

## Appendix 1

### Trustee' Annual Report of the Mill of Benholm Enterprise (SCIO) for 2024/25

**OSCr**

Office of the Scottish **Charity Regulator**

| Trustees' Annual Report for the period |                   |       |      |    |                 |       |      |
|--|-------------------|-------|------|----|-----------------|-------|------|
|  | Period start date |       |      |    | Period end date |       |      |
|  | Day               | Month | Year |    | Day             | Month | Year |
| From                                   | 01                | 04    | 2024 | To | 31              | 03    | 2025 |

### Reference and administration details

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Charity name                    | Mill of Benholm Enterprise (SCIO)                       |
| Other names charity is known by |   |
| Registered charity number       | SC 047943   |
| Charity's principal address     | <p>Burn House</p> <p>Burn of Benholm</p> <p>Benholm</p> |
|                                 | <b>Postcode DD10 0HT</b>                                |

### Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

|   | Trustee name           | Office (if any)  | Dates acted if not for whole year | Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any) |
|---|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Emma Pollock           | Minute Secretary |                                   |   |
| 2 | Henning Wagner         | Chair            |                                   |   |
| 3 | John Maxwell           | Treasurer        |                                   |   |
| 4 | Sally Leavey           | Vice Chair       |                                   |   |
| 5 | Hannah McGregor        |                  |                                   |   |
| 6 | Mary McCaffrey         | Secretary        |                                   |   |
| 7 | Alexis Roberts-Mcltosh |                  | 01/01/2025                        |   |

|   |               |  |            |  |
|---|---------------|--|------------|--|
| 8 | Mirjam Morris |  | 16/09/2024 |  |
| 9 |               |  |            |  |

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## Reference and administration details

**Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)**

| Name | Dates acted if not for whole year |
|------|-----------------------------------|
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |
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|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |

## Structure, governance and management

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Type of governing document          | Constitution Two Tier SCIO   |
| Trustee recruitment and appointment | Communication with interested members from a continuously growing membership, use of trustee nomination forms and interview, election at AGM or appointment by the board |

## Objectives and activities

### Charitable purposes

To enhance the enjoyment of art and culture on site and in the environs of the Mill of Benholm. To promote and protect the natural heritage. To promote citizenship, community development, and to create volunteering opportunities for the benefit of the community of Benholm, the surrounding area and beyond by delivering a diverse variety of services and initiatives. To provide leisure and recreation facilities within the Mill, the surrounding woods and the wider environment, with the object of improving the health and wellbeing of the people of Benholm and the surrounding area. To advance education and learning by providing workshops, training sessions and courses on the site and in the surrounding woodland

### Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

The ownership of the Mill of Benholm was transferred via Community Asset Transfer from Aberdeenshire Council to the Mill of Benholm in April 2024. The charity managed to secure funding to start with the restoration of the site, which was mothballed for 10 years. The restoration work is done by volunteers where possible and by contractors where needed.

Most paths were re-instated during this year with the remaining ones being finished in the following year, to allow visitors to enjoy this unique place.

Monthly events for the community were organised, gardens and orchards enhanced and the Mill was open for visitors at the weekends, while plans were formulated how to progress the restoration of the site over the next year, with the main focus on making the Mill accessible for visitors and attracting visitors.

Volunteers met twice weekly to work in the grounds and on the buildings

Several workshops were organised to increase skill building exercises

## Achievements and performance

## Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

Working together with Aberdeenshire Council and other partners for a successful Community asset Transfer of the Mill of Benholm and transition to full ownership

Gathering support from various political parties, with visits from the Scottish Secretary for Rural Affairs, Scottish Shadow Minister for Public Health, Aberdeenshire Council Leader, the local MP and various Councillors, all of them supporting and endorsing the project.

Gaining ownership via Community Asset Transfer of the Mill of Benholm

The Mill of Benholm Enterprise secure grant funding to extend and enhance the car park

Signing long term lease for the adjacent Mill Brae Woods a registered ancient woodland

Volunteers working on site to make access safe and clear the decade worth of vegetation overgrowth

Continuously increasing our social media fellowship

Organising monthly events, including Fruit and Harvest Festival, Halloween for Children, Christmas Market, Christmas Concert and workshops

Christmas Concert was visited by over 300 people, Christmas Market by approx.. 700.

Working closely together with other organisations to promote the whole of the area.

Hosting a learning exercise together with SCOTO

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## Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

The trustees have set optimal reserves at £5,000, which equates to approximately 3 months unrestricted expenditure. As of 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2025, the decision was made to suspend the optimal reserve of £5,000 for 12 month as during the beginning of the restoration process the amount could not always be guaranteed. The optimal reserve of £5,000 will be reinstated on the 1st of January 2026

**Details of any deficit**

None

**Donated facilities and services (if any)**

None

**Other optional information**

## Declaration

**The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.**

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

|                              |                                   |                                   |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Signature(s)</b>          | <i>Henning Wagner</i>             | <i>Mary McCaffrey</i>             |
| <b>Full name(s)</b>          | Henning Wagner                    | Mary McCaffrey                    |
| <b>Position (e.g. Chair)</b> | Chair                             | Secretary                         |
| <b>Date</b>                  | 18 <sup>th</sup> of December 2025 | 18 <sup>th</sup> of December 2025 |