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### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2004

**FOR** 

ASHDOWN PARK (SUSSEX) LTD

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### **COMPANY INFORMATION** for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

T E Mugleston G C Bateman **DIRECTORS:** 

SECRETARY: R J Vanderpump

Ashdown Park REGISTERED OFFICE:

Wych Cross Forest Row East Sussex RH18 5JR

REGISTERED NUMBER: 2708290 (England and Wales)

Oury Clark Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors **AUDITORS:** 

58 Herschel Street

Slough Berkshire SL1 1PG

# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2004.

#### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the company in the year under review was that of operating as a luxury hotel at Wych Cross near East Grinstead.

#### REVIEW OF BUSINESS

The results for the year and financial position of the company are as shown in the annexed financial statements.

The directors are satisfied with the results of the company for the year and are confident that they will continue to trade profitably during the year.

#### DIVIDENDS

No dividends will be distributed for the year ended 31 March 2004.

The (loss)/profit for the year to be transferred to reserves will be £(148,963) (2003 - £37,249).

#### DIRECTORS

The directors during the year under review were:

T E Mugleston

G C Bateman

The directors holding office at 31 March 2004 did not hold any beneficial interest in the issued share capital of the company at 1 April 2003 or 31 March 2004.

#### **DONATIONS**

The company made charitable donations during the year amounting to £650,000 (2002 - £590,000),

#### STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which 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 those financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and 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 proper accounting records which 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 1985. 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.

# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

### **AUDITORS**

The auditors, Oury Clark Chartered Accountants, will be proposed for re-appointment in accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

# ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

G C Bateman - Director

Dated: 23 July 2004

# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF ASHDOWN PARK (SUSSEX) LTD

We have audited the financial statements of Ashdown Park (Sussex) Ltd for the year ended 31 March 2004 on pages five to sixteen These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention (as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets) and the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. 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.

#### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page two the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Report of the Directors is not consistent with the financial statements, if the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and transactions with the company is not disclosed.

We read the Report of the Directors and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

#### Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

#### Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2004 and of its loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Oury Clark Chartered Accountants

Registered Auditors 58 Herschel Street

Slough

Berkshire

SL1 1PG

Dated: 23 July 2004

# PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

		31.3.04	31.3.03
	Notes	£	£
TURNOVER	2	6,241,932	6,122,541
Cost of sales		2,776,632	2,717,631
GROSS PROFIT		3,465,300	3,404,910
Administrative expenses		2,904,898	2,819,549
		560,402	585,361
Other operating income		30,000	30,000
OPERATING PROFIT	4	590,402	615,361
Charitable donations	5	650,000	590,000
		(59,598)	25,361
Interest receivable and similar income		3,611	36,194
(LOSS)/PROFIT ON ORDINARY BEFORE TAXATION	ACTIVITIES	(55,987)	61,555
Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities	6	92,976	24,306
(LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE FINA AFTER TAXATION	NCIAL YEAR	(148,963)	37,249
Retained profit brought forward		2,580,136	2,542,887
RETAINED PROFIT CARRIED	FORWARD	£2,431,173	£2,580,136

# CONTINUING OPERATIONS

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued during the current and previous years.

# STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

	31.3.04	31.3.03
	£	£
(LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	(148,963)	37,249
Surplus on revaluation		
TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES RELATING TO THE YEAR	£(148,963)	£37,249

### BALANCE SHEET 31 March 2004

		31.3	3.04	31.3	.03
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS:					
Tangible assets	7		13,647,794		12,641,834
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Stocks	8	90,412		90,490	
Debtors	9	366,189		367,053	
Cash in hand		1,520		1,520	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling		458,121		459,063	
due within one year	10	6,593,745		5,532,740	
due within one year	10	0,393,743		3,332,740	
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES:			(6,135,624)		(5,073,677)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES:			7,512,170		7,568,157
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES:	13		595,629		502,653
			£6,916,541		£7,065,504
CAPITAL AND RESERVES:					
Called up share capital	14		100		100
Revaluation reserve	15		4,485,268		4,485,268
Profit and loss account	~~		2,431,173		2,580,136
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS:	19		£6,916,541		£7,065,504

### ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

G C Bateman - Director

Approved by the Board on 23 July 2004

# CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

		31.3.04	31.3.03
	Notes	£	£
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	1	888,649	(30,296)
Returns on investments and servicing of finance	2	3,611	36,194
Capital expenditure	2	(1,315,802)	(133,216)
Decrease in cash in the period		£(423,542)	£(127,318)
	2		
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt	3		
Decrease in cash in the period		(423,542)	<u>(127,318)</u>
Change in net debt resulting from cash flows		(423,542)	(127,318)
Movement in net debt in the period Net (debt)/funds at 1 April		(423,542) (125,873)	(127,318) 
Net debt at 31 March		£(549,415)	£(125,873)

# NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

# 1. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT TO NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

		31.3.04 £	31.3.03 £
	Operating profit Depreciation charges Profit on sale of fixed assets	590,402 309,842 - 78	615,361 267,808 (310) 10,610
	Decrease in stocks Decrease in debtors Increase/(Decrease) in creditors Exceptional items	864 637,463 (650,000)	77,519 (411,284) (590,000)
	Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	888,649	(30,296)
2.	ANALYSIS OF CASH FLOWS FOR HEADINGS NETTED IN THE CASH FLOW	V STATEMENT	
		31.3.04 £	31.3.03 £
	Returns on investments and servicing of finance	3,611	36,194
	Net cash inflow	<del></del> -	<del> </del>
	for returns on investments and servicing of finance	<u>3,611</u>	<u>36,194</u>
	Capital expenditure Purchase of tangible fixed assets Sale of tangible fixed assets	(1,315,802)	(139,216) 6,000
	Net cash outflow for capital expenditure	(1,315,802)	(133,216)

# NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

### 3. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1.4.03 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.04 £
Net cash: Cash at bank and in hand Bank overdraft	1,520 (127,393)	(423,542)	1,520 (550,935)
	(125,873)	(423,542)	<u>(549,415</u> )
Total .	(125,873)	(423,542)	<u>(549,415</u> )
Analysed in Balance Sheet			
Cash at bank and in hand Bank overdraft	1,520 (127,393)		1,520 (550,935)
	(125,873)		<u>(549,415)</u>

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

#### Turnover

Turnover represents net invoiced sales of goods, excluding value added tax.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures & Fittings

- 20% on reducing balance

Motor vehicles

- 30% on reducing balance

Depreciation has not been provided on the company's freehold property. It is the company's practice to maintain this asset in a continued state of sound repair, and accordingly the directors consider that the life of the asset is so long and the residual value so high that depreciation would be insignificant. In accordance with FRS15, Tangible Fixed Assets, the directors have undertaken an impairment review and have concluded that the value shown in the financial statements for freehold property is reasonable.

#### Stocks

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

#### Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date.

#### Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable for the year are charged in the profit and loss account.

### **Related Party Transactions**

The company is part of the Elite Hotels (Rotherwick) Limited group and as a consequence is exempt from inter-company disclosure requirements of FRS 8, Related Party Disclosures.

#### 2. TURNOVER

The turnover and loss (2003 - profit) before taxation are attributable to the one principal activity of the company.

#### 3. STAFF COSTS

Wages and salaries (including direct costs) Social security costs Pensions	31.3.04 £ 2,086,874 183,099 20,489	31.3.03 £ 2,065,294 165,147 
	£2,290,462	£2,251,990
The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows	: 31.03.04	31.03.03
Hotel services and catering staff Administration	12° 35	= -
	162	202

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

#### 4. **OPERATING PROFIT**

The operating profit is stated after charging/(crediting):

Depreciation - owned assets	31.3.04 £ 309,842	31.3.03 £ 267,808
Profit on disposal of fixed assets Auditors' remuneration	21,600	(310) 18,000
Directors' emoluments	9,752	9,752

#### 5. CHARITABLE DONATIONS

This relates to charitable donations made during the year amounting to £650,000 (2003-£590,000).

#### 6. TAXATION

#### Analysis of the tax charge

The tax charge on the loss on ordinary activities for the year was as follows:

	31.3.04	31.3.03
	£	£
Deferred taxation	<u>92,976</u>	<u>24,306</u>
Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities	<u>92,976</u>	24,306

### Factors affecting the tax charge

The tax assessed for the year is higher than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK. The difference is explained below:

	31.3.04 £	31.3.03 £
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before tax	<u>(55,987)</u>	<u>61,555</u>
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2003-30%)	(16,796)	18,467
Effects of: Expenses disallowed for tax purposes Excess of capital allowances over depreciation Group relief	(79,347) _96,143	30 (18,497)
Current tax charge		

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

#### 7.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS				
	Freehold	Fixtures	Motor	
	property	& Fittings	vehicles	Totals
	£	£	£	£
COST OR VALUATION:				
At 1 April 2003	11,596,106	4,167,422	90,167	15,853,695
Additions	535,471	770,106	10,225	1,315,802
At 31 March 2004	12,131,577	4,937,528	100,392	17,169,497
DEPRECIATION:				
At 1 April 2003	-	3,157,402	54,459	3,211,861
Charge for year	_	296,062	13,780	309,842
- •			<del></del>	
At 31 March 2004	-	3,453,464	68,239	3,521,703
	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del>_</del>	
NET BOOK VALUE:				
At 31 March 2004	12,131,577	1,484,064	32,153	13,647,794
	<del>=====</del> =			
At 31 March 2003	11,596,106	1,010,020	35,708	12,641,834
			= <del>======</del>	
Cost or valuation at 31 March 2004 is represente	d bv:			
	J.			
	Freehold	Fixtures	Motor	
	ргорегту	& Fittings	vehicles	Totals
	<del></del>	<del></del>		<del></del>
	£	£	£	£
Valuation in 97	4,485,268	-	-	4,485,268
Cost	7,646,309	4,937,528	100,392	12,684,229
	12,131,577	4,937,528	100,392	17,169,497
		<del></del>	<del></del>	
If freehold property had not been revalued it wou	ıld have been inclu	ded at the following	g historical cost:	
• • •		•	=	
			31.3.04	31.3.03
			£	£
Cost			7,646,309	7,110,838

The company's freehold property at Ashdown Park Hotel was revalued by the directors in March 1997. The directors are not aware of any material change in the value since that date and therefore the valuation has not been updated.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

8.	STOCKS		
		31.3.04 £	31.3.03 £
	Raw materials & consumables	90,412	90,490
9.	DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
		31.3.04 £	31.3.03 £
	Trade debtors Prepayments & accrued income	270,810 95,379	260,680 106,373
		366,189	367,053
10.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
		31.3.04 £	31.3.03 £
	Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 11) Trade creditors Other creditors Due to group undertakings Social security & other taxes Accrued expenses	550,935 262,895 360,981 5,237,332 16,117 165,485	127,393 192,059 220,733 4,762,237 94,087 136,231
		6,593,745	5,532,740
11.	LOANS AND OVERDRAFTS		
	An analysis of the maturity of loans and overdrafts is given below:		
	Amounts falling due within one year or on demand:	31.3.04 £	31.3.03 £
	Bank overdrafts	550,935	127,393
		<del></del>	<del></del>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

#### 12. SECURED DEBTS

The following secured debts are included within creditors:

	31.3.04	31.3.03
	£	£
Bank overdrafts	550,935	127,393

There is a first legal charge over the freehold property known as Ashdown Park Hotel, Wych Cross and a fixed charge over the book debts of the company in favour of HSBC Bank plc. In addition the bank has a floating charge over the remainder of the company's assets.

### 13. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

Deferred taxation	31.3.04 £ £ 595,629 502,653
Balance at 1 April 2003 Increase in provision	Deferred tax £ 502,653 
Balance at 31 March 2004	<u>595,629</u>

### 14. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised: Number:	Class:	Nominal	31.3.04	31.3.03
1,000	ORDINARY	value: £1	£ 1,000	£ 1,000
1,000		<b>~</b>		===
Allotted, issu	ed and fully paid:			
Number:	Class:	Nominal	31.3.04	31.3.03

Number:	Class:	Nominal	31.3.04	31.3.03
		value:	£	£
100	ORDINARY	£1	100	100
			=	==

# 15. REVALUATION RESERVE 31.3.04 31.3.03 £ £ Reappraisal surplus 4,485,268 4,485,268

#### 16. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme, which is independently administered by Norwich union.

The total contributions for the year ended 31 March 2004 were £19,697 (2003-£18,439) and there were no outstanding or prepaid contibutions at the balance sheet date.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the Year Ended 31 March 2004

#### 17. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The immediate parent company is Elite Hotels (Rotherwick) Limited, a company incorporated in England, and the ultimate holding company is West Indies Investments Limited, a company incorporated in Guernsey.

The balance due to West Indies Investments Limited as at 31 March 2003 was £Nil (2002 - £Nil).

The balance due to Elite Hotels (Rotherwick) Limited as at 31 March 2003 was £5,237,332 (2003 - £4,762,237).

#### 18. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The company's bankers, HSBC Bank plc. hold unlimited cross guarantees between Ashdown Park (Sussex) Limited and it's fellow group companies.

#### 19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

No disclosure of transactions with group members is disclosed here as the information is included within the consolidated financial statements produced by Elite Hotels (Rotherwick) Limited, the immediate parent undertaking. Copies of the consolidated financial statements are available from Ashdown Park, Wych Cross, Forest Row, East Sussex. This is in compliance with the FRS8, Related Party Disclosures, exemption.

#### 19. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

(Loss)/Profit for the financial year	31.3.04 £ _ (148,963)	31.3.03 £ 37,249
Net (reduction)/addition to shareholders' funds Opening shareholders' funds	(148,963) 7,065,504	37,249 7,028,255
Closing shareholders' funds	6,916,541	7,065,504
Equity interests	6,916,541	7,065,504

#### 20. **DEFERRED TAXATION**

Deferred taxation provided in the accounts and the potential liability including amounts for which provision has been made are as follows

	Provided		Potential liability	
	31.3.04 £	31.3.03 £	31.3.04 £	31.3.03 £
Accelerated capital allowances	595,629	502,653	1,393,629	1,368,811

The company's freehold property has been revalued in accordance with FRS 15, Tangible Fixed Assets. It is the company's intention to retain the property for the foreseeable future. No deferred tax has been provided on the gains arising from the revaluation as such tax would only become payable if the property were sold. The tax which would be payable in such circumstances is estimated to be £798,000 (2003 - £866,158).