

Transition Stroud
(Company number 06978217)
**Directors' report and
financial statements**
for the year ended 31 August 2015

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Transition Stroud Directors' report for the year ended 31 August 2015

The directors submit their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2015.

Full name: Transition Stroud

Registered company number: 06978217

Principal address

The Exchange
Brick Row
Stroud
Gloucestershire
GL5 1DF

Directors

Simon John Allen
James Daniel Beecher
Sebastian Timothy Buckton
Mark Christopher Keogan
Dr John Thomas Meadley (resigned 12 October 2014)
Helen Patricia Royall
Martin John Whiteside
Erik John Wilkinson

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank plc
Head Office
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Exemptions

The directors have taken advantage of the exemptions available to small companies, including the audit exemption (see statement on balance sheet).

Governing document

Transition Stroud is a company limited by guarantee. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated 1 August 2009, amended 9th September 2009. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

Objects of the company

The Company is established for the benefit of the community of the Stroud District to take, and inspire others to take, collaborative actions that strengthen local communities and respond positively to the challenges of climate change and declining energy supplies, in accordance with policies and decisions determined by members.

Transition Stroud

Director's report (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2015

Principal activities

Transition Stroud (TS) aims to reduce Stroud district's dependence on a carbon based economy, by building community resilience in the face of challenges such as peak oil, climate change and recession. TS engages with people to raise awareness of the issues and discuss solutions. Over the last year we have run the following free events and activities:

Action groups

Edible Stroud, our group that establishes edible plants in unused public ground, has created a wildlife and people friendly corner of Stratford Court Playing Fields. Fruit and nut trees and soft fruit bushes were also planted in the North East corner with the aim of creating an Edible Forest Garden.

The **Textile Group** met regularly to mend, swop clothes and material, to up-cycle our wardrobes and show such items in a 'Trashion Show'. An Inedible Edible Garden has been made from fabrics to attract attention at events, and we have been asked to make one for the World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms organisation creating a donation to core costs.

The **Transport Group** has contributed to Stroud Neighbourhood Development Plan.

An **Upcycled Art Outdoors** 'drop-in' group was established and met for 19 weeks over the Spring and Summer in a Stonehouse park. Art was created from items that might be discarded, or from found natural objects. We were joined by members of the public of all ages and students from the Apperley Centre Special School.

These groups create enjoyment, creativity, community and learning about self sustaining activities.

Potato day

We held our fourth Seed Potato Day on 7th February 2015 in Stroud's Merrywalks Shopping Centre to promote the garden growing of potatoes, and use of potatoes.

Public meetings, festivals and outreach

In October TS held a 'bring and share' dinner for 60 people to launch the publication of its 'Stroud in Transition' leaflet. The leaflet explained how people could engage with 'transition type' activities through 12 TS partner organisations based in Stroud. The leaflet was sponsored by Stroud Town Council and was delivered to 7,000 households in Stroud. As part of our outreach programme six film shows and discussion evenings have been organised this year, each attracting on average 60 people. These have been followed up by 'book club' discussion café evenings. Three talks were given to local groups (Methodist/Anglican Circuit, Rural Services Network, and Rose Regeneration), adding 26 new members to our mailing list. We held stalls and talks at Stroud's Festival of Nature in June and at Hawkwood College's nationally focused Seed Festival in July. These events were supported by a grant from Stroud District Council.

Transition Stroud Director's report (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2015

Repair Cafes (Fix-it-for-Free) Four Repair Cafes took place at Nailsworth Community Workshop. 20 to 30 items are brought in at each event and about 80% are repaired and saved from landfill. Radio Gloucestershire showed considerable interest in January and featured the Repair Cafe. A meeting was held with Gloucestershire County Council in February 2015 as GCC are looking at ways to expand the repair cafe idea. Donations from the owners of repaired items contributed to our core costs.

Skills gain workshops

A programme of 5 Skills Gain workshops has been run this year benefitting 50 attendees. The Building Skills Action Group has met on one occasion building the confidence and competence of individuals, the majority of attendees being women, to undertake basic DIY skills in their home.

Social media and 'Hub Stroud'

Our 'mailchimp' news e-mail list has grown from 630 to 700 people, who received 4 newsletters in the year. Our newsletters carry news and events from our partners and like-minded organisations as well as TS news. Our 'twitter' followers (1345) and Facebook 'likes' (509) have also grown. A grant from Stroud District Council has supported this work. Our local events website called 'hubStroud' has grown dramatically this year with 150 organisations registered to post events and 11,000 visits to the site. Support from the charity Citizens Online has enabled this.

Strategy implementation - partnership working

In pursuit of our strategy to facilitate closer working between like-minded environmental organisations in Stroud, we have strengthened our partnerships with 2 like-minded organisations this year.

Stroud Community TV

Stroud Community TV now has 2,000 local films on its website showcasing the work of local amateur and professional filmmakers. Over 50 films are in the 'Transition' category including some TS events. The Facebook page has 300 likes and Twitter over 700 followers, with over 2,300 views per month on the website. The third SCTV Awards were held in March as part of Stroud's First Film Festival. The site is managed by volunteers.

Grants and donations received

We gratefully acknowledge the voluntary and financial support of many individuals and organisations and detail the grants and donations received during the year in Note 2 on page 8.

Small company provisions:

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the board:

Signed _____
Mark Keogan
Company Secretary and Director

Date _____

**Transition Stroud
Income and expenditure account
for the year ended 31 August 2015**

	N		
Income			
Grants & donations			
Fees			
Bank interest			
Sundry income		_____	_____
		_____	_____
		_____	_____
		_____	_____
		_____	_____
		_____	_____

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

All the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 8 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

**Transition Stroud
Balance sheet
at 31 August 2015**

	Not	
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets		
Investments (long term)	_____	_____
Total fixed assets		
Current assets		
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

The Directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the accounts for the year by virtue of section 477, and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476 of the Act. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- i. ensuring that the company keeps proper accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and
- ii. preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficiency for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors declare that they have approved the accounts above. Signed on behalf of the directors

Signed: _____ Dated: _____ Mark Keogan, Company Secretary and Director

**Transition Stroud
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2015**

1. Accounting policies

Basis of the preparation of the accounts

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Companies Act 2006.

Grants and donations

Revenue grants are taken into the income and expenditure account in the period in which they were received but if the grant relates to a period spanning more than one financial year the part of the grant linked to performance in the following year(s) will be treated as deferred income.

Interest receivable

Interest is included when receivable by the company.

Governance costs

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the company and its assets and are primarily associated with constituted and statutory activities.

2. Grants & donations

	2015	2014
	£	£
Ecotricity	-	280
Stroud District Council	1,594	1,538
AAA Big Lottery Grant (restricted fund)*	-	8,150
Green Open Homes	-	3,247
Energy Saving Trust (Retrofit grant)	-	585
Stroud Town Council	-	500
Stonehouse Town Council	150	500
Winterfest 2013	-	82
Permaculture Design Course	-	200
Down To Earth	-	50
Installers Fair 2014	-	240
Various donations to Edible Gardens	383	180
Standing order donations	1,580	1,755
Sundry donations	180	412
Sarah Lunnon for COIN workshop	400	-
Donations raised at Film Evenings	665	-
Donation from Stroud TV	50	-
	<u>4,962</u>	<u>17,677</u>

**Transition Stroud
Notes to the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2015**

3. Projects expenditure

A4A Big Lottery Grant
YES!
Open Homes
Potato Day
Winterfest

4. Debtors

There were no debtors in 2014 or 2015

5. Vouchers

Stroud Pounds (donated)

**Transition Stroud
Notes to the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2015**

6. Cash in bank and at hand - summary of restricted and earmarked funds

Restricted funding from grants:

Back2Bike

Earmarked TS funds:

Open Gardens/Homes

Potato Day

7. Creditors

Seb Buckton - Development work/Ever

Deferred income - Summerfield Trust*

*The Summerfield Trust grant of £4000 was received in July 2015 but entirely relates to activity in the next financial year (2015/2016) and so is treated as deferred income.

8. Staff costs and numbers

Transition Stroud did not directly employ any staff during the year.

Transition Stroud

**Notes to the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2015**

9. Directors' remuneration, benefits and expenses

Directors give their time voluntarily and do not get paid for their services to the organisation.

10. Related party transactions

The following payments were made in respect of services supplied by the businesses of the following Directors, related to various marketing and project support activities:

Seb Buckton	Project activities - support		
Helen Royall	Project activities - support	_____	_____
		_____	_____

11. Commitments under operating leases

During the period the company had no annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases.

12. Glossary of terms

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the organisation, but not paid during the accounting period.

Debtors: These are amounts owed to the organisation, but not received in the accounting period.