

**EAST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY
RAIL PARTNERSHIP**

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2023

EAST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

CONTENTS	PAGE
Officers and professional advisors	2
Chairman's Report	3
Independent examiners report	5
Income and expenditure account	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the financial statements	8

EAST LoTHIAN COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

COMPANY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

BOARD MEMBERS

H Barker (Chairman)
A Cosgrove (Secretary/Treasurer)
J Bell

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Paul A Ronan
G Spratt and Co
Abbeylands
20 High Street
Dunbar
EH42 1EH

BANKERS

Bank of Scotland
North Berwick Branch
23 Westgate
North Berwick
EH39 4AG

EAST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Review of the Business

In view of the fact that our credit balance has come from a number of sources, a formal allocation of the sources of these funds was produced last year in the interests of transparency (enclosed) and this has been updated this year on the spreadsheet. In this regard, please note that the £1,998.86 which we held as at 31/3/22 from ScotRail Abellio has subsequently been used on ScotRail's instructions towards the Prestonpans Mural project which has been funded by Cross Country Trains. (ScotRail were unable to fund this project as it straddled Abellio losing their franchise in April, 2022 and nationalisation with no replacement procedure being in place until June, 2022 for ScotRail funding). This amount had been allocated to be used for our administration costs during the year ending 2023 which totalled £1,311.02 and which we would normally have reclaimed from ScotRail. By the time ScotRail told us to use these funds for this purpose, it was too late to make a claim to have these reimbursed. Because the other Train Operating companies in our case Cross Country Trains and TransPennine Express – have no liability to meet these costs, and will not agree to these being allocated against them, and I have therefore had no option but to record these as a negative figure against ScotRail. This amount will be irrecoverable.

Activities and Achievements

The year has proved to be particularly busy with the Prestonpans Mural project where we commissioned four large murals to replace the existing weathered paintings, including a repanelling of the rotting woodwork. This was a large project and the voluntary time spent by the CRP on this amounted to over 200 voluntary hours in total – excluding the artists' time. The end result has proved to be very well received from all parties and has had significant publicity. The project has been entered for both a ScotRail Community Award and is shortlisted for the Project of the Year award. It has also been entered into the Community Rail Network's annual award scheme. The formal opening of the murals was held on 27 April 2023, and they have been exceptionally well received by all stakeholders, and have improved the ambience of the station considerably, and were featured in a special article in Modern Railways magazine.

We have also been working on a new line guide. Until COVID we produced an annual guide with ScotRail funding which latterly ran to around 13,000 copies, but this year's guide had to be a start from scratch job as the previous designer had retired and moved from the area, and also we required to include East Linton station due to be opened in 2024. The guide was produced in August 2023 and will feature in next year's report. We exceptionally funded a new planter at North Berwick station in spring 2022 on behalf of North Berwick in Bloom and we also provided £300 to the Sparkling Dunbar Festival. The line guide was funded by both ScotRail and Trans Pennine Express.

EAST LoTHIAN COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 - CONTINUED

Activities and Achievements (cont)

I am pleased to report that we remain financially sound, due to the continued support of both Cross Country Trains and TransPennine Express train operating companies. During the year we received no income from ScotRail, the opening balance of £1998.86 outstanding from ScotRail Abellio which had originally been earmarked for meeting our 2022/23 administration costs being used at their request towards the Prestonpans project, meaning that we received no funding for administration costs this accounting year and it is most unlikely these costs can be recovered. The funding from Cross Country Trains has enabled us to utilise the services of Get the Point Ltd. a Dunbar based company, to maintain and improve our website and other administrative tasks including design and production of the Line Guide.

A new constitution was approved at our AGM in November 2022 and I am pleased to advise that the CRP is in good health. The only note of caution is that of succession to key management positions. The time involved in running the CRP is substantial and in England and Wales all CRPs have part time employees to assist in this essential activity. At present, without this in Scotland, it seems most unlikely that we will be able to attract successors to the current team should they decide to retire. This has been raised before but the status quo remains but if nobody can be found in such circumstances the future of the CRP will be seriously at risk.

Finally I wish to record a 'thank you' to all who have assisted in the running of the CRP during the past year, in particular Allison Cosgrove and Jacqui Bell.

Harry Barker, Chair, East Lothian Community Rail Partnership.

20 November, 2023

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
EAST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 set out on pages 6 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner

The ELCRP board are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and maintaining proper books and records. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Board concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of 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; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records.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.

Paul A Ronan,
G Spratt and Co
Chartered Accountants
Abbeylands
20 High Street
Dunbar
EH42 1EH

20 November, 2023

EAST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2022 £	2023 £
INCOME:			
Grants received		7,743	12,069
		_____	_____
TOTAL INCOME		7,743	12,069
		_____	_____
EXPENDITURE:			
Insurance		495	537
Project Expenses		6,650	10,662
Miscellaneous Expenses		72	252
Accountancy Fees (including examination)		450	420
Travel		76	198
		_____	_____
		7,743	12,069
		_____	_____
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) BEFORE TAXATION		-	-
Taxation	2	-	-
		_____	_____
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) BEFORE TAXATION		-	-
		=====	=====

The notes on pages 7 to 9 form part of these financial statements

EAST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2022 £	2023 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at Bank		22,427	19,916
		_____	_____
		22,427	19,916
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	3	22,427	19,916
		_____	_____
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		-	-
		_____	_____
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		-	-
		=====	=====
REPRESENTED BY:			
Surplus brought forward		-	-
Surplus for the year		-	-
		_____	_____
Surplus carried forward		-	-
		_____	_____

The accounts were approved by the Board on 20 November, 2023 and are signed by me on behalf of the Board and to signify the Boards acknowledgement of responsibilities referred to in the accountant's report and independent examiners report.

.....
Harry Barker
Chair

EAST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Grant Income

Grants are recognised in the income and expenditure statement on a systematic basis over the periods in which the entity recognises expenses for the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate.

Grants Promised

Grants promised are treated only as contingent liabilities when there is no certainty that the potential recipients will fulfil conditions and apply for payment.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the entity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of expenditure to which it relates.

Taxation

Taxation for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the Income Statement, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Current or deferred taxation assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Current tax is recognised at the amount of tax payable using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date.

Going concern

The Board consider there is no material uncertainties about the East Lothian Community Rail Partnership's ability to continue as a going concern. The Board's going concern assessment includes the expected impact of COVID-19 to the entity for a period of a least 12 months from the date of signing of these financial statements. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

EAST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 – CONTINUED

2. TAXATION

Analysis of the tax charge

	2022 £	2023 £
Current tax:		
UK Corporation Tax	-	-
Deferred tax	-	-
	_____	_____
Tax on Surplus	-	-
	=====	=====

3. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2023 £
Accruals	396	420
Deferred Income	22,031	19,496
	_____	_____
	22,427	19,916
	=====	=====

