Registered number: 02874177

## **British Mountaineering Council**

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**Directors' Report and Financial Statements** 

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### **Company Information**

**Directors** F Alzetta

M N Hurn R Murray P Salenieks A B Syme

P A Ratcliffe (appointed 8 February 2024)

N Hockley B J Willmott

L Needham (appointed 18 June 2023) T N Smith (appointed 7 October 2023) A Say (appointed 23 October 2023)

Company secretary T N Nixon

**Registered number** 02874177

**Registered office** 177-179 Burton Road

West Didsbury Manchester M20 2BB

Independent auditors Hurst Accountants Limited

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

3 Stockport Exchange

Stockport Cheshire SK1 3GG

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#### Directors' Report For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

#### Directors' responsibilities statement

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

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

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **Directors**

The directors who served during the year were:

F Alzetta

P Davies (resigned 19 September 2023)

M N Hurn

R Murray

P Salenieks

F Sanders (resigned 22 October 2023)

C B Spencer (resigned 27 July 2023)

A B Syme

C B Worboys (resigned 13 January 2024)

N Hockley

B J Willmott

L Needham (appointed 18 June 2023)

T N Smith (appointed 7 October 2023)

A Say (appointed 23 October 2023

During the year, the Company held a qualifying third party indemnity provision for the benefit of the directors.

## Directors' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

#### Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are directors at the time when this Directors' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and
- the director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

#### Auditors

The auditors, Hurst Accountants Limited, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

### Small companies note

In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the board and signed on its behalf.

PRT.

R Murray Director

Date: 24 May 2024

P.A.Ratcliffe

P A Ratcliffe Director

Date: 24 May 2024

#### Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of British Mountaineering Council

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of British Mountaineering Council (the 'Company') for the year ended 31 December 2023, which comprise the Statement of Income and Retained Earnings, the Balance Sheet and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its loss for the year then ended:
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of British Mountaineering Council (continued)

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

#### Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 1, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of British Mountaineering Council (continued)

#### Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

### Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities

In identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- The nature of the industry and sector in which the company operates; the control environment and business performance including key drivers for directors' remuneration, bonus levels and performance targets.
- The outcome of enquiries of local management and parent company management, including whether management was aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, and whether management had knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud.
- Supporting documentation relating to the Company's policies and procedures for:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud
- The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- The outcome of discussions amongst the engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.
- The legal and regulatory framework in which the Company operates, particularly those laws and regulations which have
  a direct effect on the financial statements, such as the Companies Act 2006, pensions and tax legislation, or which had a
  fundamental effect on the operations of the Company, including General Data Protection requirements, and Antibribery and Corruption.

#### Audit response to risks identified

Our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statements disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with the provisions of those relevant laws and regulations which have a direct effect on the financial statements.
- Discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.
- Evaluation and testing of the operating effectiveness of management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities.
- Enquiring of management about any actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships which may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

#### Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of British Mountaineering Council (continued)

We have also considered the risk of fraud through management override of controls by:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments.
- Challenging assumptions made by management in their significant accounting estimates, and assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and
- Evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above, and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations are from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of them. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

### Use of our report

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

HABesantRoberts

Helen Besant-Roberts (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of **Hurst Accountants Limited** Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors 3 Stockport Exchange Stockport Cheshire SK1 3GG

Date: 24 May 2024

### Statement of Income and Retained Earnings For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Income	4,849,491	4,142,187
Gross profit	4,849,491	4,142,187
Administrative expenses	(5,496,793)	(4,411,931)
Operating loss	(647,302)	(269,744)
Interest receivable and similar income	22,325	1,990
Surplus/(deficit) before tax	(624,977)	(267,754)
Tax on surplus/(deficit)	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) after tax	(624,977)	(267,754)
Accumulated fund at the beginning of the year	841,935	1,109,689
	841,935	1,109,689
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(624,977)	(267,754)
Accumulated fund at the end of the year	216,958	841,935

### **British Mountaineering Council**

(A Company Limited by Guarantee) Registered number: 02874177

### Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2023

	Note		2023 £		2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	4		256,438		280,221
Investments	5		4		4
			256,442		280,225
Current assets					
Stocks		27,923		46,825	
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	6	338,033		328,980	
Cash at bank and in hand	7	1,287,254		1,735,678	
	_	1,653,210		2,111,483	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(1,653,328)		(1,508,271)	
Net current (liabilities)/assets	-		(118)		603,212
Total assets less current liabilities		_	256,324	_	883,437
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	9		(39,366)		(41,502)
Net assets			216,958		841,935
Capital and reserves			_		
Profit and loss account			216,958		841,935
			216,958		841,935

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A - small entities.

P.A.Ratcliffe

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf by:

RRT.

R Murray
Director
P A Ratcliffe
Director

Date: 24 May 2024 Date: 24 May 2024

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

#### 1. General information

British Mountaineering Council is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England & Wales, company number 02874177. The address of the registered office and the principal place of business is 177-179 Burton Road, West Didsbury, Manchester, M20 2BB.

The principal activity of the Company is that of acting as the representative body for the sports of climbing, mountaineering (including ski-mountaineering) and hill walking.

#### 2. Accounting policies

#### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise specified within these accounting policies and in accordance with Section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

#### 2.2 Exemption from preparing consolidated financial statements

The Company is exempt from the requirement to prepare consolidated financial statements as all of its subsidiaries are required to be excluded from consolidation by section 402 of the Companies Act 2006.

#### 2.3 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The following paragraphs set out the basis on which the directors have reached their conclusion.

Management has prepared forecasts which show the company will be able to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business. Accordingly, the directors believe it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.4 Income

Income represents the value of goods and services, both invoiced and on a receipts basis, supplied by the Company, net of value added tax and trade discounts.

The policies adopted for the recognition of income are as follows:

#### Membership fees

The separate annual subscription fee is recognised as revenue when no significant uncertainty about its collectability exists which is usually on payment.

#### Insurance income

Insurance income is recognised on the date of receipt of monies from the customer. Alterations in brokerage arising from additional premiums and adjustments are taken into account when they occur.

#### Sale of goods

Income from the sale of items such as maps, guidebooks and DVD's is recognised when significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have transferred to the buyer, the amount of turnover can be measured reliably, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Company and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably. This is usually on payment.

#### Grant income

Sports Council grants are credited to the income and expenditure account on a time apportioned basis. Other grants are credited to the income and expenditure account as the relevant expenditure is recognised.

#### Interest

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

#### 2.5 Pensions

### Defined contribution pension plan

The Company operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Company has no further payment obligations.

The contributions are recognised as an expense in profit or loss when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Company in independently administered funds.

### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Land and buildings - 2 - 10% Straight line Leasehold improvements - 2% Straight line

Plant and machinery - 33% Straight line or 20% reducing balance

#### 2.7 Valuation of investments

Investments in subsidiaries are measured at cost less accumulated impairment.

#### 2.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value, being the estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost is based on the cost of purchase on a first in, first out basis. Work in progress and finished goods include labour and attributable overheads.

At each balance sheet date, stocks are assessed for impairment. If stock is impaired, the carrying amount is reduced to its selling price less costs to complete and sell. The impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

#### 2.9 Debtors

Short-term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Loans receivable are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

### 2.10 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

#### 2.11 Creditors

Short-term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.12 Financial instruments

#### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables, cash and bank balances, are initially measured at their transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at their amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial. The Company's cash and cash equivalents, trade and most other receivables due with the operating cycle fall into this category of financial instruments.

#### Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instruments any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Company after the deduction of all its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities, which include trade and other payables, bank loans and other loans are initially measured at their transaction price after transaction costs. When this constitutes a financing transaction, whereby the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at their amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods and services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Trade payables are classified as current liabilities if the payment is due within one year. If not, they represent non-current liabilities. Trade payables are initially recognised at their transaction price and subsequently are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

### 3. Employees

The average monthly number of employees, including directors, during the year was 52 (2022 - 40).

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 4. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Leasehold improvements £	Plant and machinery	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2023	544,371	105,986	345,198	995,555
Additions	-	-	33,358	33,358
At 31 December 2023	544,371	105,986	378,556	1,028,913
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2023	332,967	66,390	315,977	715,334
Charge for the year	32,383	1,821	22,937	57,141
At 31 December 2023	365,350	68,211	338,914	772,475
Net book value				
At 31 December 2023	179,021	37,775	39,642	256,438
At 31 December 2022	211,404	39,596	29,221	280,221

The huts listed below are in addition to the above fixed assets.

The Alex MacIntyre Memorial Hut (AMMH) is jointly owned by the Officers of the British Mountaineering Council (BMC) and Mountaineering Scotland (MS) who hold the property in trust for the benefit of the members of the two organisations.

The Glen Brittle Memorial Hut (GBMH) is owned by a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, The Glen Brittle Memorial Hut SCIO (reg 11/07/18) which holds the property in trust for the benefit of the two organisations. The trustees of this trust must be members of either BMC or MS and include the President and CEO of both organisations.

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

5.	Fixed asset investments		
			Investments in subsidiary companies £
	Cost or valuation		
	At 1 January 2023		4
	At 31 December 2023		4
6.	Debtors		
		2023 £	2022 £
	Trade debtors	(18,000)	-
	Other debtors	225,020	209,409
	Prepayments and accrued income	131,013	119,571
		338,033	328,980
7.	Cash and cash equivalents		
		2023 £	2022 £
	Cash at bank and in hand	1,287,254	1,735,678
	Less: bank overdrafts	(51,444)	(657)
		1,235,810	1,735,021

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

8.	<b>Creditors:</b>	<b>Amounts</b>	falling	due	within	one vear
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	2023 £	2022 £
Bank overdrafts	51,444	657
Trade creditors	215,071	321,308
Other taxation and social security	45,720	45,880
Other creditors	98,293	83,430
Accruals and deferred income	1,242,800	1,056,996
	1,653,328	1,508,271

Bank overdrafts are unsecured.

### 9. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred grant income	39,366	41,502

### 10. Company status

The Company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the Company in the event of liquidation.

#### 11. Pension commitments

The Company operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Company in an independently administered fund. Contributions totalling £15,417 (2022: £13,161) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

#### 12. Commitments under operating leases

At 31 December 2023 the Company had future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable operating leases for each of the following periods:

	2023 £	2022 £
Not later than 1 year	972	972
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,701	2,673
	2,673	3,645

#### 13. Transactions with directors

In the prior year, other debtors included a loan to a director. The loan to the director was issued for £7,952 in July 2022. The balance outstanding at the year end was £nil (2022: £5,897). The loan was provided as part of a cycle to work scheme and was interest free.

#### 14. Related party transactions

The Company is the sole member of Mountain Heritage Trust which is a registered charity. During the year, the Company contributed £nil (2022: £25,000) towards the running costs of Mountain Heritage Trust.

The Company is also the sole member of BMC Land and Property Trust. As at 31 December 2023, the Company was owed £52,177 (2022: £18,524) by BMC Land and Property Trust.

The Company is member of Mountain Training England. As at 31 December 2023, the company was owed £4,744 by Mountain Training England, with income of £16,306 and expenditure of £45,275 during the year.

The Company has a relationship with Mountain Training Trust, which is another registered charity, through the appointment of a trustee as the BMC representative. As at 31 December 2023, the Company owed £1,250 (2022: £1,156) to Mountain Training Trust, with expenditure of £5,097 during the year.

The Company is the sole member of BMC Access and Conservation Trust which is another registered charity. During the year, the Company contributed £nil (2022: £612) to BMC Access and Conservation Trust.