Grant Thornton \$





PORTSEA HARBOUR COMPANY LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 1997

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 1997

Company registration number:

1748902

Registered office:

South Street Gosport Hampshire PO12 1EP

Directors: Non executive

C J Solen

M R Wright, ARICS

M L Bell, LLB, Notary Public

Executive

G D Phillips C R P Withinshaw

Secretary:

Administrative Secretary:

M L Bell, LLB, Notary Public

M Harper, OBE

Bankers:

Barclays Bank plc 43/44 High Street

Gosport Hampshire PO12 1DN

National Westminster Bank plc

PO Box 25

130 Commercial Road

Portsmouth PO1 1ES

Lloyds Bank plc 23/29 Albion Place

Maidstone Kent ME14 5DY

Solicitors:

Churchers 28 High Street Gosport Hampshire P12 1DQ

Auditors:

Grant Thornton Registered auditors Chartered accountants Enterprise House Isambard Brunel Road

Portsmouth PO1 2RZ

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 1997

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors present their report together with financial statements for the year ended 31 December 1997.

Principal activities

The company is principally engaged in operating the landing stage at Portsea.

Business review

There was a profit for the year after taxation amounting to £32,580 (1996: profit £59,063). The directors recommend dividends absorbing £- (1996: £57,000), leaving £32,580 retained (1996: £2,063 retained).

The company continues to seek opportunities for further utilisation of its landing stage.

Directors

The membership of the Board on 31 December 1997 is set out below. All directors served throughout the year.

C J Solen M R Wright M L Bell G D Phillips

C R P Withinshaw (appointed 1/1/97)

None of the directors in office at the year end had any interest in the shares of the company.

The interests of the directors in the shares of the holding company, The Portsmouth Harbour Ferry Company Public Limited Company, are shown in that company's accounts.

Directors' responsibilities for the financial statements

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
- 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 maintaining proper accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the company and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

Auditors

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Grant Thornton offer themselves for reappointment as auditors in accordance with section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARI

M L Bell Secretary

31 March 1998

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF

PORTSEA HARBOUR COMPANY LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 11 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 4.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 1 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of 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 1997 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

GRANT THORNTON

REGISTERED AUDIPORS

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

PORTSMOUTH 31 March 1998

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The principal accounting policies of the company have remained unchanged from the previous year and are set out below.

TURNOVER

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Turnover is the total amount receivable by the company for goods supplied and services provided, excluding VAT.

DEPRECIATION

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost less estimated residual value of all tangible fixed assets by equal annual instalments over their expected useful lives. The periods generally applicable are:

Fixed roadway and pontoon

periods between 25 and 30 years

DEFERRED TAXATION

Deferred tax is provided for under the liability method using the tax rates estimated to arise when the timing differences reverse and is accounted for to the extent that it is probable that a liability or asset will crystallise.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 December 1997

		*	·
	Note	1997 £	1996 £
Turnover	1	187,769	184,929
Administrative expenses		(82,190)	(67,085)
Operating profit		105,579	117,844
Interest payable and similar charges	2	(45,058)	(42,140)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	1	60,521	75,704
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	4	(27,941)	(16,641)
Profit for the financial year	14	32,580	59,063
Dividends		-	(57,000)
Profit transferred to reserves	13	32,580	2,063

There were no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the financial year.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 1997

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	Note	1997	1996
Fixed assets		£	£
Tangible assets	6	582,991	614,991
Comment			011,551
Current assets Debtors			
Cash at bank and in hand	7	73,010	78,588
Cash at Cank and III hand		5,478	1,290
		78,488	79,878
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(44,424)	(123,245)
Net current assets		34,064	(42.267)
			(43,367)
Total assets less current liabilities		617,055	571,624
Creditors: amounts falling due after more			
than one year	9	(500,000)	(500,000)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	10	(52,918)	(40,067)
			(.0,007)
		64,137	31,557
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	12	1,000	1,000
Revaluation reserve	13	25,000	25,000
Profit and loss account	13	38,137	5,557
Shareholders' funds	14	64,137	31,557
/		=======================================	J 1,557

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 31 March 1998

C J Solen

Director

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 1997

1 TURNOVER AND PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION

The profit on ordinary activities is stated after:	1997 £	1996 £
Auditors' remuneration	-	1,000
Depreciation:		,
Tangible fixed assets, owned	32,000	32,000
Auditors' remuneration of £1,000 has been charged in The Portsmouth Harbour Ferry 6 this company.	Company PLC which r	elates to
INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES		
	1997	1996
	£	£
Interest payable to group undertakings	45,058	42,140

3 DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES

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The company has no paid employees. The directors did not receive any remuneration in the year.

4 TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

The tax charge is based on the profit for the year and represents:

1997	1996
£	£
12,500 12,851	12,000 8,350
25,351	20,350
2,590	(3,709)
27,941	16,641
	12,500 12,851 25,351 2,590

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 1997

5 DIVIDENDS

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	1997 £	1996 £
Ordinary shares		57,000

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and equipment
Cost or valuation At 1 January 1997 and at 31 December 1997	867,777
Depreciation At 1 January 1997 Provided in the year	252,786 32,000
At 31 December 1997	284,786
Net book amount at 31 December 1997	582,991
Net book amount at 31 December 1996	614,991

The fixed roadway landing stage at Portsea was valued during 1985 at £25,000 on the basis of its continued existing use. In the opinion of the directors the remaining fixed roadway continues to represent the value ascribed to the whole in 1985. No provision has been made in the deferred taxation account for the estimated corporation tax which would be payable if the asset was disposed of at its valuation because in the opinion of the directors the asset is unlikely to be disposed of in the foreseeable future.

7 DEBTORS

1997	1996
£	£
34	1,567
71,808	75,750
1,168	1,271
73,010	78,588
	£ 34 71,808 1,168

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 1997

CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR 8

	1997 £	1996 £
Amounts owed to group undertakings Corporation tax Proposed dividends Accruals and deferred income	31,674 12,500 - 250	54,105 12,000 57,000 140
	44,424	123,245
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR		
	1997	1996

9

	£	£
Amounts owed to group undertakings	500,000	500,000

The loan is repayable otherwise than by instalments in more than 5 years time. Interest is charged at 2 1/2% above the Barclays Bank base rate.

10 PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

	Deferred taxation £
At 1 January 1997 Provided during the year	40,067 12,851
At 31 December 1997	52,918

11 **DEFERRED TAXATION**

Deferred taxation provided for and not provided for in the financial statements is set out below.

	Amount provided		Amount unprovided	
	1997	1996	1997	1996
	£	£	£	£
Accelerated capital allowances	52,918	40,067	80,160	69,387
	52,918	40,067	80,160	69,387

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 1997

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17	CHADE	
12	SHARE	CAPITAL

	1997 £	1996 £
Authorised 1,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	1,000	1,000
Allotted, called up and fully paid 1,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	1,000	1,000

13 RESERVES

	Revaluation reserve	Profit and loss account
At 1 January 1997	25,000	5,557
Retained profit for the year	-	32,580
At 31 December 1997	25,000	38,137

The balance on the revaluation reserve is not distributable under the Companies Act 1985.

14 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	1997	1996
	£	£
Profit for the financial year	32,580	59,063
Dividends	-	(57,000)
	32,580	2,063
Net increase in shareholders' funds	32,580	2,063
Shareholders' funds at 1 January 1997	31,557	29,494
Shareholders' funds at 31 December 1997	64,137	31,557

15 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The company had no capital commitments at 31 December 1997 or 31 December 1996.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 1997

16 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The company has a contingent liability, together with other group companies, in respect of, a balance of account guarantee given to Barclays Bank plc in respect of the overdraft on the ultimate parent undertaking. At 31 December 1997 overdrafts of the ultimate parent undertaking totalled £15,597 (1996: £43,853).

17 ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKING

The directors consider that the ultimate parent undertaking of this company is The Portsmouth Harbour Ferry Company PLC, registered in England and Wales.

18 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

As a wholly owned subsidiary of The Portsmouth Harbour Ferry Company plc, the company is exempt from the requirements of FRS 8 to disclose transactions with other members of the group.