

# CIC 34

## Community Interest Company Report

*Please complete in typescript, or in bold black capitals.*

**Company Name in full**

Organic Countryside CIC

**Company Number** 06794848

**Year Ending** 31 January 2016

This template illustrates what the Regulator of Community Interest Companies considers to be best practice for completing a simplified community interest company report. All such reports must be delivered in accordance with section 34 of the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004 and contain the information required by Part 7 of the Community Interest Company Regulations 2005. For further guidance see chapter 8 of the Regulator's guidance notes and the alternate example provided for a more complex company with more detailed notes.

### **PART 1 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT**

In the space provided below, please insert a general account of the company's activities in the financial year to which the report relates, including a fair and accurate description of how they have benefited the community, or section of the community, which the company is intended to serve.

*(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").*

The company manages land organically on behalf of members of the public wishing to become small scale investors in land to be farmed sustainably and held as a nature reserve. In the year ending 31 January 2016 the Company benefited the community in the following ways:

- Investors are directly involved in organic farming, as small scale investors in land managed organically by Organic Countryside CIC.
- The company has continued the management of two blocks of land, of 1 acre and 9 acres, in the local area on behalf of the landowners. The company has maintained organic certification with the Soil Association by adhering to criteria.
- The company continues to rear sheep organically and is following a successful breeding programme enabling us to sell high quality organic meat to local residents at affordable prices. Twelve organic lambs were sold in the period to local residents.
- Local residents can continue to gain experience in sheep husbandry and general management of organic land by offering voluntary work experience on the farm. A volunteer has been able to keep bees on the land, providing experience in bee keeping that he would not be able to get otherwise.
- Many local residents have become involved in the management of the conservation area by attending working parties organised by volunteers. This has helped the company keep the rides through the scrub land open which has benefited the wild flowers, and the wild animal population and improved access and enjoyment for walkers and wildlife enthusiasts.

- Organic Countryside CIC together with Accuro has organised working parties for around 8 adults with learning difficulties and their carers; with continued positive feedback from all involved. These have made use of tools bought using grant money from Tesco.
- OCCIC continues to allow a local forest school facilitator to use the land for her thriving forest school. The forest school provides education and hands-on experience of the countryside for local pre-school children and their parents or carers.
- The company has allowed its nature reserve to be used by a local home-schooling group who come regularly for the children to experience the open, unspoilt piece of countryside for fun and adventure, to learn about sheep and lambs and to play educational games organised by one of the OCCIC directors. There are usually between 12 and 20 children in the group.
- The company has hosted 3 Woodmanship courses run by one of our volunteers on behalf of the local Community Allotment scheme.
- The company has improved access to farmland by allowing access to the land it manages and encouraging residents to enjoy the land responsibly. The local botany group continues to use the land for organised trips and ad-hoc visits.
- The local Parish Council have been delighted to have this nature reserve as a facility in the parish and have registered their full support.

**PART 2 – CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS – Please indicate who the company’s stakeholders are; how the stakeholders have been consulted and what action, if any, has the company taken in response to feedback from its consultations? If there has been no consultation, this should be made clear.**

Shareholders and volunteers are invited to all work-party and all other events and to an annual meeting where updates on the management of the land are provided and discussion is encouraged. News is sent by email to the entire group. Feedback from the shareholders has been very supportive.

Visitors to the farm and the nature reserve are encouraged to discuss the company and its work with the volunteers working there, however there has been no other formal consultation as yet.

**PART 3 – DIRECTORS’ REMUNERATION – if you have provided full details in your accounts you need not reproduce it here. Please clearly identify the information within the accounts and confirm that, “There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration of directors, or compensation for director’s loss of office, which require to be disclosed” (See example with full notes). If no remuneration was received you must state that “no remuneration was received” below.**

No remuneration was received

**PART 4 – TRANSFERS OF ASSETS OTHER THAN FOR FULL CONSIDERATION – Please insert full details of any transfers of assets other than for full consideration e.g. Donations to outside bodies. If this does not apply you must state that “no transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made” below.**

No transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made

**PART 5 – SIGNATORY**

**The original report must be signed by a director or secretary of the company**

Signed

Date

*Office held (delete as appropriate) Director/Secretary*