelope Dawson Brown arranged a memorable celebratory Northumberland weekend for Trust members highlighting Lancelot 'Capability' Brown's early life and work at Wallington and Alnwick.

In September 2016, several YGT members attended the three-day Annual Conference and AGM of the Gardens Trust in Cambridge, organised jointly by the Gardens Trust and Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust. The highlight was the award of the Gardens Trust, Gilly Drummond Volunteer of the Year 2016 to Karen Lynch for her exceptional 'Capability' Brown volunteering and also for her long standing active support for the YGT since its inception in 1996.

A large gathering of YGT members and Friends of the Mercer were treated to a fine celebratory evening at the Mercer Gallery in Harrogate on 24th June for the Private View of Noble Prospects: Capability Brown and the Yorkshire Landscape. The exhibition was opened by the Countess of Harewood, President of YGT and we were very pleased that Jill Rakusen could be with us. The book written by Karen Lynch to accompany the exhibition is dedicated to the memory of Jill's mother Philippa (Pippa) Rakusen, founder member and benefactor of YGT.

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives, aims and activities

Communications

The Trust's website, www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk, newsletters and e-mail notices help it to keep in touch with all its members and appeal to new members who discover it on-line, through the membership brochure or from talks given by some Trustees. A new print run of membership brochures was made for the exhibition and extra newsletters printed to encourage visitors to join the Trust. Our part-time administrator has been promoting the Trust with Twitter.

The new look YGT website went live in Spring 2016, with a clearer layout and a more modern design. At the same time, the software running the website was updated to ensure that it remains secure and also runs smoothly. Thanks goes once again to the web designer, Pat Gibbs, for his excellent work. The website remains the YGT's most visible interface with the wider public, informing them of the wide variety of work undertaken by the Trust.

The newsletter continues to be produced twice a year with copy produced by a variety of Trust members writing up the events, reports from the sub-committees, book reviews, information on The Gardens Trust and other items of garden and landscape history or topical interest.

Schools Education

Nicola Harrison, with Lucy Porritt and Sue Lindley, continues to promote our work with schools. Throughout 2016, the tercentenary of the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, the Yorkshire Gardens Trust marked the event in schools by raising awareness of the great English landscape designer and his Yorkshire landscapes; encouraging schools to get out and about into the landscape; and, in particular, to recognise that many of the trees planted as part of Brown's designs are now a majestic part of today's landscapes. By focusing their celebrations on trees, schools were able to bring a 300 year history to life.

Early in the year, each of our 42 YGT-member schools were gifted a copy of the highly recommended publication, 'A Little Guide to Trees' by Charlotte Voake. A commemorative bookplate in each copy, marked that this was a gift from the Yorkshire Gardens Trust on the occasion of the tercentenary of the birth of 'Capability' Brown and a generous anonymous donation funded the gifts without need to draw on the Trust's reserves. The Trust was also able to support a local independent bookshop in York to supply and distribute the books.

Thanks to the Trust, one Yorkshire primary school was able to attend a workshop at the Mercer Art Gallery in Harrogate while the Noble Prospects exhibition was on display. The Mercer education officer led the children through the Capability Brown exhibition and this was followed by an afternoon in Valley Gardens, exploring its 'Brownian possibilities'. Both school and gallery were delighted with the day. The children produced some insightful drawings while they were there and, back in the classroom, continued to build on their learning, creating a textile piece reflecting the effect 'Mr Brown has had on our landscape'. The benefits and learning have extended throughout the school, beyond the class of children that attended the workshop. Another class was so inspired that they went on to explore their own, local landscape, in a new light and produced a wonderful collection of artwork as a result.

The Trust also continued its programme of supporting schools across Yorkshire in developing their grounds to enhance opportunities for teaching and learning outside the classroom. In 2016, a £250 award was made to a school in Sheffield; allowing them to create a sensory garden and woodland walk. As well as the sensory stimulation afforded by the garden, the space will also provide a quiet outdoor study area for the children and a sanctuary for wildlife. The woodland walk will be created through an existing copse; creative writing, drawing and science classes are all planned in the garden area. The funding for this award has come from the Pippa Rakusen bequest.

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives, aims and activities

The donation by YGT member John Hampshire, in memory of his wife Joyce, this year allowed a collection of forged Bulldog junior gardening tools to be awarded to a very grateful, West Yorkshire school.

The year of 'Capability' Brown celebrations in schools came to a close when they were offered Field Maple saplings to plant in their grounds. Nine schools took up the opportunity. As well as being one of the species Brown included in his landscapes, this charming native is an ideal size for many school grounds and one which could, in turn, live for another 300 years.

Capability Brown Tercentenary

The Trust has been at the forefront of Yorkshire celebrations for the three hundredth birthday of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. Both the exhibition, superbly curated and led by Karen Lynch, and the accompanying book, Noble Prospects Capability Brown and the Yorkshire Landscape, written by Karen, have been exceptionally well-received. Caroline Legard (Lady Legard) organised much of the sponsorship and funding and Val Hepworth supported throughout and liaised with Trustees. 2016 was the culmination of more than two years of intense planning and research and we're enormously indebted to Karen Lynch, and to Lady Legard for bringing the Yorkshire celebrations to fruition. The unique exhibition including the famous Brown portrait from the National Portrait Gallery took place from 25th June to 11th September and more than twenty Trust members were guides during the exhibition. The Trust was delighted to work with the team at the Mercer Gallery, Harrogate and to create a great partnership between a small heritage charity and a local authority art gallery. We are using the remaining books to further the exhibition's aims of raising awareness of Brown, Yorkshire Landscapes and YGT. Complimentary copies have been given to all our member schools, Local authority planners and conservation officers, Yorkshire libraries, Yorkshire Civic Societies and Members of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society and the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. The books will have a legacy of promoting the YGT and Yorkshire's historic parks and gardens long after the end of the Capability Brown year.

Archives

The Yorkshire Gardens Trust has an archive at the Borthwick Institute, University of York.

Membership

The income from subscription is essential for the funding of the Trust. The membership at the year end 2016 has increased compared to last year:

72 Double memberships, 126 Single memberships, 31 Honorary memberships (includes researchers from other organisations who have been made honorary members whilst they work for YGT, both for goodwill and insurance purposes and event hosts who are given one year's honorary membership), 3Associations, 2 Corporate membership, 26 Life members, 1Honorary life-member, 42 School members.

Business Planning

The Business Plan 2013-16, in three volumes or sections, was completed and adopted by Council in 2014. Information is available on the website; the summary is on the public area and the full documents in the member's area. The Plan is due to be reviewed and a meeting has been held to discuss this.

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives, aims and activities

Financial Review

This year, a significant financial contribution to our funds has been made by our Brown Tercentenary celebrations, with the fine exhibition at the Mercer Gallery in Harrogate, visited by about ten thousand people and the book on Capability Brown, produced by our own Karen Lynch. The project was highly successful, and is making a most significant financial contribution to our funds. We are deeply indebted to the many project sponsors.

Another memorable associated event was the Tour of Northumberland in June 2016, and the profit on this has also contributed most usefully to the funds of the Trust.

The finances of the Trust are in excellent shape, but we are always conscious of the need to ensure that our funds are sufficient to continue the valuable work we do. The Council of Management and the Trust's paid part-time administrative help have continued to work hard to find ways to reduce costs and we thank members who have made helpful suggestions. Whilst aiming to make events affordable, the events team has succeeded in continuing the good surplus in order to offset administration costs and add to the voluntary income. Membership subscriptions do not cover the Trust's outgoings. Receiving the wonderful legacy from one of our founders, the late Mrs Phillipa Rakusen, has made the Trust's financial position much stronger and will enable us to achieve more for Yorkshire's historic parks and gardens. The Council has developed a conservative strategy for the legacy and has spent some of the funds this year.

The Trust resources comprise its members, their skills and willingness to assist the Trust, the wealth of information it holds and the funds largely, but not solely, from subscriptions. The Trust continues to rely on the services of a few unpaid volunteers and donations in kind of office facilities, postage, telephone, printing, copying and the non-claiming of travelling expenses etc., to augment the Council's expenses included in the financial statements. Lack of sufficient active volunteers continues to be a major risk for the Trust and remains under constant review.

Appropriate insurance remains in place including professional indemnity insurance covering trustees and Vice-presidents. Non-YGT new members of the Research and Recording sub-committee are also made members of the Trust so that they are covered by our insurance. The Trust's assets held in cash are available and adequate to fulfil the obligations of the charity.

Reserves Policy

The Trust endeavours to retain the necessary level of reserves and to continue to plan the prioritisation of expenditure with care to further the aims and objectives of the Trust and secure its future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Governing Instrument is the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Yorkshire Gardens Trust. This document sets out the specific restrictions regarding the application of the income and property of the Trust and the investment of monies of the Trust. The affairs of the Trust are managed by the Council of Management. Members of this Council are termed Trustees. As it is now twenty years since we achieved our Memorandum and Articles, the trustees are taking professional advice on up-dating them.

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment, appointment and training of new trustees

The Directors of the Yorkshire Gardens Trust are also Charity Trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's articles are also Members. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association one third (or the number nearest one third) of Trustees must retire at each Annual General Meeting (AGM). Retiring Trustees can be re-elected. There is no fixed term of office for Trustees. At the Council of Management meeting immediately after the AGM the Council elects a Chairman and appoints officers. Council usually delegates some of its powers to the sub- committees consisting of such member or members of Council as they think fit. These sub-committees report to the Council of Management at each Council meeting. Expertise has been built up and contributed by Trustees over the past twenty years. The specialised work of the Trust welcomes the input from Trustees and also encourages the support of skilled and knowledgeable members and other professionals and partners. Where possible the latter are co-opted to work with the sub-committees which are: Conservation, Communications, Schools Education, Events, Finance/ Business Planning, Research and Recording and Archives. Trustees with interests and skills which can help the Trust's objectives are usually elected at an AGM. Where this is not possible the Council of Management may co-opt a Trustee prior to election at the following AGM. Current Trustees encourage Trust members and others with helpful skills, to consider becoming Trustees. Trustee training is by mentoring from established Trustees. These personal links are aided by documentation with relevant information and leaflets e.g. Essential Trustee: What you need to know: CC3, other Charity Commission updates, the Trust's governance documents and information on the YGT and its achievements. Information from the Charity Commission is regularly e-mailed to the Trust and circulated to all Trustees as necessary. Assistance has also continued to be sought and given by the Trust's Accountants and Solicitor.

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure and management

The Council of Management comprised seven members who met four times during the year. Questions, including policy and strategy, arising at any meeting are decided by a majority of votes. The Trust has sub-committees taking a special interest in each of the working areas named above, ie conservation, schools education etc. These groups met according to need and each sub-committee either included at least one Council member or a designated link Trustee, whose role is to report the work of their sub-committee to the Council of Management before the Council meeting. Council then discusses any proposals and makes decisions reporting back to the sub-committee and sending them the minutes.

Funding allocation for the activities of the various sub-committees is discussed by each group, including the budget allocation and projection, guided by the treasurer and Business Plan 2013-16. Funding is agreed by the Council of Management at the June Council meeting. The Officers and the Trustees for the sub-committees are elected at the first Council of Management Meeting following the AGM. No person/body appoints Trustees.

The Trust is a member of the Gardens Trust [following the merger of the Association of Gardens Trust (AGT) and the Garden History Society (GHS) in 2015] and sends a voting delegate to any Business Meetings and the AGM. A capitation levy is payable for this membership and YGT insurance is organised through this national body. Through the Gardens Trust, the Trust is also a member of 'Heritage Alliance', the national body for organisations concerned with all aspects of the historic environment. One Trustee represents historic parks and gardens issues on the Historic Environment Forum for Yorkshire and Humber. The YGT also has a Nominated Trustee, Jane Furse, for the Wentworth Castle and Stainborough Park Heritage Trust who continues to take a very active role as a skilled advisor and Vice-chairman of trustees, for this nationally important site. (The only Grade I Registered Park and Garden in South Yorkshire).

The nineteenth Annual General Meeting took place at The Heritage and Learning Centre, Scampston Hall on 19th March 2016. This AGM was a special celebration for the tercentenary of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown held at one of the major estates where he had worked. The Council of Management met on 10 Nov 2015, 2 Feb 2016, 19 April 2016 and 28 June 2016.

The next AGM will be held at Masham Town Hall on Saturday 18 March 2017.

This year much time and effort has been spent organising the Trust's celebrations for the tercentenary of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown [for details of special Exhibition and Book and of visit to Northumberland see earlier reports].

Minutes of Council meetings will be archived and accessible at the Borthwick Institute, University of York.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03256311 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1060697

Registered office

31 St. Saviourgate

York

North Yorkshire

YO1 8NQ

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees

The subscribers to the Memorandum and Articles of Association (The Council of Management) who held office during the year were as follows:-

Mrs Val Hepworth	Chairman, Company Secretary, Conservation, Events.
Mr Malcolm Barnett	Pippa Rakusen Bequest, Company Secretary assistance.
Mr Ray Blyth	Events, Refugee Event, from 19th March 2016. Small Grants Scheme.
Mr Tony Cleaver	Newsletter Editor.
Mrs Penelope Dawson Brown	Conservation, Archives, Schools Education.
Mrs Jane Furse	Nominated Trustee to the Wentworth Castle and Stainborough Park Heritage Trust, Conservation, resigned 19th March 2016.
Ms Kath Gibson	Conservation, YGT Voting Delegate to Gardens Trust [formerly AGT], resigned 25th June 2016.
Mr David Tiptaft	Honorary Treasurer to 30th September 2016.
Mr Nigel Tooze	Co-opted 28th June 2016, Honorary Treasurer from 1st October 2016.

The Charity Trustees are the current Directors of the limited company.

There is a vacancy for a Vice Chairman and also a Secretary to Council.

Some Council meetings have been attended by Vice-presidents Peter Goodchild, Nick Lane Fox and Lady Legard. Nick Lane Fox became a Vice-president on 10th November 2015.

Mrs Louise Amende has continued to undertake her remunerated role as Administrator for Events bookings, Membership Secretary and assisting the Council, due to the continued lack of further volunteers.

Independent examiner

UHY Calvert Smith
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31 St Saviourgate
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Solicitors

Wrigleys
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YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 2 February 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs Valerie Hepworth - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

I report on the accounts for the year ended 30 September 2016 set out on pages fourteen to twenty two.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of Sections 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (the FRSSE) (effective 1 January 2015)

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr H Priest
UHY Calvert Smith
Chartered Accountants
31 St Saviourgate
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6 February 2017

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2016 Total funds £	2015 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	23,327	-	23,327	59,206
Charitable activities	4				
Functions, events		13,154	-	13,154	6,329
Sale of books		1,185	-	1,185	37
Investment income	3	46	-	46	19
Total		37,712	-	37,712	65,591
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Functions, events		7,704	-	7,704	2,457
Grants, donations		-	2,170	2,170	3,568
Capability Brown Celebrations Costs		13,601	5,555	19,156	445
Administration and governance		10,032	-	10,032	9,187
Other		-	532	532	294
Total		31,337	8,257	39,594	15,951
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		6,375	(8,257)	(1,882)	49,640
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		69,013	9,281	78,294	28,654
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>75,388</u>	<u>1,024</u>	<u>76,412</u>	<u>78,294</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 03256311)

**BALANCE SHEET
AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2016 Total funds £	2015 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	40	-	40	50
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	-	-	-	129
Cash at bank		<u>78,093</u>	<u>1,024</u>	<u>79,117</u>	<u>79,321</u>
		78,093	1,024	79,117	79,450
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(2,745)</u>	-	<u>(2,745)</u>	<u>(1,206)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>75,348</u>	<u>1,024</u>	<u>76,372</u>	<u>78,244</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>75,388</u>	<u>1,024</u>	<u>76,412</u>	<u>78,294</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>75,388</u></u>	<u><u>1,024</u></u>	<u><u>76,412</u></u>	<u><u>78,294</u></u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	12			75,388	69,013
Restricted funds				<u>1,024</u>	<u>9,281</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u><u>76,412</u></u>	<u><u>78,294</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: 03256311)

**BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED
AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30 September 2016.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2016 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 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 each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements 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 charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 2 February 2017 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mrs Valerie Hepworth -Trustee

Mr David Howard Palmer Tiptaft -Trustee

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2016	2015
	£	£
Members subscriptions, donations	4,186	4,410
Legacies	-	46,223
Gift aid	1,805	543
Donations	17,336	530
Grants	-	7,500
	<u>23,327</u>	<u>59,206</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2016	2015
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>46</u>	<u>19</u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2016	2015
	£	£
Functions, events income	13,154	6,329
Functions, events costs	<u>(7,704)</u>	<u>(2,457)</u>
Functions, events surplus	<u>5,450</u>	<u>3,872</u>

5. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2016	2015
	£	£
Grants, donations	<u>2,170</u>	<u>3,568</u>

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2016	2015
	£	£
Schools Project	1,170	665
Scampston Conservatory Preservation Company	-	903
Garden of Remembrance, Todmorden	-	1,000
Upper Nidderdale Landscape, Harrogate	-	1,000
Duncombe Park, Tuscan Temple	<u>1,000</u>	-
	<u>2,170</u>	<u>3,568</u>

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2016	2015
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

	2016	2015
	£	£
Accountancy	<u>948</u>	<u>936</u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 September 2016 nor for the year ended 30 September 2015.

Trustees' expenses

During the year, trustees' travelling expenses of £41 were reimbursed (2015 - £57).

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	51,206	8,000	59,206
Charitable activities			
Functions, events	6,329	-	6,329
Sale of books	37	-	37
Investment income	<u>19</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19</u>
Total	57,591	8,000	65,591
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Functions, events	2,457	-	2,457
Grants, donations	2,568	1,000	3,568
Capability Brown Celebrations Costs	-	445	445
Administration and governance	9,187	-	9,187
Other	<u>20</u>	<u>274</u>	<u>294</u>
Total	<u>14,232</u>	<u>1,719</u>	15,951
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	43,359	6,281	49,640

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	25,654	3,000	28,654
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>69,013</u>	<u>9,281</u>	<u>78,294</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Plant and machinery etc £
COST	
At 1 October 2015 and 30 September 2016	<u>1,032</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 October 2015	982
Charge for year	<u>10</u>
At 30 September 2016	<u>992</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 30 September 2016	<u>40</u>
At 30 September 2015	<u>50</u>

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2016 £	2015 £
Other debtors	<u>-</u>	<u>129</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2016 £	2015 £
Other creditors	<u>2,745</u>	<u>1,206</u>

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/10/15 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30/9/16 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	68,318	6,375	74,693
Yorkshire Gardens Trust Schools Project	<u>695</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>695</u>
	69,013	6,375	75,388
Restricted funds			
Yorkshire Gardens Trust Conservation and Education Fund	2,000	(2,000)	-
North Yorkshire County Council	1,226	(532)	694
Pursuit of Capability Brown celebrations in 2016 Fund	5,555	(5,555)	-
Joyce Hampshire Awards Grant	<u>500</u>	<u>(170)</u>	<u>330</u>
	9,281	(8,257)	1,024
	<u>9,281</u>	<u>(8,257)</u>	<u>1,024</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>78,294</u></u>	<u><u>(1,882)</u></u>	<u><u>76,412</u></u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	37,712	(31,337)	6,375
Restricted funds			
North Yorkshire County Council	-	(532)	(532)
Pursuit of Capability Brown celebrations in 2016 Fund	-	(5,555)	(5,555)
Joyce Hampshire Awards Grant	-	(170)	(170)
Yorkshire Gardens Trust Conservation and Education Fund	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>
	-	(8,257)	(8,257)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(8,257)</u>	<u>(8,257)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>37,712</u></u>	<u><u>(39,594)</u></u>	<u><u>(1,882)</u></u>

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Unrestricted funds

Yorkshire Gardens Trust Small Grant Fund is for conservation projects.

Yorkshire Gardens Trust Schools project is for schools gardening projects.

Restricted funds

A grant of £1,500 was received in 2015 from North Yorkshire County Council with the stipulation that the grant be applied for the research and recording purpose only.

A donation of £3,000 was received in 2014 specifically for conservation and education. This has been treated as a restricted donation.

The trust also received grants of £6,000 in 2015 with the stipulation that the grant be applied for the celebrations of 300th anniversary of Capability Brown.

The trust received a donation in 2015 of £500 for the Joyce Hampshire Awards Grant this is awards for schools but for the special provision of Gardener's Apprentice Tools suitable for young hands.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 30 September 2016.

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

	2016 £	2015 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Members subscriptions, donations	4,186	4,410
Legacies	-	46,223
Gift aid	1,805	543
Donations	17,336	530
Grants	<u>-</u>	<u>7,500</u>
	23,327	59,206
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	46	19
Charitable activities		
Functions, events	13,154	6,329
Sale of books	<u>1,185</u>	<u>37</u>
	<u>14,339</u>	<u>6,366</u>
Total incoming resources	37,712	65,591
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Functions, events	3,137	2,457
Capability Brown celebration costs	19,156	445
Northumberland Tour	4,567	-
Grants to institutions	<u>2,170</u>	<u>3,568</u>
	29,030	6,470
Support costs		
Management		
Research & Recording payments	532	294
Governance costs		
Travelling, meeting expenses	311	909
Insurance	225	225
Web design	500	-
Affiliation fee, subscription	498	534
Newsletter, printing, postage, stationery	2,714	2,763
Sundries	426	10
Secretary	4,410	3,810
Carried forward	9,084	8,251

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

	2016	2015
	£	£
Governance costs		
Brought forward	9,084	8,251
Accountancy	948	<u>936</u>
	<u>10,032</u>	<u>9,187</u>
Total resources expended	39,594	15,951
	_____	_____
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(1,882)</u>	<u>49,640</u>



Clockwise from Top – Rothley Lakes, Northumberland Weekend; Yorke House Garden; Hebdon Bridge School; Alnwick Estate Archives; Noble Prospects, Capability Brown Exhibition.