Moneysupermarket.com Financial Group Limited

Directors' report and financial statements Registered number 3157344 31 December 2004

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Company Information

Incorporated in England and Wales.

Number

3157344

Directors

SJ Nixon DR Cameron NJ Stobbs S Hornsby J Dodd R Mason S Glendinning

Secretary

SJ Nixon

Registered office

Moneysupermarket House

St David's Park

Ewloe Near Chester CH5 3UZ

Auditors

KPMG Audit Plc St James' Square Manchester M2 6DS

Directors' report

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004.

Principal activities

The principal activities of the company and the group during the year were that of the provision of mortgage intermediary services, and through its internet site, Moneysupermarket.com, the introduction of business to financial, insurance, and travel product providers.

Business review

Turnover increased to £59.7 million in the year (2003: £38.1 million). Profit before tax and exceptional items of £15.9 million (£2003: £6.7 million) is 56% up on an annualised basis. All growth has been organic and has involved the major income streams.

During the year the business has continued to develop and evolve. The internet business has successfully launched new product streams into the insurance and travel sectors using second generation search technology. This enables consumers to compare prices on line of products that are dynamically priced through one search site rather than having to make multiple searches across a number of different sites. The intermediary business has also expanded, establishing Mortgage 2000 Intermediary Network Limited to provide regulatory assistance to the IFA community and has taken 50% ownership in a network of intermediaries, HLP Limited.

The outlook for the business continues to look promising.

Research and development

The Group's research & development expenditure is predominantly associated with computer and internet software systems. Successfully developed software is used to improve and extend the functionality and scope of the Group's internet and intermediary operations.

Results and dividends

The directors recommend the payment of a dividend of £111.11 per ordinary share (2003: £nil)

Directors and directors' interests

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

SJ Nixon

DR Cameron

NJ Stobbs

S Hornsby

J Dodd

R Mason

S Glendinning

Directors' report (continued)

Directors and directors' interests (continued)

The directors who held office at the end of the financial year had the following interests in the ordinary shares of the company according to the register of directors' interests:

	31 December 2004	31 December 2004	31 December 2003	31 December 2003
	Ordinary 1p	"A" ordinary	Ordinary 1p	"A" ordinary 1p
	shares	1p shares	shares	shares
SJ Nixon	45,000	-	45,000	-
DR Cameron	45,000	_	45,000	-
NJ Stobbs	-	1,896	-	1,896
S Hornsby	-	758	-	758
J Dodd		284	-	284
R Mason	-	379	_	379
S Glendinning	-	379	-	379

None of the directors were granted or exercised the rights to subscribe for shares during the year.

Charitable contributions

Donations to UK charities amounted to £12,628 (2003: £881), including £10,000 in respect of the Tsunami Appeal.

Auditors

Our auditors, Baker Tilly, resigned during the year and the directors appointed KPMG Audit Plc to fill the casual vacancy arising. In accordance with Section 384 of the Companies Act 1985, a resolution for the re-appointment of KPMG Audit Plc as auditors of the company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. Special notice has been received for this resolution pursuant to section 388 of the Companies Act 1985.

By order of the board

I lixe.

SJ Nixon Secretary Moneysupermarket House St David's Park Ewloe Near Chester CH5 3UZ

15 August 2005

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 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;
- state whether applicable 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 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 have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.



KPMG Audit Plc

St James' Square Manchester M2 6DS United Kingdom

Report of the independent auditors to the members of Moneysupermarket.com Financial Group Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 6 to 22.

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 auditor's 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

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' report and, as described on page 4, the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibilities, as independent auditors, are established in the United Kingdom by statute, the Auditing Practices Board and by our profession's ethical guidance.

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 directors' report 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.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with 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 December 2004 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

HMA Lidel Pli KPMG Audit Plc

Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditor

October 2005

Group profit and loss account for the year ended 31 December 2004

for the year ended 31 December 2004			
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Note	2004 £000	2003 £000
Turnover	1	59,689	38,143
Cost of sales		(28,415)	(20,328)
Gross profit		31,274	17,815
Administrative expenses Exceptional operating costs	3	(15,987)	(11,302) (4,200)
Operating profit	2	15,287	2,313
Investment income Interest receivable and similar income Interest payable and similar charges	б	120 478	166 (25)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation Tax on profit on ordinary activities	7	15,885 (4,799)	2,454 (528)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation Minority interests		11,086 39	1,926
Profit attributable to shareholders Dividends		11,125 (10,000)	1,926
Retained profit		1,125	1,926

Group balance sheet at 31 December 2004

at 31 December 2004	Notes	£000	2004 £000	£000	2003 £000
Fixed assets Tangible assets	8	2000	4,562		4,350
Current assets Debtors	10	10,670		6,086	
Investments Cash at bank and in hand	11	2,113 15,218		9,110	
		28,001		15,196	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(26,777)		(14,907)	
Net current assets			1,224		289
Total assets less current liabilities			5,786		4,639
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year Provisions for liabilities and charges	13 14		(75) -		(14)
Net assets			5,711		4,625
Capital and reserves Called up share capital Profit and loss account	1 6 17		1 5,749		1 4,624
Equity shareholders' funds Equity minority interests	19		5,750 (39)		4,625
			5,711		4,625

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 15th August 2005 and were signed on its behalf by:

SJ Nixon

Director

& Nam

DR Cameron Director

Company balance sheet at 31 December 2004

W 31 December 200.	Notes	Notes 2004		200	2003	
		£000	£000	£000	£000	
Fixed assets Tangible assets	8		_		_	
Investments	O		-		-	
			-		-	
Current assets				•		
Debtors Investments	10 11	1,086 2,113		2,459		
Cash at bank and in hand	11	15,025		8,946		
		18,224		11,405		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(17,123)		(10,152)		
Creditors. amounts faming due witting one year	12	(17,123)		(10,132)		
Net current (liabilities)/assets			1,101		1,253	
Total assets less current liabilities					1,253	
Provisions for liabilities and charges	14		-		(14)	
Ü						
Net assets			1,101		1,239	
Capital and reserves						
Called up share capital	16		1		1	
Profit and loss account	17		1,100		1,238	
Shareholders' funds	19		1,101		1,239	

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 15th August 2005 and were signed on its behalf by:

INIXZ.

SJ Nixon Director DR Cameron
Director

Group cash flow statement for the year ended 31 December 2004

for the year ended 31 December 2004	2004 £000	2003	£000
Net cash inflow from operating activities	11,781		7,158
Returns on investments and servicing of finance Interest received Dividends from investments Interest paid	478 120 -	166 - (25)	
	598		141
Taxation UK corporation tax paid	(3,298)		(830)
Capital expenditure Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets Receipts from sale of tangible fixed assets	(944) 	(768) 1,255	
	(944)		487
Financing Capital element of finance lease rentals Subordinated loan	75 	(17) (2,222)	
	75		(2,239)
Net cashflow before use of liquid resources Management of liquid resources – short term deposits	8,212 (2,113)		4,717
Increase in cash	6,099		4,717

The notes to this statement are included in note 21.

Notes

(forming part of the financial statements)

1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and under the historical cost accounting rules.

Turnover

Internet business

The group generates fees from internet search services through a variety of contractual arrangements. The group's policy is to recognise turnover and associated costs in the period that the search is conducted.

The group also generates fees from introducing borrowers to finance providers. The group's policy is to recognise the turnover and associated costs in the period the introduction is made.

Intermediary business

Commissions are recognised on completed transactions in the period that a transaction completes.

Recharged expenses

Employees are paid by the parent company and their salary and overhead costs are recharged to the appropriate subsidiary company.

Fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets by equal instalments over their estimated useful economic lives as follows:

Long leasehold land - Nil Long leasehold buildings - 2%

Computer equipment - 33.3% straight line
Fixtures and fittings - 20% straight line
Office equipment - 20% straight line

Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is recognised, without discounting, in respect of all timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes which have arisen but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except as otherwise required by FRS 19.

Research and development

Research and development costs are written off as incurred

Pension costs

The Group operates a stakeholder pension scheme. Pension costs are charged to the profit and loss account as they occur.

2 Profit on ordinary activities before taxation

	2004	2003
	£000	£000
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging/(crediting)		
Depreciation	689	472
Auditors' remuneration:		
Audit	37	29
Other services	52	28
Loss/(profit) on disposal of fixed assets	43	(155)
Research and development costs	380	381
3 Exceptional operating costs		
	2004	2003
	£000	£000
Exceptional item	-	4,200

Exceptional costs relate to the full and final settlement of a claim in respect of database and intellectual property rights.

4 Remuneration of directors

	2004 £000	2003 £000
Directors' emoluments	2,727	4,292
Social security and company contributions to money purchase pension schemes	2	2
	2,729	4,294

The aggregate of emoluments and amounts receivable under long term incentive schemes of the highest paid director was £1,932,000 (2003:2,542,000)

5 Staff numbers and costs

The average number of persons employed by the company (including directors) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	Number of em 2004	ployees 2003
Administration	256	209
		
The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:		
	2004	2003
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	10,468	8,526
Social security and pension costs	931	966
	11,399	9,492
6 Interest payable and similar charges		
	2004	2003
	£000	£000
On bank loans	<u>-</u>	22
Finance charges payable in respect of finance leases and hire purchase contracts	-	3
		25

7 Taxation

Analysis of charge in period

	2004 £000	2003 £000
UK corporation tax Current tax on income for the period Adjustments in respect of prior periods	4,993 (2)	699 (171)
	4,991	528
Deferred tax: Origination and reversal of timing differences Adjustments in respect of prior periods	(38) (154)	-
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	4,799 	528

Factors affecting the tax charge for the current period

The current tax charge for the period is higher (2003: lower) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK (30%, 2003: 30%). The differences are explained below.

	2004 £000	2003 £000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	15,885	2,454
Current tax at 30% (2003: 30%)	4,766	736
Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Capital allowances for period in deficit/(excess) of depreciation Timing differences Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods	189 23 15 (2)	36 (25) (48) (171)
Total current tax charge (see above)	4,991	528

8 Tangible fixed assets

Group	Long leasehold land £000	Long leasehold property £000	Computer equipment £000	Fixtures and fittings £000	Office equipment £000	Total £000
Cost						
At 1 January 2004	338	3,065	1,540	199	87	5,229
Additions	-	23	835	66	20	944
Disposals	-	-	(136)	(22)	(15)	(173)
At 31 December 2004	338	3,088	2,239	243	92	6,000
Depreciation	,,					***************************************
At 1 January 2004	-	56	755	32	36	879
Charge for year	-	61	566	46	16	689
On disposals	~	-	(120)	(3)	(7)	(130)
At 31 December 2004	- -	117	1,201	75	45	1,438
Net book value At 31 December 2004	338	2,971	1,038	168	47	4,562
At 31 December 2003	338	3,009	785	167	50	4,350

No fixed assets are held by the Company.

9 Fixed asset investments

Company

	Shares in group undertakings
Shares	£
Cost At beginning of year Additions	14 -
At end of year	14

The principal companies in which the company's interest at the year end is more than 20% are as follows:

	Country of incorporation	Principal activity	Class and percentage of shares held
Subsidiary undertakings			
M2 Mortgage Club Limited	England and Wales	Mortgage facilitators	Ordinary 100%
Mortgage 2000 Design & Processing Limited	England and Wales	Mortgage Brokers and Processors	Ordinary 100%
Moneysupermarket.com Limited	England and Wales	Internet sales of Financial, Travel and Insurance Products	Ordinary 100%
Mortgage 2000 Limited (formerly M2 EMP Limited)	England and Wales	Dormant	Ordinary 100%
1 st Source Partnership Limited	England and Wales	Auxilliary financial intermediary	Ordinary 100%
Mortgage 2000 Intermediary Network Limited	England and Wales	Auxilliary financial intermediary	Ordinary 100%
View My Accounts Limited	England and Wales	Dormant	Ordinary 100%
HL Partnership Limited	England and Wales	Auxilliary financial intermediary	Ordinary 50%

10 Debtors

	Group		Company	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Trade debtors	9,677	6,066	_	652
Amounts owed by group undertakings	, <u>-</u>	, <u>-</u>	295	417
Corporation tax	-	-	493	1,386
Other debtors	551	2	290	-
Prepayments and accrued income	264	18	2	4
Deferred tax	178	-	6	-
			4.006	2.450
	10,670	6,086	1,086	2,459

11 Short term investments

	Group			Company	
	2004 £000	2003 £000	2004 £000	2003 £000	
Short term deposits	2,113		2,113	<u> </u>	

At the end of the year the company held short term investments in an open ended investment company fund.

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Company	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Bank loans and overdrafts	9	-	-	-
Trade creditors	9,265	6,130	30	164
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	5,860	2,339
Corporation tax	2,005	660	-	-
Taxation and social security	1,448	2,600	346	2,200
Other creditors	734	105	659	104
Accruals and deferred income	3,316	5,412	228	5,345
Proposed dividend	10,000	· -	10,000	-
	26,777	14,907	17,123	10,152

13 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group			Company		
	2004	2003	2004	2003		
	£000	£000	£000	£000		
Subordinated loans	75	_	-	-		
Subordinated founds						
	75	-	-	-		
Analysis of debt:	2004 £000	Group 2003 £000	Co 2004 £000	2003 £000		
Debt can be analysed as falling due:						
Between two and five years		-	-	-		
In five years or more	75	-	-	-		
	75	-	-	-		

14 Provision for liabilities and charges

Group	2004 £000	2003 £000
Deferred tax Accelerated capital allowances Short term timing differences	163 15	-
	178	-
l January 2004 Profit and loss account	(14) 192	(14)
31 December 2004	178	(14)
Company	2004 £000	2003 £000
Deferred tax Accelerated capital allowances Short term timing differences	- 20	-
	20	-
1 January 2004 Profit and loss account	(14) 20	(14)
31 December 2004	6	(14)

15 Related party transactions

Transactions with directors

During the year, cash has been advanced to certain directors of the company. The maximum balances outstanding during the year were:

SJ Nixon

£64,325

DR Cameron

£59,147

This maximum was reached at the year end date.

Abacus Permanent Limited/Virtual Processing Limited

SJ Nixon is a director and one of the controlling shareholders of these companies. He is also a director of Abacus Permanent Limited and Virtual Processing Limited and the controlling shareholder of Unique e-ventures Limited, the parent undertaking of Abacus Permanent Limited and Virtual Processing Limited.

15 Related party transactions (continued)

Transactions and balances

Transactions and balances with these two companies were as follows:

				Balance	s as at
	Sales	Purchases from	Management charges to	31 December 2004	31 December 2003
	£	£	£	£	£
Abacus Permanent Limited Virtual Processing Limited (formerly	128,806	5,879	479,663	(239,212)	157,388
known as Soft Packaging Limited)	-	66,151	119,465	232,964	-

16 Called up share capital

	31 December 2004 Number of		31 December 2003 Number of	
	shares	£	shares	£
Authorised				
Ordinary shares of £0.01 each	100,000	1,000	100,000	1,000
'A; ordinary share of £0.01 each	10,000	100	10,000	100
Issued				
Ordinary shares of £0.01 each	90,000	900	90,000	900
'A; ordinary share of £0.01 each	4,796	48	4,796	48
				
	94,796	948	94,796	948

Non-equity shares

The holders of 'A' ordinary shares are not entitled to receive any dividend or distribution. The shares have no voting rights.

The capital and assets of the company on a winding up or other return of capital shall be applied pari passu among the holders of both classes of share.

17 Profit and loss account

	Group £000	Company £000
1 January 2004	4,624	1,238
Profit for the year	11,125	9,862
Dividends	(10,000)	(10,000)
31 December 2004	5,749	1,100
	·	<u> </u>

^{&#}x27;A' ordinary shares of £0.01

18 Profit for the year

	31 December 2004 £000	31 December 2003 £000
Dealt with in the financial statements of the parent company Retained by subsidiary undertakings	(138) 1,263	9 1,917
	1,125	1,926

19 Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds

	Group		Company	
	31 December 2004 £000	31 December 2003 £000	31 December 2004 £000	31 December 2003 £000
Profit for the financial year attributable to shareholders and net addition to shareholders' funds	1,125	1,926	(138)	9
Opening shareholders' funds	4,625	2,699	1,239	1,230
Closing shareholders' funds	5,750	4,625	1,101	1,239

20 Guarantees

There is an intercompany guarantee in favour of The Royal Bank of Scotland plc between Moneysupermarket.com Financial Group Limited, Mortgage 2000 Design & Processing Limited, Mortgage 2000 Limited (formerly M2 EMP Limited), M2 Mortgage Club Limited and Moneysupermarket.com Limited.

21 Cash Flow

(i) Reconciliation of operating profit to net c	ash inflow from o	perating acti	vities	
			31 December 2004 £000	31 December 2003 £000
Operating profit Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Loss/(profit) on disposal of fixed assets Increase in debtors Increase in creditors			15,287 689 43 (4,754) 516	2,313 472 (155) (3,425) 7,953
Net cash inflow from operating activities			11,781	7,158
(ii) Reconciliation of net cash inflow to move			24.5	
	31 Decer £000	nber 2004 £000	£000	December 2003 £000
Increase in cash in the year Cash outflow from decrease in debt and lease financing	6,108		4,717 2,239	
Movement in the year		6,108		6,956
Net funds at 1 January 2004		9,110		2,154
Net cash at 31 December 2004		15,218		9,110
(iii) Analysis of changes in net debt				
	At 1 January 2004 £000	Cash flows £000	Other changes £000	At 31 December 2004 £000
Cash at bank and in hand	9,110	8,221	(2,113)	15,218

Other changes relate to the management of liquid resources. At the end of the year the company had £2,113,000 invested in an open ended liquidity fund.

22 Capital commitments

31 December 2004 £	31 December 2003 £
Contracted for but not provided in the financial statements -	-

23 Pension scheme

The group operates a stakeholder pension scheme. The pension charge for the period was £8,518 (2003: £4,594). Contributions totalling £3,685 (2003: £3,200) were payable to the fund at the year end and are included in creditors.