

The City of Rochester Society

The Annual General Meeting of the City of Rochester Society

will be held at

THE GUILDHALL, HIGH STREET, ROCHESTER

on

WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE 2023

at 7.30 for 8.00 pm

Please bring this booklet with you to the AGM. It contains:

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 54th Annual General Meeting of the City of Rochester Society will be held in the Court Room of the Guildhall Museum, High Street, Rochester at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday 28 June 2023.

A G E N D A

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 29 June 2022 and to consider any matters arising from that meeting which are not covered elsewhere on this agenda. A copy of the minutes accompanies this agenda.
3. To receive the report of the Executive Committee for the year 2022/23, a copy of which also accompanies this agenda, and to discuss any matters arising from it.
4. To approve the accounts for the financial year 2022/23.
5. To elect a President of the Society.
6. To elect the officers of the Society: -
 - (i) Chairman;
 - (ii) Vice Chairman;
 - (iii) Honorary Treasurer;
 - (iv) Honorary Secretaryincluding holding ballots if necessary.
7. To elect up to seven members of the Executive Committee including the holding of a ballot if necessary.
8. Any other business, during which members may raise points for discussion upon any aspect of the Society's activities or policies.

Addendums to the Agenda

Item 4 above: A summary of the accounts forms part of the Executive Committee's report. Copies of the final accounts, which will be presented for members' approval at the AGM, may be obtained after 1st June from the Hon Treasurer, Jean Skilling at the address given in the Society's Newsletter or by email: Jean.Skilling@blueyonder.co.uk

Item 6 above: **Nominations for election as an officer of the Society are invited.** Any member wishing to be considered for election as an officer of the Society should complete the enclosed nomination paper, indicating which post they are standing for, and return it to the Secretary at the address or email address given in the Society's Newsletter to arrive no later than two days before the AGM.

Item 7 above: **Nominations for membership of the Executive Committee are invited.** Any member wishing to be considered for election to the Executive Committee should complete the enclosed nomination paper, indicating which post they are standing for, and return it to the Secretary at the address or email address given in the Society's Newsletter to arrive no later than two days before the AGM.

Item 8 above: If members wish to raise matters of substance requiring the gathering of information it would be helpful if they could advise the Secretary in writing in advance of the meeting.

**Minutes of the 53rd Annual General Meeting of the City of Rochester Society
held in the Court Room of the Guildhall Museum, High Street, Rochester
at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday 29 June 2022**

The number present at the meeting was 37. The President and the Chairman were unable to attend and the Vice Chairman, Paul Anderson, conducted the meeting in their absence. He was ably supported by Vice President, John Allison. It is hoped to return to the practice of inviting special guests again next year.

The Vice Chairman welcomed members and outlined the course of events for the evening.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from the following members:

Rob Flood, Elaine Gardner, Bob Howe, Angela Howe, Alan Moss, Pam Moss, Andy Ratcliffe, Simon Shreeve, Cllr. Stuart Tranter.

2. Minutes of the first Special General Meeting held on 13 October 2021

The minutes of the first Special General Meeting held on Wednesday 13 October 2021 were within the booklet containing the Annual Report which had been circulated to members. The minutes were agreed as a true record, duly endorsed and signed by the Vice Chairman.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Annual Report of the Executive Committee

The Annual Report had been distributed in conjunction with the May *Newsletter*. It was endorsed by members present and signed by the Vice Chairman.

5. Finance

The accounts for the year 2021/22, which had been signed off by the independent examiners, were presented by the Treasurer. The Treasurer remarked that the Society continued to benefit greatly from income received from the craft fairs. The proposals that the end of the financial year should be altered from the end of March to the end of September and that the Society's independent examiners should be changed to the firm of Aggarwal & Co. of London Road, Rainham were duly endorsed by members.

The Treasurer added that she would be standing down at the end of the current financial year and invited members interested in succeeding her to make contact as soon as possible.

6. The President and Society Officers

The Executive Committee had proposed that Alan Moss should be invited to remain as President of the Society for a further year and this proposal was unanimously agreed. The four

officers of the Executive Committee, who will also act as Society Trustees, are:

Chairman: Rob Flood
Vice Chairmen: Paul Anderson
Honorary Treasurer: Jean Skilling
Honorary Secretary: Christine Furminger

Five other members were appointed to the Executive Committee for the coming year:

Odette Buchanan
Terry Clennell
Martin Dodsworth
James O'Donoghue
Ian Smith.

7. Any other business

Society Reorganisation

It was reported that the Executive Committee was holding discussions on behalf of the Society regarding reorganisation and assessment, which were being overseen by Terry Clennell. This project had begun with a series of Zoom meetings and it was proposed that membership views would be sought in due course.

Members meetings

The Secretary apologised for the fact that members' meetings were not being arranged at present. She was moving back to the area shortly and would then be in a better position to organise these but more assistance was needed from members to assist with duties such as setting up and providing refreshments and it was hoped to organise a rota of helpers.

Rochester Craft Fairs

John Allison gave a speech of thanks on behalf of the President and Chairman at the close of business. He thanked Paul Anderson for stepping into the breach and conducting the meeting with great ability. He also thanked the Executive committee for their hard work during difficult times and Rosemary Clemence for continuing her vital role as Membership Secretary. He particularly emphasised the Society's gratitude to Ian Smith for running the increasingly successful craft fairs which continued to support and maintain the Society's healthy bank balance. Ian was stepping down from his role as Craft Fair Organiser at Christmas but thankfully a successor had at last been found and a handover period was due to begin.

There being no further business, the meeting drew to a close and members re-grouped in the Members Room, adjoining the Court Hall, to enjoy an opportunity to socialise with the aid of a raffle organised by Eileen Allison and light refreshments organised by Sarah and Paul Anderson.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SOCIETY

2022/23

President: Alan Moss

Vice-Presidents:

John Allison Derek Barnard Robert Howe Colin Whyman

Executive Committee – 2022/23

Chairman: Rob Flood

Vice-Chairman: Paul Anderson

Treasurer: Jean Skilling

Secretary: Christine Furminger

Odette Buchanan
Terry Clennell

Martin Dodsworth
Ian Smith

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Introduction

This report of the Society's activities over the past year is presented for members' approval. Any matters concerning the report should be addressed to:

The Secretary, 165 High Street, Halling, Rochester, Kent ME2 1BT

- 1. Chairman's Report** **Rob Flood**
- 1.1** Welcome to our 2022-23 annual reports. I hope that many of you will find the time to read through and we always welcome your comments.
- 1.2** Although the early part of 2022 saw the official end of Covid restrictions, we are still feeling the effects of the restrictions in some quarters and have seen a marked decrease in the numbers of our members stepping forward to volunteer.
- 1.3** Executive committee member Terry Clennell (also the Chair of the Friends of Rochester Churchfields and Esplanade) has continued his work looking at the purpose and scope of the Society and our activities. We expect to consult with the wider membership at some point over the forthcoming year.
- 1.4** I was delighted that the Summer Dickens and Dickensian Christmas Festivals were able to take place again. My gratitude goes to Ian Smith and John Allison for their sterling work in ensuring the Craft Fair was a success, especially the Christmas fair where visitor numbers were at record levels.
- 1.5** As reported at last year's AGM, Ian Smith notified the Executive committee that the Christmas 2022 Craft Fair would be the last he will run as Craft Fair Organiser. Unfortunately, the person we hoped would be Ian's replacement has not been able to take on the role, so we find ourselves in the position of potentially being unable to facilitate the Craft Fairs in future. Ian has kindly stepped up to the plate for the 2023 summer and Christmas fairs.
- 1.6** The Craft Fair is a massively important part of the Society and creates most of the income that enables us to fulfil our charitable purposes as well as keep membership fees artificially low. So, I am appealing to our wider membership to find a person or persons who can take up the job. Please do contact me on info@city-of-rochester.org.uk if you're interested and would like further details.
- 1.7** If you think you may be able to assist, perhaps for a morning or afternoon - just an hour or two will be most useful - either before, during or after the event - please do get in touch with any member of the Executive committee. All and any help will be gratefully received. The Craft Fair is by far our biggest cash generator and allows us to do all the great things we do.
- 1.8** My thanks go to Christine who under very trying circumstances has managed to organise some great members meetings. I know these have not been as frequent as previously and some have been at relatively short notice but if you've managed to make it along to the Rochester Bridge Trust to listen to the brilliant Sue Threader or to hear Dr Jeremy Clarke talking about the Guildhall's Dickens collection, you'll know what a delight

these meetings are. Now that Christine is local('ish) again, I know she's working on a more extensive programme and we appreciate your support of these events.

- 1.9 I've continued to attend Civic Voice's excellent Zoom seminars around planning and design, and I hope we can take a greater role in the CV movement in the next year.
- 1.10 We've continued to participate, as the Society, with Medway Council and have taken a leading role within the Chatham Intra High Street Heritage Action Zone Area, half of which is in Rochester.
- 1.11 The Society continues to run free walking tours of Historic Rochester and my thanks goes to both John Bradshaw (open walks) and Martin Dodsworth (booked tours) and to our superb team of volunteer guides who continued their excellent work throughout the year. In March, John organised a brilliant 'Guides Day' at the Medway Archives Centre. This was followed by a fascinating tour of the English Martyr's Church in Frindsbury. Special thanks go to James O'Donoghue, press and publicity officer for the Tours sub-committee, for his sterling work spreading the word.
- 1.12 I'm delighted that we were able to resurrect our Conservation Award. Having postponed the award for Covid, this year we decided to present two awards for their outstanding contribution to conservation in Rochester over the previous 12 months. The first of these goes to Chatham House at 351 Rochester High Street. The exterior of the building has been restored to its Georgian splendour and is a tribute to the Featherstone family, Historic England, and Medway Council. The second award goes to the Rochester Bridge Trust for their stunning restoration of the Bridge Chapel and Chamber at 5 The Esplanade.
- 1.13 Once again, a big 'thank you' must go to our President and Newsletter Editor, Alan Moss. As ever, Alan has remained indefatigable in his approach and has produced great copies of our much-loved Newsletter against all the odds. Thanks also go to Phil Dodd for pulling the Society's 2023 calendar together.
- 1.14 I've been pleased to represent the Society at Medway Champions meetings and on the Steering Committee and Cultural Consortium for the Intra High Street Heritage Action Zone Area. We once again sponsored the 2022 Medway Open Studios event.
- 1.15 I would like to express my sincere thanks to Jean Skilling who is standing down as Treasurer at this AGM. Jean is a wonderfully skilled (no pun intended) accountant, and the Society has been in safe hands financially under her guidance.
- 1.16 Last, but by no means least, I want to express a debt of gratitude to everyone on the Executive committee. The energy and commitment of everyone involved continues to amaze and encourage me.

Reports of sub-committees and officers

2. Festivals sub-committee

Ian Smith

- 2.1 This last Christmas I have been advised by Medway Council that 245,000 people

attended Rochester for the Christmas Market, Craft Fair, etc. The Council are saying that it was the most successful Christmas event they had ever put on.

- 2.2 As usual the Craft Fair played its part and this year we were virtually 100% full on all three weekends. We had several stall holders attending for the first time and all were impressed with our professionalism in the way we issued invites and ran the whole event.
- 2.3 We had our usual variety of stalls including three charity stalls and all stall holders did as well if not better than in previous years.
- 2.4 You will have seen in the February Newsletter a photo of the presentation that was made to me by the stall holders, as this was my last Craft Fair in charge. I hand the batten over to James Gray who will be running the event in 2023.
- 2.5 I would like to thank those members of the Society who have helped me over the years as this event has grown from one weekend in the moat of Rochester Castle to three weekends.

3. Finance & General Purposes sub-committee **Rob Flood**

- 3.1 This sub-committee comprises the Society's Trustees (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary). The Trustees have remained in regular contact this year, via both email and telephone, to discuss matters of finance and issues which do not fit easily into other categories. Recommendations or proposals may be put to the Executive committee from time to time as a result of such discussions.

4. Planning sub-committee **Paul Anderson**

- 4.1 This report covers the period from the last annual report, i.e. from August 2022 to March 2023. I am pleased to record that the Planning sub-committee has been reformed after Covid and is meeting regularly once again after a period "in limbo" over lockdown.
- 4.2 The sub-committee has benefited from some new and relatively new additional members, namely Nina Robinson and Chris Webb, on top of the experienced team of Alan Moss, John Hill and Chris Furminger. Nina brings deep knowledge of the St Margaret's Banks area of Rochester, and Chris Webb has huge experience of the towns, with a focus on licensing. With the ongoing development of the commercial centre of Rochester, deep knowledge of licensing is a vital skill to have on the sub-committee.
- 4.3 As previously, members of the sub-committee have a specific focus on the planning proposals that impinge on "our" area – in effect within what was the old City of Rochester wards. The aim is to give constructive feedback to planning proposals and consultations, so as to best preserve and enhance our city for current and future inhabitants and visitors.
- 4.4 Over the last year, there have been a number of high-profile developments that have gone to planning, some of which have been subsequently changed, then resubmitted, etc. Where appropriate the sub-committee has formed a view and written a formal

response to Medway Council for consideration. The major proposals we have considered this year have been the Bardell Wharf development and the Grays Garage development. The lack of enforcement of the “Planning Violation” at the City Wall Wine Bar has also been pursued. Feedback has also been submitted regarding shopfront planning at the Chicken Shop (opposite Eastgate House) and regarding music and alcohol licensing at the relocated Chuck and Blade burger restaurant opposite the George Vaults.

- 4.5 Other important items that have been discussed have been the on-going derelict state of Rochester Pier, and the importance of getting the Society involved in the development of the Draft River Strategy which was due to be developed by Medway Council.
- 4.6 With a recent change in political leadership at Medway Council - the Portfolio Holders are yet to be announced at the time of writing - the next few years promise to be interesting for the Planning sub-committee.
- 4.7 Finally, once again it was a duty of the sub-committee to consider potential schemes for the annual City of Rochester Society Conservation Awards. This year, two developments really stood out – the Bridge Chapel and Chamber restoration on the Esplanade, and the Chatham House renovation in the Old High Street, Intra. The sub-committee found it really difficult to choose between the two developments and was therefore delighted to recommend both schemes to the Executive committee for an award this year.

5. Publishing, Publicity and Events sub-committee **Rob Flood**

- 5.1 The Publishing, Publicity and Events sub-committee met on a few occasions this year. Alan Moss has continued to work tirelessly to bring us our quarterly Newsletter, ably assisted by our printer Jon Barker.
- 5.2 With thanks to Philip Dodd, we managed to publish our excellent calendar. The 2023 theme celebrated our wonderful team of volunteer tour guides and our 40+ years of running free guided tours of Rochester.
- 5.3 We are currently working on the publication of a superb new book called ‘Hidden Histories – The Stories of 100 Medway Women’ by Medway Archives Centre Senior Archivist Helen Worthy. This a wonderful piece of work and I hope that it will be available to purchase at the AGM.

6. Tours sub-committee **Martin Dodsworth**

- 6.1 This was our first full season since 2019 and we were once again able to offer open tours from April to October plus the Dickens Christmas Festival. We continue with the model we have had for many years of free open tours on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays with a voluntary donation at the end. In 2022 we guided 514 people on these tours and raised £1,728 for the Society.
- 6.2 Our booked tours, still at £5 per person, have been more affected by Covid and groups have been noticeably smaller with a clear reluctance on the part of many organisations to arrange for days out. Brexit has inevitably been incredibly negative for us and we

have lost all the European schools and colleges with which we had built up annual visits over the years. The booked tours had 389 customers and raised £1,475 for the Society.

6.3 We have continued to support the raising of funds for the Dickens Chalet Fund and special tours included a factual tour of "*Dickens and Rochester*" and a tour on "*The Mystery of Edwin Drood*".

6.4 A new venture, which we hope to repeat, was a tour of the forts of the Medway Towns. This was devised by John Bradshaw, and on what proved to be the hottest day of the year a small, intrepid group walked the 10 miles to visit 7 of the Georgian and Victorian forts!

7. Members' meetings

Christine Furminger

7.1 Organising members' meetings has not proved as straightforward as I hoped this year. By the time you read this, I hope some of you will have enjoyed two recent visits to the Bridge Chapel for talks. The first, on 27 March, featured Dr Jeremy Clarke, Education Officer at the Guildhall Museum who gave us "*An introduction to highlights and features of the new Charles Dickens Exhibition*".

7.2 On 16 May, Mrs Sue Threader, well known to Society members as the Bridge Clerk and Chief Executive of Rochester Bridge Trust, talked to us on "*The History of the Rochester Bridge Trust*". Sue always finds further interesting details to extend our knowledge of this aspect of Rochester's early development.

7.2 A further meeting, free to members, is booked on the afternoon of 10 October at the Bridge Chapel, with doors opening at 2.30 p.m. This is a new venture for Rochester Bridge Trust as well as for us! Sue Threader has invited members of her team (the Chief Finance Officer, the Chief Estates Officer and the Education Manager) to talk about their work in "*A year in the life of the Trust*", giving behind the scenes information on the running of this unique organisation. It promises to be really interesting, and there are still seats available – just give Alan Moss or me a call.

7.4 Beginning in September – and this is still a work in progress as I write – I plan for our meetings to take place at The Vines Church. The church hall stands to the rear of the original church in Crow Lane, previously known as the Belsey Hall. It has the benefit of a car park with an entrance from Victoria Street and The Terrace, an excellent kitchen, and a large screen (thus avoiding the need for our President to convey our own across town for future talks).

7.5 I have not forgotten about a coach trip, though I am finding coaches somewhat more expensive to hire for a group, particularly following all the upsets we have faced over the past few years. It may still happen and I do urge everyone to continue watching their copies of *Newsletter* for details of any upcoming event.

8. Treasurer

Jean Skilling

8.1 The new Independent Examiners have completed their work and no problems were identified. The layout of the accounts has been changed to comply with the latest

directions given by the Charity Commission.

- 8.2 We ended 2022 with a surplus of income over expenditure of £15,855.
- 8.3 The Craft Fairs held in 2022 raised £16,852 for Society funds.
- 8.4 Donations of £3,566 were received from our popular guided tours and £2,188 was received from the sale of publications.
- 8.5 With the exception of printing and posting our Newsletter, costs were similar to 2021.
- 8.6 The Society's investment in Scottish Widows is now included at market value (£40,948) rather than cost (£10,000) to comply with financial reporting standards.

9. Membership Secretary

Rosemary Clemence

- 9.1 Our membership number for the year is 465, one up on the previous year! This takes into account deaths, those moved away or who have not renewed their subscription. We had 26 new members including two juniors and several life members.
- 9.2 I always seem to send out quite a lot of letters to those members who have forgotten to renew their subscription and this is obviously costly to the Society. It would be far easier for the Treasurer if more people paid by standing order - a form is available. This would also mean you have one thing less to remember! If you have on-line banking, you can set up a standing order yourself by using the information provided. Whichever way you decide to help, please advise the Treasurer.

10. Society Grants

Jean Skilling

- 10.1 The Society was pleased to provide financial support during the 2022/23 year for two community projects.
- 10.2 We were able to assist Medway Open Studios with sponsorship in the sum of £750.00 for their Arts Festival. FoRCE (The Friends of Rochester, Churchfields & Esplanade) received a further sum of £1,500 to help complete a large garden project on Rochester Esplanade.

11. Website and Social Media

Rob Flood

- 11.1 The Society's on-line presence in 2022/2023 has continued to be an important way for the public to interact with us.
- 11.2 Our website - city-of-rochester.org.uk - continues to receive good traffic. James O'Donoghue is now helping with website updates.
- 11.3 Our MailChimp posts continue to be few and far between. This is a result of time pressures.

- 11.4 On Twitter, the Society's account @CORochesterSoc still sits at just over 2,700 followers.
- 11.5 Our Facebook account has grown again to 1,494 followers with 1,285 people liking the page.

Reports of Society representatives on other organisations

12. Civic Voice Rob Flood

- 12.1 The Society remains affiliated to Civic Voice, the umbrella organisation for civic societies, which was founded following the demise of the Civic Trust in 2009. Civic Voice has a significant role in the world of amenity societies and has a voice in Parliament through the All Party Parliamentary Group for Civic Societies.
- 12.2 Civic Voice has continued to offer remote talks in addition to actual meetings now that the pandemic has substantially subsided. I have recently been grateful to receive very useful advice from Ian Harvey (Chief Executive) when deciding whether or not to proceed towards attaining the status of Asset of Community Value for a local property.

13. Medway Tourism Association (MTA) James O'Donoghue

- 13.1 The Medway Tourism Association, incorporates a wide range of organisations engaged in the leisure and tourist industries in the Medway Towns. I assumed responsibility from our President, Alan Moss, as the Society's first face to attend a meeting of the MTA, post Covid-19, which took place on 17 May 2022.
- 13.2 I look forward to continued engagement with the MTA and to receiving minutes shortly together with the date for the next meeting.

14. Rochester City Centre Forum (RCCF) Alan Moss/Rob Flood

- 14.1 The Society continues to be represented at meetings of the RCCF, a non-political coming together of Rochester traders, community groups and residents to discuss the well-being of the city centre. The forum is chaired by Sarah Tranter, and the Society's Chairman is a member of the forum's management committee. If the Chairman has been unable to go along, the Society's President has attended in his stead.
- 14.2 Among the forum's initiatives has been the establishment of the monthly Rochester City Artisan Market, which is going from strength to strength, and the floral displays in the baskets and planters along the High Street.
- 14.3 The forum meetings provide an opportunity for members to hear from, and to question, representatives of bodies involved in, for example, law-enforcement, the care of the homeless and the licenced trade.

15. Dickens Chalet Stakeholder Group

Alan Moss

- 15.1** This group was set up in 2021 following Medway Council’s appointment of Rachel Kerr as the project co-ordinator for the repair and restoration of the Dickens Chalet. The group includes representatives of this Society, the Friends of Eastgate House and the Rochester and Chatham Dickens Fellowship.
- 15.2** Council funding for the restoration and long-term preservation of the chalet is being augmented by funds raised by the Dickens Fellowship and the Society. For this purpose, the Society is ring-fencing the income from its Dickens-themed specialised walking tours and from the proceeds of a book *Rochester – A Monument to Dickens?* written by Society member Geoff Ettridge, who is also a member of the Stakeholder Group.

.....
Secretary

.....
Chairman

.....2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SOCIETY

I report to the charity trustees ("the Executive committee") on my examination of the accounts of The City of Rochester Society ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on the following pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Executive committee of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the Executive committee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

I 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.

Richard Abel FCA CTA
Aggarwal & Co Ltd, Chartered Accountants
5 London Road
Rainham
Kent
ME8 7RG

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

| | Notes | 2022 | 2021 |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------|---------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| INCOME | | | |
| Income from charitable activities | | | |
| - Craft fairs | | 37,205 | 26,710 |
| - Subscriptions | | 2,895 | 2,860 |
| - Life membership | | 300 | 270 |
| - Income from meetings, outings, etc. | | 454 | |
| - Income from tours | | 3,566 | 2,205 |
| - Sale of publications | | 2,188 | 1,746 |
| | | 46,608 | 33,791 |
| Donations and legacies | | 380 | 118 |
| Investment income | | 115 | 3 |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 47,103 | 33,912 |
| EXPENDITURE | | | |
| Expenditure on charitable activities | | | |
| - Craft fairs | | 20,353 | 15,776 |
| - Costs of meetings and book club | | 484 | 26 |
| - Cost of tours | | 233 | - |
| - Publications | | 870 | 787 |
| - Newsletter printing | | 3,953 | 2,998 |
| - Grants and sponsorship | | 2,250 | 2,049 |
| | | 28,143 | 21,636 |
| Other costs | | | |
| - Committee and AGM expenses | | 1,123 | 993 |
| - Affiliations and subscriptions | | 554 | 571 |
| - Insurance | | 75 | 285 |
| - Website costs and amortisation | | 663 | 144 |
| - Independent examiner's fee | | 510 | 450 |
| - Other costs | | 180 | 232 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | 31,248 | 24,311 |
| NET INCOME | | 15,855 | 9,601 |
| Loss on revaluation of investments (2021 : profit) | 6 | (2,016) | 32,964 |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | 13,839 | 42,565 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 90,970 | 48,405 |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | | 104,809 | 90,970 |

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities and are unrestricted

funds.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

| | Notes | 2022 | 2021 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| FIXED ASSETS | | | |
| - Intangible fixed assets | 7 | 1,000 | 1,500 |
| - Investments | 8 | <u>40,948</u> | <u>42,964</u> |
| | | <u>41,948</u> | <u>44,464</u> |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| - Stocks | | 4,824 | 5,457 |
| - Debtors and prepayments | | 305 | 302 |
| - Investments - cash equivalents on deposit | | 9,221 | 9,213 |
| - Cash at bank and in hand | | <u>51,379</u> | <u>49,135</u> |
| | | <u>65,729</u> | <u>64,107</u> |
| CREDITORS: amounts falling due within 1 year | | | |
| - Creditors and accrued expenses | | 598 | 428 |
| - Deferred income | | <u>2,270</u> | <u>17,173</u> |
| | | <u>2,868</u> | <u>17,601</u> |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | 62,861 | 46,506 |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | <u>104,809</u> | <u>90,970</u> |
| FUNDS OF THE CHARITY | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | | |
| - General funds | 9 | 101,802 | 89,650 |
| - Designated funds | 9 | <u>3,007</u> | <u>1,320</u> |
| TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS | | <u>104,809</u> | <u>90,970</u> |

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Executive Committee on 31st May 2023 and signed on their behalf

Mr R Flood
Chairman

Mrs J Skilling
Treasurer

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

The City of Rochester Society is an unincorporated association registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The Charity's registered number and registered office address can be found within the Trustees' Report.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)", Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the inclusion of investments at fair value.

(b) Going Concern

When preparing the financial statements, the Trustees have assessed whether there are significant doubts about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. There are no material uncertainties of which the Trustees are aware in making their assessment.

The Trustees consider that the charity has sufficient cash reserves to enable it to meet its obligations as they fall due for a period of at least 12 months from the date of signing of these financial statements. As such, the Trustees are satisfied that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future and they continue to adopt the going concern basis for preparing these financial statements.

(c) Income and debtors

Voluntary income, which includes donations, gifts and legacies, and fundraising income are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Life subscriptions are taken to income at £10 per member per year, the balance of monies received being carried forward to future years as deferred income.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis and arises from interest bearing deposit accounts.

Income from charitable activities includes monies for the Society's craft fairs, subscriptions, tours, meetings and sale of the Society's publications. All amounts exclude value added tax.

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(d) Volunteers and donated services and facilities

No value is incorporated into these financial statements for the services provided by volunteers or where services are provided to the charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from suppliers.

(e) Expenditure and liabilities

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Grant payments are recognised when a liability or constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being unavoidable.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income.

Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the Society's craft fairs, tours, meetings and newsletters.

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for good or services it must provide.

(f) Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

(g) Other financial instruments

The charity enters into basic financial instruments that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other accounts receivable and payable, loans to and from banks, and other third parties. Basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost, with changes recognised in the statement of financial activities.

(h) Intangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided on all intangible fixed assets at a rate calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life, which is deemed to be three years.

(i) Stocks

Stocks are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Stocks consists of publications for resale.

(j) Funds structure

The charity has no restricted funds. Some of the unrestricted income funds have been designated to be for special purposes by the Executive committee.

3. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits for the current or preceding year.

4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There are no related party transactions in the current year or previous year.

5. TAXATION

The Society is a registered charity and no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

6. REVALUATION ADJUSTMENT

In the annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 the OEIC fund

investments were carried at cost of £10,000. The accounting policy has been changed for this year to 31 December 2022 to comply with FRS102 to include them at fair value. Accordingly, the statement of financial activities for the year to 31 December 2021 has been restated to include £32,964 as the gain to that date. The current year loss of £2,016 reflects the fall in value of the investment due to stock market conditions.

7. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

| | | |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| Website costs | £ | |
| Cost - at 1 January and 31 December 2022 | <u>1,500</u> | |
| Depreciation | | |
| - at 1 January 2022 | | - |
| Charge for year | <u>500</u> | |
| - at 31 December 2022 | <u>500</u> | |
| Net book values | | |
| - at 31 December 2022 | <u>1,000</u> | |
| - at 31 December 2021 | <u>1,500</u> | |

8. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

| | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | 2022 | 2021 |
| | £ | £ |
| Market value at beginning of the year | 42,964 | 10,000 |
| Net loss on revaluation (2021 : gains) | <u>(2,016)</u> | <u>32,964</u> |
| Market value at end of year | <u>40,948</u> | <u>42,964</u> |

Investment comprises a global growth OEIC fund.

9. STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

| | General funds £ | Designated funds £ | Total £ |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Balance at 1 January 2022 | 89,650 | 1,320 | 90,970 |
| Income | 45,413 | 1,690 | 47,103 |
| Expenditure | (31,245) | (3) | (31,248) |
| Loss on investments | <u>(2,016)</u> | - | <u>(2,016)</u> |
| Balance at 31 December 2022 | <u>101,802</u> | <u>3,007</u> | <u>104,809</u> |

The funds held at the year-end date are as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Fixed assets | 41,948 | - | 41,948 |
| Cash | 48,372 | 3,007 | 51,379 |
| Net other current assets | <u>11,482</u> | - | <u>11,482</u> |
| Total funds | <u>101,802</u> | <u>3,007</u> | <u>104,809</u> |

The designated funds are held in relation to repairs or conservation work to the Dickens' Swiss Chalet, which is situated currently in the gardens of Eastgate House, Rochester. The Executive committee have decided that sales of a particular publication and special tours should be set aside for such purpose.

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SOCIETY

RULES AND CONSTITUTION

Charity Registration No 252603

June 2017

RULES AND CONSTITUTION OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SOCIETY

- 1. Name.** The name of the Society shall be “The City of Rochester Society”.
- 2. Objectives.** The objectives of the Society shall be to promote:
 - (a) public interest in and care for the beauty, history and character of Rochester and its surroundings;
 - (b) the development of a live, modern community, with the highest standards of architecture and planning;
 - (c) interest in cultural activities;
 - (d) the re-instatement of Rochester’s city status;
 - (e) other features of general amenity, including preservation, conservation and education, for the benefit of both residents and visitors; and to do all such lawful acts and things as are incidental to the attainment of the objectives of the Society. It may, if it deems it fit, do such acts or things in conjunction with any person, body, institution, authority or otherwise.
- 3. Membership.** Membership of the Society shall be open to all who are interested in the aims of the Society and shall be in the following categories: life membership, yearly membership (adult), yearly membership (junior) – for those under 19 years of age), yearly membership (corporate). Membership shall lapse if the full subscription is unpaid by 31st July in the relevant year. The executive committee may also elect honorary members as it deems appropriate. Honorary members shall not be required to pay a subscription.
- 4. Subscription.** The rate of subscription shall be as recommended by the executive committee and approved by a majority of members present at an annual or special general meeting. A new member joining the Society and paying the first subscription between 1st January and 31st March in any year shall not be required to pay a further subscription until 1st April in the following year. Otherwise, all yearly membership subscriptions shall be renewed on 1st April. The Society shall have power to accept donations for any purpose not inconsistent with its aims.
- 5. Meetings.** An annual general meeting shall be held, on a date appointed by the executive committee, between 1st May and 30th June of each year, to receive the executive committee’s report and audited accounts and to elect members of the said committee. The committee shall decide when members meetings of the Society shall be held and shall give at least fourteen days’ notice of such meetings to all members.

Special general meetings of the Society shall be held at the request of ten or more members. Thirty members personally present shall constitute a quorum for a general meeting of the Society. Corporate members shall be entitled to send two delegates, each delegate entitled to one vote, to the annual or special general meeting of the Society.

- 6. Management of the Society.** The management of the Society shall be vested in an executive committee consisting of a chairman, vice-chairman, honorary treasurer and honorary secretary and up to seven other members.

The executive committee may appoint other members of the society to serve on the executive committee, but without voting rights.

The executive committee may also appoint other members of the society as officers, in addition to those defined above, but without voting rights. The executive committee shall decide whether such additional officers shall be required to attend meetings of the executive committee.

Five members of the committee shall constitute a quorum provided that one of that number is an officer of the Society.

The chairman, vice chairman, honorary treasurer and honorary secretary shall constitute the trustees of the society.

- 7. Committee.** The Society shall, at every annual general meeting, elect individually the four officers as defined in rule 6 and up to seven other members to constitute the committee for the ensuing year. The executive committee shall take office at the end of the meeting at which they are elected and shall hold office until the end of the next annual general meeting.

Members of the executive committee may be re-elected for a further term or terms of office, save for the four elected officers, as qualified in rule 8.

The executive committee shall determine the upper spending limit that each of the sub-committees defined in rule 9 may be permitted to spend on their own authority on individual purchases and transactions, though not as a component of a project or item which would in total exceed the permitted upper limit of spending.

- 8. Election of officers.** The chairman, vice chairman, honorary treasurer and honorary secretary shall serve for a period of time not exceeding the following:

Chairman and vice-chairman – three years;
Honorary treasurer – seven years;
Honorary secretary – five years.

If a nomination for any of the above positions is not forthcoming before the date of the annual general meeting, the above periods of office may be extended by a maximum of two years, subject to the approval of the annual general meeting.

Members of the society who have served the permitted continuous period in any of the elected offices and are therefore debarred for re-nomination will qualify for nomination to that office after a period of at least two years.

The chairman, vice chairman, honorary treasurer and honorary secretary shall form the finance and general purposes sub-committee of the executive committee and shall meet as required. It shall have authority to spend society funds when such a decision cannot await the next meeting of the executive committee.

9. Sub-committees. The executive committee shall create the following sub-committees for the efficient running of the society:

- Planning;
- Members meetings/events;
- Tours;
- Publications, Publicity and Promotions;
- Festivals.

The minimum size of respective sub-committees shall be three and each sub-committee may co-opt other members of the society who have special interests or skills which are deemed to be of benefit to the society, subject to the approval of the executive committee.

At its first meeting following the annual general meeting, the executive committee shall appoint an elected member of the executive committee to each sub-committee.

There shall be no limit on the number of sub-committees upon which an elected member of the executive committee or a member of the society may serve.

The chairman of the society shall be an ex-officio member of all sub-committees.

Each sub-committee shall elect its own chairman at its first meeting following the annual general meeting.

An elected member of the executive committee from each sub-committee shall report to the executive committee, usually in writing, on significant issues or when an executive committee decision is required. In the event that an elected member of the executive committee who is a member of the sub-committee is not available, then a substitute may attend and report to the executive committee, but without voting rights.

The executive committee may create working groups as necessary to undertake specific projects.

- 10. Election of President and Vice-Presidents.** A president may be elected at a general meeting of the Society. He or she shall serve in that capacity for a period of one year and shall be eligible for re-election for one or more further terms. One or more vice-presidents may be elected at a general meeting of the Society. Such vice-presidents shall be elected for life. The president and vice-presidents shall not be required to pay a subscription.
- 11. Appeals.** The executive committee shall have the power to make appeals, solicit donations and canvass monies for carrying out the objectives of the Society.
- 12. Expenses and administration.** The executive committee shall, out of monies received by the Society, pay all proper expenses for the management of the Society and shall use the residue of such monies as it thinks fit for or towards the objectives of the Society.
- 13. Investments.** All monies belonging to the Society at any time which are not immediately required for Society purposes shall be invested by the Trustees on behalf of the Society in such investments, securities or property as they consider fit, always complying with the requirements of the Charity Commission.
- 14. Borrowing.** The executive committee may borrow for the objectives of the Society such monies at such rate of interest and in such a manner as it may think fit, provided that the consent of a general meeting of the Society shall first be obtained.
- 15. Amendments.** The constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members present at an annual or special general meeting provided that ten days' notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to all members and provided that nothing therein contained shall authorise any amendment permitting the expenditure of funds of the Society on any object which is not a charitable object at law.
- 16. Winding up.** In the event of the winding up of the Society the available funds of the Society shall be transferred to such one or more charitable bodies, having objectives similar or reasonably similar to those herein before declared as may be chosen by the executive committee and approved by the Charity Commission.

Explanatory note

(This note does not form part of the Rules and Constitution)

The City of Rochester Society was founded in 1967. Its area of interest is that of the City of Rochester as it existed immediately prior to the reorganisation of local government in 1974, which may be described as the urban area of Rochester and Strood.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SOCIETY**

I report to the charity trustees ("the Executive committee") on my examination of the accounts of The City of Rochester Society ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on the following pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Executive committee of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Executive committee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

I 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.

Richard Abel FCA CTA
Aggarwal & Co Ltd
Chartered Accountants

5 London Road
Rainham
Gillingham
Kent, ME8 7RG

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

| | Notes | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| INCOME | | | |
| Income from charitable activities | | | |
| - Craft fairs | | 37,205 | 26,710 |
| - Subscriptions | | 2,895 | 2,860 |
| - Life membership | | 300 | 270 |
| - Income from meetings, outings, etc. | | 454 | - |
| - Income from tours | | 3,566 | 2,205 |
| - Sale of publications | | 2,188 | 1,746 |
| | | <u>46,608</u> | <u>33,791</u> |
| Donations and legacies | | 380 | 118 |
| Investment income | | 115 | 3 |
| TOTAL INCOME | | <u><u>47,103</u></u> | <u><u>33,912</u></u> |
| EXPENDITURE | | | |
| Expenditure on charitable activities | | | |
| - Craft fairs | | 20,353 | 15,776 |
| - Costs of meetings and book club | | 484 | 26 |
| - Cost of tours | | 233 | - |
| - Publications | | 870 | 787 |
| - Newsletter printing | | 3,953 | 2,998 |
| - Grants and sponsorship | | 2,250 | 2,049 |
| | | <u>28,143</u> | <u>21,636</u> |
| Other costs | | | |
| - Committee and AGM expenses | | 1,123 | 993 |
| - Affiliations and subscriptions | | 554 | 571 |
| - Insurance | | 75 | 285 |
| - Website costs and amortisation | | 663 | 144 |
| - Independent examiner's fee | | 510 | 450 |
| - Other costs | | 180 | 232 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | <u><u>31,248</u></u> | <u><u>24,311</u></u> |
| NET INCOME | | 15,855 | 9,601 |
| Loss on revaluation of investments (2021 : profit) | 6 | (2,016) | 32,964 |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | <u>13,839</u> | <u>42,565</u> |
| Total funds brought forward | | 90,970 | 48,405 |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | | <u><u>104,809</u></u> | <u><u>90,970</u></u> |

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities and are unrestricted funds.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements.

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

| | Notes | 2022 | | 2021 | |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| FIXED ASSETS | | | | | |
| Intangible fixed assets | 7 | | 1,000 | | 1,500 |
| Investments | 8 | | 40,948 | | 42,964 |
| | | | <u>41,948</u> | | <u>44,464</u> |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | |
| Stocks | | 4,824 | | 5,457 | |
| Debtors and prepayments | | 305 | | 302 | |
| Investments - cash equivalents on deposit | | 9,221 | | 9,213 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 51,379 | | 49,135 | |
| | | <u>65,729</u> | | <u>64,107</u> | |
| CREDITORS: amounts falling due within | | | | | |
| Creditors and accrued expenses | | 598 | | 428 | |
| Deferred income | | 2,270 | | 17,173 | |
| | | <u>2,868</u> | | <u>17,601</u> | |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | 62,861 | | 46,506 |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | <u>104,809</u> | | <u>90,970</u> |
| FUNDS OF THE CHARITY | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| - General funds | 9 | | 101,802 | | 89,650 |
| - Designated funds | 9 | | 3,007 | | 1,320 |
| TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS | | | <u>104,809</u> | | <u>90,970</u> |

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Executive Committee on

2023 and signed on their behalf

Mrs J Skilling

Treasurer

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SOCIETY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 STATUTORY INFORMATION

The City of Rochester Society is an unincorporated association registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The Charity's registered number and registered office address can be found within the Trustees' Report.

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(a) Basis of accounting

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The Trustees consider that the charity has sufficient cash reserves to enable it to meet its obligations as they fall due for a period of at least 12 months from the date of signing of these financial statements. As such, the Trustees are satisfied that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future and they continue to adopt the going concern basis for preparing these financial statements.

(c) Income and debtors

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Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Grant payments are recognised when a liability or constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being unavoidable.

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THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SOCIETY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for good or services it must provide.

(f) **Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

(g) **Other financial instruments**

The charity enters into basic financial instruments that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other accounts receivable and payable, loans to and from banks, and other third parties. Basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost, with changes recognised in the statement of financial activities.

(h) **Intangible fixed assets**

Fixed assets are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided on all intangible fixed assets at a rate calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life, which is deemed to be three years.

(i) **Stocks**

Stocks are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Stocks consists of publications for resale.

(j) **Funds structure**

The charity has no restricted funds. Some of the unrestricted income funds have been designated to be for special purposes by the Executive committee.

3 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits for the current or preceding year.

4 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There are no related party transactions in the current year or previous year.

5 TAXATION

The Society is a registered charity and no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

6 REVALUATION ADJUSTMENT

In the annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 the OEIC fund investments were carried at cost of £10,000. The accounting policy has been changed for this year to 31 December 2022 to comply with FRS102 to include them at fair value. Accordingly the statement of financial activities for the year to 31 December 2021 has been restated to include £32,964 as the gain to that date. The current year loss of £2,016 reflects the fall in value of the investment due to stock market conditions.

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER SOCIETY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

7 INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Website costs

| | £ |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Cost | |
| - at 1 January and 31 December 2022 | <u>1,500</u> |
| Depreciation | |
| - at 1 January 2022 | - |
| - charge for year | <u>500</u> |
| - at 31 December 2022 | <u>500</u> |
| Net book values | |
| - at 31 December 2022 | <u><u>1,000</u></u> |
| - at 31 December 2021 | <u><u>1,500</u></u> |

8 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

| | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Market value at beginning of the year | 42,964 | 10,000 |
| Net loss on revaluation (2021 : gains) | <u>(2,016)</u> | <u>32,964</u> |
| Market value at end of year | <u><u>40,948</u></u> | <u><u>42,964</u></u> |

Investment comprise a global growth OEIC fund.

9 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

| | General funds £ | Designated funds £ | Total £ |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
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The funds held at the year-end date are as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
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| - Cash | 48,372 | 3,007 | 51,379 |
| - Net other current assets | <u>11,482</u> | - | <u>11,482</u> |
| - Total funds | <u><u>101,802</u></u> | <u><u>3,007</u></u> | <u><u>104,809</u></u> |

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Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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Richard Abel FCA CTA
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