

Annual Return (AR30) form

Society Name: The Manchester Meteor Limited

Society Num: 8151

An Annual Return must be completed by all societies registered under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 ('the Act') (including any societies previously registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965). The Annual Return must include:

- this form;
- a set of the society's accounts; and
- where required, an audit report or report on the accounts.

A society must submit the Annual Return within 7 months of the end of the society's financial year. Failure to submit on time is a prosecutable offence.

Please note that this form, including any details provided on the form, will be made available to the public through the Mutuels Public Register.

For guidance on our registration function for societies, which includes guidance on the requirement to submit an Annual Return, please see [here](#)

2.1 What date did the financial year covered by these accounts end?

31/03/2020

3.1 Please provide the names of the people who were directors of the society during the financial year this return covers.

Some societies use the term 'committee member' or 'trustee' instead of 'director'. For ease of reference, we use 'director' throughout this form.

Name of Director	Month of Birth	Year of Birth
Conrad Bower	Jul	1969
Allan Wort	Nov	1960
Alice Toomer McAlpine	Nov	1991
Nicholas Prescott	Aug	1996

3.2 All directors must be 16 or older. Please confirm this is this case:

☒ All directors are aged 16 or over

3.3 Societies are within the scope of the Company Director Disqualification Act 1986 (CDDA). Please confirm that no director is disqualified under that Act:

☒ No director is disqualified

3.4 Please state any close links which any of the directors has with any society, company or authority.

‘Close links’ includes any directorships or senior positions held by directors of the society in other organisations.

Director Allan Wort is a Trustee of the Grassroots to Greatness charity.

3.5 Please provide the name of the person who was secretary at the end of the financial year this return covers.

Societies must have a secretary

Name of Secretary	Month of Birth	Year of Birth
Conrad Bower	Jul	1969

4.1 Please confirm that:

- ☒ accounts are being submitted with this form
- ☒ the accounts comply with relevant statutory and accounting requirements
- ☒ the accounts are signed by two members and the secretary (3 signatures in total)

4.2 Based on the accounts, please provide the information requested below for the financial year covered by this return.

Number of members	43
Turnover	1510
Assets	43

Number of Employees

0

Share Capital

43

**Highest rate of interest
paid on shares**

0

4.3 What Standard Industrial Classification code best describes the society's main business?

Where more than one code applies, please select the code that you feel best describes the society's main business activity. You will find a full list of codes [here](#)

SIC Code

News agency activities (63910)

*

Societies are required to appoint an auditor to audited unless they are small or have disapplied this requirement. For further guidance see chapter 7 of our guidance:

<https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/finalised-guidance/fg15-12.pdf>

5.1 Please select the audit option the society has complied with:

- ☐ Full Professional Audit
- ☐ Auditor's report on the accounts
- ☐ Lay Audit
- ☒ No audit

5.2 Please confirm the audit option used by the society is compliant with the society's own rules and the Act

☒ We have complied with the audit requirements

5.3 Please confirm any audit report (where required) is being submitted with this Annual Return

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ Not applicable

5.4 Is this society accepted by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) as a charity for tax purposes?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

5.5 If the society is registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) please provide your OSCR registration number.

- ☐ Registered
- ☒ Not applicable

5.6 Is the society a housing association?

- ☒ No
- ☐ Yes

6.1 Is the society a subsidiary of another society?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

6.2 Does the society have one or more subsidiaries?

(As defined in sections 100 and 101 of the Act)

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

All societies are registered meeting one of two conditions for registration. These are that the society is either:

- a bona fide co-operative society ('co-operative society'); or
- are conducting business for the benefit of the community ('community benefit society').

Your society is registered meeting the condition for registration that it is conducting its business for the benefit of the community.

For further information on the condition for registration, please see chapter 5 of our guidance [here](#).

Community benefit societies must answer the following questions in relation to the financial year covered by this return.

7B.1 What is the business of the society?

For example, did you provide social housing, run an amateur sports club etc.

We provide online local news reports for the people of Manchester and Greater Manchester. We also provide training and informative events for members of our society and the wider public.

7B.2 Please describe the benefits to the community the society delivered?

Here we are looking to see what the benefits to the community were. Community can be said to be the community at large. For example, did you relieve poverty or homelessness through the provision of social housing.

We provide public interest news to the community at large. We hold the powerful to account and inform, educate and entertain those who engage with our articles.

7B.3 Please describe how the society's business delivered these benefits?

The business of the society must be conducted for the benefit of the community. Please describe how the society's business (as described in answer to question 7B.1) provided benefit to the community.

Our news reports inform our members and the community at large of important events occurring in the region. The low wages paid to care workers, the loss of social housing in the region, increasing homelessness and controversial planning decisions by the city council are examples of the kind of stories we cover. We also provide training courses to our societies members and the community at large

7B.4 Did the society work with a specific community, and if so, please describe it here?

For instance, were the society's activities confined to a specific location; or to a specific group of people? Please note that in serving the needs of any defined community, the society should not inhibit the benefit to the community at large.

Our media output, which focuses mainly on Manchester, and events are available to members of our society and to the community at large.

7B.5 What did the society do with any surplus or profit?

For instance, did you pay a dividend to members (and if so, on what basis); did money get reinvested in the business; put into reserves; used for some other purpose?

Any surpluses the society receives are used to further our work of producing journalism and hosting events.

7B.6 Please state any significant commercial arrangements that the society has, or had, with any other organisation that could create, or be perceived as creating, a conflict of interest.

Please tell us how you ensured that any such conflict of interest did not prevent the society from acting for the benefit of the community.

We have had a supported content deal with the University of Sheffield. Any conflict of interest is avoided by The Meteor maintaining editorial control over the content of any articles produced under these supported content deals.



**THE MANCHESTER METEOR LIMITED
DIRECTORS' REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD 3 JULY 2019 TO 31 MARCH 2020**

The Manchester Meteor Limited
Directors' Report and Financial Statements
For the Period 3 July 2019 to 31 March 2020

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The Manchester Meteor Limited
Society Information
For the Period 3 July 2019 to 31 March 2020

Directors	Conrad Bower Alice Toomer-Mcalpine Nicholas Precott Allan Wort
Secretary	Conrad Bower
Society Number	8151
Registered Office	24 Wetherall Street Manchester M19 3GE
Accountants	Third Sector Accountancy Limited Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors Holyoake House Hanover Street Manchester M60 0AS

The Manchester Meteor Limited
Society No. 8151
Directors' Report For the Period 3 July 2019 to 31 March 2020

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2020.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

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

Society 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 United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under Society 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 Society and of the profit or loss of the Society for that period. In preparing the financial statements the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies 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 Society will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Society's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Review of Business

The Manchester Meteor Ltd incorporated as a co-operative in July 2019 after a number of years of publishing news online and developing journalism courses in the Manchester area. Our formation was aided by a Crowd Fund appeal concluding in early Autumn 2019 which enabled us to formalise the work of the Production Team, fund the production of editorial content as directed by our members and create a membership system on our website.

Prior to the end of the period in question (31 March 2020) we obtained part of a grant from the Future News Pilot Fund, administered by Nesta, to expand our work and help us develop as a member-owned organisation producing public interest news. This application effort has resulted in further grants this year from the European Journalism Centre and the Community Organisers group. The full amounts of all these grants will be reported and accounted for in the next accounting year.

The Manchester Meteor Limited
Directors' Report (continued)
For the Period 3 July 2019 to 31 March 2020

Directors

The directors who held office during the period were as follows:

Conrad Bower	APPOINTED	03/07/2019
Alice Toomer-Mcalpine	APPOINTED	03/07/2019
Nicholas Precott	APPOINTED	03/07/2019
Allan Wort	APPOINTED	21/08/2019

By order of the board



.....

Date

20 / 10 / 2020

The Manchester Meteor Limited
Accountant's Report
For the Period 3 July 2019 to 31 March 2020

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, we have compiled the financial statements of the Society from the accounting records and information and explanations you have given to us.

This report is made to the directors in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken to prepare for approval by the directors the financial statements that we have been engaged to compile, to report to the directors that we have done so, and to state those matters that we have agreed to state to them in this 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 Society and the Society's directors for our work or for this report.

You have acknowledged on the balance sheet as at period ended 31 March 2020 your duty to ensure that the Society has kept proper accounting records and to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. You consider that the Society is exempt from the statutory requirement for an audit for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit of the financial statements. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial statements.

..... *Third Sector Accountancy Limited*

Date 20 / 10 / 2020

Third Sector Accountancy Limited
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
Holyoake House
Hanover Street
Manchester
M60 0AS

The Manchester Meteor Limited
Revenue Account
For the Period 3 July 2019 to 31 March 2020

	Notes	31 March 2020 £
TURNOVER		1,510
GROSS PROFIT		1,510
Administrative expenses		(2,263)
Other operating income		753
OPERATING PROFIT AND PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD		-

The notes on page 7 form part of these financial statements.

The Manchester Meteor Limited
Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2020


	Notes	31 March 2020 £	£
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		15,713	
		15,713	
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	3	(15,670)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)			43
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			43
NET ASSETS			43
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital	4		43
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS			43

The notes on page 7 form part of these financial statements.

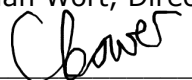
For the period ending 31 March 2020 the society was entitled to disapply the requirement to have its financial statements for the financial year audited. The members passed a resolution in general meeting to disapply the audit requirement, as required by S84(2) Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the management committee on 20 / 10 / 2020 and signed on their behalf by:



 (Allan Wort, Director)



 (Conrad Bower, Secretary)



 (Alice Toomer-Mcalpine, Director)

The Manchester Meteor Limited
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Period 3 July 2019 to 31 March 2020

1. Accounting Policies

1.1. Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the FRS 102 Section 1A Small Entities - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

1.2. Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, net of discounts and value added taxes. Turnover includes revenue earned from the sale of goods and from the rendering of services. Turnover is reduced for estimated customer returns, rebates and other similar allowances.

Rendering of services

Turnover from the rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The stage of completion of a contract is measured by comparing the costs incurred for work performed to date to the total estimated contract costs. Turnover is only recognised to the extent of recoverable expenses when the outcome of a contract cannot be estimated reliably.

2. Average Number of Employees

Average number of employees, including directors, during the year was as follows: NIL

3. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	31 March 2020
	£
Accruals and deferred income	15,670
	15,670

4. Share Capital

	31 March 2020
Ordinary shares	43

5. General Information

The Manchester Meteor Limited is a co-operative Society, limited by shares, incorporated in England & Wales, registered number 8151 . The registered office is 24 Wetherall Street, Manchester, M19 3GE.