Joseph Metcalf Limited

Annual report and financial statements

For the year ended 30 September 2010

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Registered No 221152

Directors

B P Burns P D Williams

Secretary

P D Williams

Independent auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Donington Court
Pegasus Business Park
Castle Donington
East Midlands DE74 2UZ

Bankers

Lloyds TSB Bank Plc 3rd Floor 25 Gresham Street London EC2V 7MN

Registered office

Firth Road Lincoln LN6 7AH

Directors' report

The directors present their annual report and audited financial statements of the company for the year ended 30 September 2010

Principal activities and review of the business

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be the production of peat and its supply into the horticulture industry for use in growing media and related products

The company's performance in the year reflects the difficulties faced by the business with poor harvesting weather. The company continues its primary role of harvesting and selling peat from its peat bog operations for use in growing media in all sectors of the horticulture industry.

At the year end the company had shareholders' funds of £2,036,874 (2009 £2,068,254), including distributable profits of £994,462 (2009 £1,005,842)

The directors of William Sinclair Holdings plc manage the group's operations as a whole. For this reason, the company's directors believe that analysis using key performance indicators for the company is not necessary or appropriate for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the business of Joseph Metcalf Limited. The development, performance and position of the William Sinclair Group, which includes this company, is discussed in the group's annual report which does not form part of this report.

Future developments

The company intends to develop its peat resources to increase output through improved management of its sites. It is working closely with relevant authorities to ensure attractive regeneration of its peat bogs will be achieved in the future.

Results and dividends

The loss for the year amounted to £31,380 (2009 £175,531 profit) A dividend of £nil (2009 £2,000,000) has been paid during the year

Principal risks and uncertainties

The directors of William Sinclair Holdings plc manage the group's risks at a group level, rather than at an individual business unit level. The company's directors believe that a discussion of the group's risks would not be appropriate for an understanding of the development, performance or position of Joseph Metcalf Limited's business. The principal risks and uncertainties of the William Sinclair Group, which include those of the company, are discussed in the group operating and financial review which is contained in the group's annual report which does not form part of this report

Financial risk management, objectives and policies

The company makes no use of financial instruments other than an operational bank account and so its exposure to credit risk, liquidity risk and cash flow risk is not material for the assessment of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the company

The company is exposed to changes in the selling price of peat which is based on market values. However, the market price has been relatively stable in recent years and this is not considered to be a material risk.

Exceptional item

A charge of £459,700 was incurred in the year and relates to the impairment of the Oswaldtwistle site, currently held for resale (see note 2)

Directors' report (continued)

Directors

The directors who served the company during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements were as follows

B P Burns

P D Williams

Statement of directors' responsibilities

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 prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) 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 and then apply them consistently,
- · make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements,
- 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 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.

The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the company's website Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions

Disclosure of information to auditors

In addition the directors also confirm that

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and
- each director has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director in order to make
 himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are
 aware of that information

Directors' report (continued)

Independent auditors

The auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, have indicated their willingness to continue in office and a resolution concerning their re-appointment will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting

By order of the board

P D Williams Company Secretary

17 February 2011

Independent auditors' report

to the members of Joseph Metcalf Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Joseph Metcalf Limited for the year ended 30 September 2010 which comprise of the profit and loss account, the balance sheet, the statement of total recognised gains and losses, note of historical profit and losses and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the statement of directors' responsibilities the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the company's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed, the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors, and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 30 September 2010 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

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements

Independent auditors report (continued)

to the members of Joseph Metcalf Limited

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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

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Neil Stephenson (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
East Midlands
18 February 2011

Profit and loss account

for year ended 30 September 2010

Registered No 221152			
		2010	2009
	Notes	£	£
Turnover		1,929,273	2,172,887
Cost of sales		(379,435)	(935,809)
Gross profit		1,549,838	1,237,078
Distribution costs		(391,870)	(214,926)
Administrative expenses		(695,049)	` ' '
Exceptional item - impairment of assets held for resale	2	(459,700)	(227,000)
Operating profit on ordinary activities	2	3,219	284,102
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		•	(292,246)
Net interest payable and similar charges	6	(58)	(6,409)
Profit / (loss) on ordinary activities before taxation		3,161	(14,553)
Tax (charge)/credit on profit/(loss) on ordinary activities	7	(34,541)	190,084
(Loss) / profit for the financial year		(31,380)	175,531
All of the activities of the company are classed as continuing			
Statement of total recognised gains a	and lo	sses	

for the year ended 30 September 2010

·		2010	2009
	Notes	£	£
Surplus on revaluation of land and buildings (Loss) / profit for the financial year	9	(31,380)	862,392 175,531
Total recognised gains and losses relating to the year		(31,380)	1,037,923
Note of historical cost profit and losse for the year ended 30 September 2010	S		
		2010	2009
		£	£
Profit / (loss) on ordinary activities before tax	charge	3,161	(14,553)
Difference between historical cost depreciation charge and depreciation based on revalued amounts	charge	98,332	-
Historical cost profit / (loss) for the year		101,493	(14,553)

Balance sheet

as at 30 September 2010

		2010	2009
	Notes	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	895,431	1,008,515
Investments	10	102	102
		895,533	1,008,617
Current assets			
Assets held for resale		1,651,051	2,151,051
Debtors	11	1,963,953	1,311,142
Cash at bank and in hand		5,900	7,695
		3,620,904	3,469,888
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	12	(2,479,563)	(2,410,251)
Net current assets		1,141,341	1,059,637
Total assets less current liabilities		2,036,874	2,068,254
Net assets		2,036,874	2,068,254
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	15	200,020	200,020
Revaluation reserve	16	764,060	862,392
Profit and loss account	16	1,072,794	1,005,842
Total shareholders' funds	17	2,036,874	2,068,254
			

The financial statements on pages 7 to 17 were approved by the Board of Directors on 17 February 2011 and were signed on its behalf by

P D Williams Director

for the year ended 30 September 2010

1. Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with applicable accounting standards in the United Kingdom. The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently throughout the year are set out below.

Cash flow and related party disclosures

The company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of William Sinclair Holdings plc and is included in their consolidated financial statements, which are publicly available. Consequently the company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing a cash flow statement under the terms of FRS 1 revised.

The company is also exempt from the requirements of FRS 8 to disclose transactions with other members of the group headed by William Sinclair Holdings plc where there is a wholly owned subsidiary

Turnover

The turnover shown in the profit and loss account represents the fair value of consideration for goods sold during the year, exclusive of VAT

Turnover on bill and hold sales is recognised when the buyer has taken title to the goods, accepted billing and acknowledged the deferred delivery

Tangible fixed assets

Properties, including peat bogs, are recognised initially at cost and thereafter carried at current value to the business less depreciation and impairment charged subsequent to the date of the revaluation. The current value to the business is based on periodic valuations by an external independent valuer. Valuations are performed frequently enough, and at a minimum of every three years, to ensure that the fair value of a revalued asset does not differ materially from its carrying amount.

Any revaluation surplus is credited to the revaluation reserve in equity except to the extent that it reverses a decrease in the carrying value of the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss, in which case the increase is recognised in profit or loss. A revaluation deficit is recognised in profit or loss, except to the extent of any existing surplus in respect of that asset in the revaluation reserve

A transfer is made from the revaluation reserve to retained earnings for the difference between depreciation based on the carrying amount of the assets and that based on the assets' original cost Additionally, accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset. Upon disposal any revaluation reserve relating to the particular asset being sold is transferred to retained earnings

Depreciation is provided on all property, including peat bogs, plant and equipment, other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value at the date of acquisition, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life as follows

Freehold property - 2%-15% straight line
Leasehold property - over the lease term
Plant and machinery - 12 5%-33% straight line
Motor vehicles - 25% straight line

The carrying values of property, including peat bogs, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable

Assets held for sale

Assets are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered through sale rather than continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the sale is highly probable, the asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition, the company is committed to the sale and it is expected to be completed within one year from the date of classification. Assets held for sale are measured at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell

for the year ended 30 September 2010

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items. Cost includes all costs incurred in bringing each product to its present location and condition on a first in first out basis. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less any further costs expected to be incurred to completion and disposal

Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight line basis over the term of the lease

Fixed asset investments

Investments are included at cost less any provision for impairment

Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the results for the year as adjusted for disallowable items and timing differences. Full provision is made for deferred tax on all material timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events that result in the obligation to pay more or the right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that they are expected to be realised in the foreseeable future. Deferred tax is calculated on a non discounted basis

2. Operating profit on ordinary activities

This is stated after charging

	2010	2009
	£	£
Depreciation on owned tangible fixed assets	117,621	16,436
Auditors' remuneration - audit	4,000	4,000
- non audit services	-	1,000
Operating lease payments	108,766	97,659
Exceptional items - impairment of assets held for resale (see below)	459,700	227,000
	<u> </u>	-

A charge of £459,700 (2009 £227,000) incurred in the year relates to the impairment of assets held for resale to write down the net book value of the empty Oswaldtwistle site to its net realisable value Following a review with the company's marketing agent the carrying vale of the assets has been reduced by £500,000 During the year a potential purchaser of the properties forfeited deposit monies of £40,300 leading to a net exceptional cost of £459,700 The tax impact of the exceptional item is a credit of £75,000

for the year ended 30 September 2010

3. Directors and employees

The average number of employees (excluding 2 unpaid directors) of the company during the year was

	2010	2009
	No.	No
Production	14	13
		
Staff costs during the year were as follows		
	2010	2009
	£	£
Wages and salaries	244,021	255,112
Social security costs	21,144	24,877
	265,165	279,989

4. Directors' emoluments

No remuneration was paid to the two directors during the year (2009 £nil)

5. Pension scheme

The company no longer operates a pension scheme Employees are invited to join the Group Personal Pension Plan, a defined contribution pension scheme The assets of the scheme are administered by trustees in a fund independent from those of the company

The total contributions paid in the year amounted to £nil (2009 £nil)

6. Net interest payable and similar charges

	2010	2009
	£	£
Interest payable and similar charges		
Interest payable on bank borrowing	58	4,141
Finance charges	-	3,161
	58	7,302
Interest receivable and similar income		
Other interest receivable	•	(893)
	58	6,409
		

for the year ended 30 September 2010

7. Taxation profit / (loss) on ordinary activities

a) The tax charge / (credit) represents

	2010	2009
	£	£
Corporation tax	-	-
Adjustment in respect of prior period	(904)	(15,802)
Total current tax credit	(904)	(15,802)
Origination and reversal of timing differences	29,221	(41,137)
Adjustment in respect of prior period	-	(133,145)
Rate change	6,224	
Total deferred tax charge / (credit) (note 13)	35,445	(174,282)
Tax charge / (credit) on profit / (loss) on ordinary activities	34,541	(190,084)

b) Factors affecting current tax credit

The tax credit assessed for the year is lower (2009 lower) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 28% (2009 28%) The differences are explained below

	2010 £	2009 £
Profit / (loss) on ordinary activities before tax	3,161	(14,553)
Loss on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 28% (2009 28%) Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Accelerated capital allowances Other short term timing differences Adjustment in respect of prior year	865 163,310 (30,303) (133,892) (904)	(4,075) 70,275 80,339 (146,539) (15,802)
Current tax credit for the period	(904)	(15,802)

c) Factors which may affect future tax charge

The Finance (No 2) Act 2010, which was substantively enacted on 20 July 2010, includes legislation reducing the main rate of corporation tax from 28 per cent to 27 per cent from 1 April 2011 Further reductions to the main rate of corporation tax are proposed to reduce the rate by 1 per cent per annum to 24 per cent by 1 April 2014, however, these changes will be included in future Finance Acts and therefore have not been substantially enacted at the balance sheet date

It would be difficult to forecast accurately the timing and value of future profits and thus it is not possible to ascertain the timing for the unwind of the deferred tax balances. The deferred tax balances have therefore been reflected at 27%

for the year ended 30 September 2010

8. Dividends

					2010	2009
					£	£
	Paid during the year Dividends on ordinary shares				-	2,000,000
9.	Tangible fixed assets					
		Freehold	Short	Plant and	Motor	
		property	leasehold	machinery	vehicles	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
	Cost / valuation					
	At 1 October 2009	300,000	685,000	475,942	15,269	1,476,211
	Additions	-	•	4,537	•	4,537
	At 30 September 2010	300,000	685,000	480,479	15,269	1,480,748
	Accumulated depreciation					
	At 1 October 2009	•	-	453,314	14,382	467,696
	Provided during year	40,000	70,456	6,278	887	117,621
	At 30 September 2010	40,000	70,456	459,592	15,269	585,317
	Net book value					
	At 30 September 2010	260,000	614,544	20,887		895,431
	At 30 September 2009	300,000	685,000	22,628	887	1,008,515

The company's freehold and leasehold properties were valued by external valuers, BNP Paribas Real Estate, Property Consultants and Chartered Surveyors, on 30 September 2009 The properties were valued on an existing use basis No value is attributed to unharvested peat deposits contained within the leasehold properties

If land and buildings had not been revalued, they would have been included at the following amounts

	Freehold properties		Short leasehold properties	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
	£	£	£	£
Cost	181,874	181,874	-	-
Accumulated depreciation	(71,390)	(59,266)	-	-
Net carrying amount	110,484	122,608	-	
				=

for the year ended 30 September 2010

10. Investments

10.	mvesunents			Shares in group undertakings £
	Cost At 30 September 2009 and 2010			102
	Shares in group undertakings relate to			
	Name of company	Details of investments	Proportion held by company	Nature of business
	EFG (Horticultural Products) Limited	Ordinary £1	100%	Dormant
11.	Debtors		2010	2009
			£	£
	Trade debtors Amounts owed by group undertakings Other debtors Deferred tax asset (note 13) Prepayments and accrued income		1,454,839 31,506 438,837 38,771 1,963,953	16,463 474,282 35,674
12.	Creditors: amounts falling due	within one year		
			2010 £	
	Trade creditors Amounts owed to group undertakings Other taxation and social security Other creditors Accruals and deferred income		105,008 2,000,609 9,657 364,289	2,000,000 6,344 5,079 365,546
			2,479,563	2,410,251

for the year ended 30 September 2010

13. Deferred taxation

A deferred tax asset has been recognised in the financial statements on amounts estimated to reverse in the foreseeable future in accordance with FRS19 The amounts recognised and unrecognised at the end of the year are as follows

	2010	2009
	£	£
Accelerated capital allowances	138,837	174,282
Tax losses available	398,936	540,259
	537,773	714,541
Deferred tax asset recognised in the financial statements (note 11)	(438,837)	(474,282)
Amount unprovided at the end of the year	98,936	240,259
The movements in recognised deferred tax during the year are as follows		
		£
At 1 October 2009		474,282
Deferred tax charge (note 7)		(35,445)
At 30 September 2010 (note 11)		438,837
		===

14. Commitments under operating leases

At 30 September 2010 the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below

		2010		2009
	Land and		Land and	
	buildings	Other	buildings	Other
	£	£	£	£
Operating leases which expire				
Within one year	-	2,065	80,000	3,944
After more than five years	100,000	-	20,000	-
	100,000	2,065	100,000	3,944
				=====

15. Called up share capital

Authorised	2010	2009
	£	£
110,000 'A' ordinary shares of £1 each	110,000	110,000
90,000 'B' ordinary shares of £1 each	90,000	90,000
1,000 'C' ordinary shares of £0 01 each	10	10
1,000 'D' ordinary shares of £0 01 each	10	10
1,000 'E' ordinary shares of £0 01 each	10	10
	200,030	200,030

for the year ended 30 September 2010

15. Called up share capital (continued)

Allotted and fully paid		2010		2009
	No.	£	No	£
'A' ordinary shares of £1 each	110,000	110,000	110,000	110,000
'B' ordinary shares of £1 each	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
'C' ordinary shares of £0 01 each	1,000	10	1,000	10
'D' ordinary shares of £0 01 each	1,000	10	1,000	10
	202,000	202,020	202,000	200,020
			·	

^{&#}x27;A' and 'B' shares rank part passu on a return of assets on liquidation or otherwise and on a sale of the company. The holders of 'A' and 'B' shares are also entitled to receive notice and attend any general meeting of the company and shall have one vote for every share held. The directors may declare and authorise a dividend on one or both of the 'A' and 'B' shares subject to approval by ordinary resolution of the company.

16. Reserves

		Revaluation reserve	Profit and loss account
		£	£
	At 1 October 2009	862,392	1,005,842
	Loss for the financial year	-	(31,380)
	Depreciation transfer	(98,332)	98,332
	At 30 September 2010	764,060	1,072,794
		= =====================================	=
17.	Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds		
		2010	2009
		£	£
	(Loss) / profit for the year	(31,380)	175,531
	Dividends paid (note 8)	-	(2,000,000)
	Loss for the financial year	(31,380)	(1,824,469)
	Revaluation	-	862,392
	Net reduction to shareholders' funds	(31,380)	(962,077)
	Opening shareholders' funds	2,068,254	3,030,331
	Closing shareholders' funds	2,036,874	2,068,254

^{&#}x27;C' shares, 'D' shares and 'E' shares do not entitle the holders to any right in the share of the profits, capital or proceeds of the sales of the company save for any dividend which is declared and authorised by the directors and subject to approval by ordinary resolution of the company

for the year ended 30 September 2010

18. Ultimate parent undertaking

The directors consider that the ultimate parent undertaking of this company and its controlling party is its immediate parent company William Sinclair Holdings plc

The largest and smallest group of undertakings for which group accounts have been drawn up is that headed by William Sinclair Holdings plc Copies of the group accounts can be obtained from Firth Road, Lincoln, LN6 7AH