



AIR EP

Ag Innovation & Research
Eyre Peninsula

ANNUAL REPORT TO AIR EP MEMBERS

2021

Chair's report

Welcome to the first AGM of AIREP.

As you are aware, AIREP was formed by the amalgamation of LEADA and EPARF. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Transition Committee, which was made up of members of LEADA and EPARF, for the time, effort and good will which was applied to the task of selecting a Board and establishing the organisation we have today.

Special thanks should go to Mark Stanley, Regional Connections who was contracted to organise and supply executive services to the Transition Committee. The effort he put in was well above and beyond the role he was contracted to do.

In the 18 months the Board has been operating, the Board Members have all been heavily involved in developing a strategic plan and policies to guide governance and Staff. I would like to thank all Board Members for their tireless efforts and discussions around the formation of plans and policies.

The organisation was extremely fortunate to attract Naomi Scholz to the position of Executive Officer. Her exemplary skills in writing project applications, project management and reporting have already helped us establish a reputation with Funders as a go to organisation for Ag Research on Eyre Peninsula.

With the projects carried forward from LEADA and EPARF, combined with the new projects won, we now have approx. six million dollars' worth of projects to oversee. This comes with significant financial accountability which is competently performed by our Financial Officer, Alanna Barns.

I would like to acknowledge the Low and Medium Rainfall Committees which are now up and running. These committees are the backbone of AIREP as they are tasked to identify research questions for their rainfall zones and review the research as it progresses. Independent Agronomists and farmers form these committees which provide us with a great cross section of Ag issues on EP.

We have established a good working relationship with the EP Landscape Board and they have contracted us to deliver the role of Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator (RALF). This position has been capably filled by Amy Wright. Another contract which we deliver on behalf of the EP Landscape Board is the Sustainable Ag Program and is delivered by Josh Telfer. Both of these contracts give AIREP and the Landscape Board a face in the rural community.

Thanks to our sponsors for 2021: AGT, Bendigo Bank/Rural Bank, CBH, Intergrain, GrainGrowers, Advantage Grain, Corteva Agriscience and Letcher Moroney Chartered Accountants.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank the Board Members for the time and effort they have committed to build the organisation. It is not easy to start an organisation from scratch, but with a positive attitude shown by all involved and a shared vision, we are well on the way to being a strong research organisation.



Bryan Smith
Chair

The organisation

Agricultural Innovation & Research Eyre Peninsula (AIR EP) was officially incorporated on 26 May 2020, with the aim of creating a single entity for farmer driven applied research, local validation and extension of agricultural technologies and innovations on the Eyre Peninsula.

AIR EP, a not-for-profit incorporated association, is the result of a merger between the Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation (EPARF) and the Lower Eyre Ag Development Association (LEADA) farming systems groups, who have been very effective in providing local RD&E outcomes for upper and lower Eyre Peninsula respectively over the past 15 years. By joining forces, the new organisation will create efficiencies in administration and operations, and provide a stronger face for regional RD&E to future funders, partners, members and supporters.

AIR EP is governed by a Board and RD&E activities are driven by members of the Low and Medium Rainfall RD&E Committees and other grower groups across Eyre Peninsula.

AIR EP attracts investment from a range of sources including the Australian Government, Research & Development Corporations, SA Grains Industry Trust plus annual sponsorship and membership fees to facilitate agricultural RD&E activities on Eyre Peninsula.

Vision

A professional, farmer driven organisation that leads RD&E of agricultural technologies and innovations for farmers on the Eyre Peninsula.

Purpose

The AIR EP Board will provide leadership and direction to deliver relevant and innovative, farmer driven RD&E to advance agriculture on Eyre Peninsula.

Core values

Relevance, independence, creativity, respect.

Key priorities

- Effective partnerships
- Investment attraction
- Outcome focussed
- Farmer driven
- Demonstrate leadership
- Capacity and capability building

The organisation will access funds to support projects that address key issues and opportunities that will increase the profitability and resilience of farming businesses in the region.

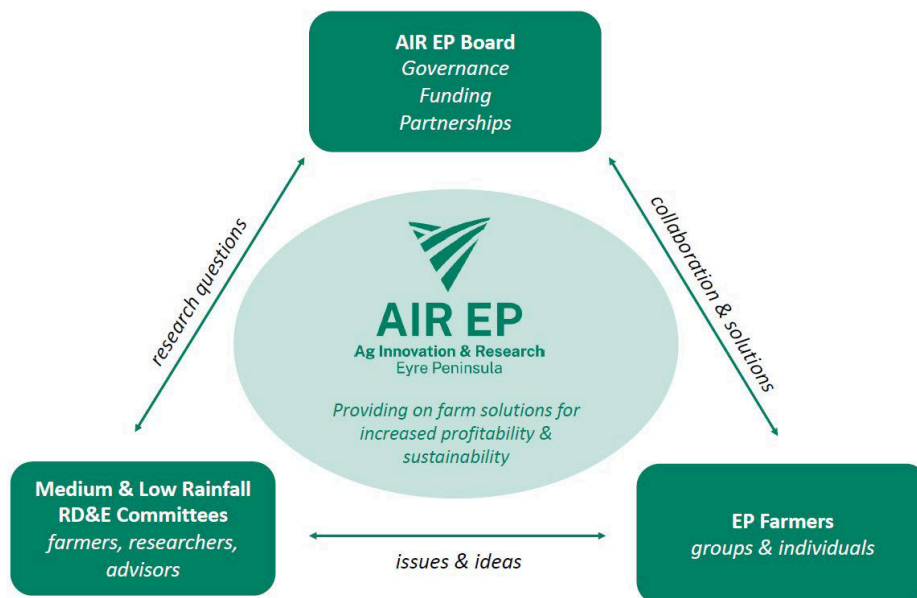
AIR EP Inaugural Board Members

- Bryan Smith (Chair)
- Greg Scholz (Deputy Chair, Public Officer)
- John Richardson
- Bill Long
- Andrew Polkinghorne
- Ken Webber
- Greg Arthur
- Mark Stanley (special skills and experience)



Structure

The AIR EP Board provides governance oversight and sets the strategic direction for the organisation. The Board is supported by two RD&E Committees, one with a focus on the medium rainfall zone (lower EP) and one on the low rainfall zone (upper EP). These committees focus on setting priorities for RD&E investment in the region, reviewing projects and providing input into events for farmers.



Medium Rainfall RD&E Committee

Covers lower and parts of Eastern Eyre Peninsula and comprises: John Richardson (Chair, AIR EP Board member rep), Dan Adams, George Pedler, Billy Pedler, Dustin Parker, Jacob Giles, Denis Pedler, David Davenport, Lochie Siegert, Brett Masters, Daniel Puckridge.

Low Rainfall RD&E Committee

Covers central, eastern and western Eyre Peninsula and comprises: Symon Allen (Chair), Greg Scholz (AIR EP Board member rep), Andy Bates, Andrew Ware, Rhiannon Schilling, Amanda Cook, Daniel Bergmann, Matthew Cook, Rhys Tomney, Leigh Scholz, Kevin Dart.

Membership

2020/21 membership was 370 (existing EPARF and LEADA members, free).

Memberships expired on 1 July 2021 and can be renewed via the AIR EP website:

<https://airep.com.au/memberships/types/>.

There are three annual membership types:

Individual: \$150 + GST

Business: \$200 + GST (up to 10 members)

Future Farmer: free for school and tertiary students

Staff

Executive Officer - Naomi Scholz

Finance Officer - Alanna Barns

Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator (RALF) - Amy Wright

Sustainable Agriculture Officer - Josh Telfer

Key activities timeline



AIR EP Projects

At 30 June 2021, AIR EP are currently involved in delivery of 23 projects ranging in value from \$6,000 to \$3.2m.

Project title	Brief Summary of Project	Funder	Total Budget	Start Date	Finish Date
DEW - 1648 Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator Services	Provision of RALF services for EP. Central point of contact for farmers, industry, groups for core services & projects. Collate & distribute information. Collect regional intelligence. Facilitate group collaboration, help seek funding. Promote NLP projects. Liaise with RALF network across Australia.	EP Landscape Board (NLP)	\$367,200	1-Jul-20	30-Jun-23
DEW - 1604 Delivery of components of the regions existing Sustainable Agriculture program – a three year agriculture extension program	Delivery of Sustainable Ag program. Key areas: soil acidity, soil erosion, soil carbon, Mallee seeps.	EP Landscape Board (NLP)	\$860,570	17-Aug-20	30-Jun-23
G2021-5 Eastern Eyre Soil Management Opportunities	Increase soil cover of bare soils over 20/21 summer. Gain increased understanding of summer crops/other activities to affect soil surface cover, erosion potential and plant growth.	EP Landscape Board	\$80,000	18-Nov-20	30-Jun-21
GRDC Hands-On Precision Agriculture Training (HOPAT) project	Delivery of 2 Precision Ag workshops (Pinion Advisory organising content, we organise event logistics)	GRDC	\$6,000	1-Jan-21	31-Dec-21
Increasing production on sandy soils in low and medium rainfall areas of the Southern Region GRDC Project CSP00203 (Upper EP)	The project is looking at why there is unused soil water at harvest in cropping systems on sandy soils, and what are the mitigation and amelioration options to improve this situation. The project is investigating the physical, chemical impediments and the biological constraints in sandy soils and crop establishment on non-wetting soils.	GRDC	\$128,000	1-Jul-18	30-Mar-23
Increasing production on sandy soils in low and medium rainfall areas of the Southern Region (Lower EP)	As above.	GRDC	\$80,000	1-Jul-18	31-Jan-22
Demonstrating and validating the implementation of integrated weed management strategies to control barley grass in the low rainfall zone farming systems GRDC Project 9176981	Research into the ecology and control tactics of barley grass has occurred and now this needs to be transferred into the development and testing of localised IWM strategies. This investment will test localised IWM strategies against barley grass utilising large plot replicated demonstration sites and delivered within key areas of the low rainfall zone.	GRDC	\$117,000	1-Apr-19	1-Jan-22

Using soil and plant testing data to better inform nutrient management and optimise fertiliser investments for grain growers in the southern region GRDC Project 9176604	Using soil and plant testing data to better inform nutrient management and optimise fertiliser investments for grain growers in the southern region. Engage 100 growers (6 paddocks per grower = 600 paddocks total/yr) in the project to conduct soil testing and fertiliser demonstration strips.	GRDC	\$59,000	1-Jun-18	1-May-21
GRDC Soil borne disease demo	Demo site at Tim Larwood's, to be run for two years. Rhizo management (vetch, wheat & barley +/-seed dressed).	GRDC via Farmlink	\$15,000	1-May-21	30-Jun-23
GRDC Frost Extension	Small plot frost trial at Tim Zacher's Tooligie. Extension materials (video, podcast) to be developed.	GRDC via MSF	\$20,000	1-May-21	31-Dec-21
9175959 - Boosting profit and reducing risk on mixed farms in low and medium rainfall areas with newly discovered legume pastures enabled by innovative management methods - southern Region	One on-farm demonstration to evaluate the performance of new legume and establishment options and quantify the benefits to animal production and the following crops.	GRDC via MSF	\$80,000	1-May-19	1-Jun-22
A new paradigm for resilient and profitable dryland farming on the Eyre Peninsula using data to improve on-farm decision making 4-CS70YDN	New and emerging technologies will be used to assist farmers make efficient use of soil moisture. Farmers will be able to make more informed, timely decisions underpinned by innovations in agronomy and livestock management in order to optimise the region's productive potential whilst protecting soil and water resources in a changing climate.	NLP2	\$3,288,800	1-Nov-19	1-Mar-23
Adapting cropping systems to changing climatic conditions to reduce inputs and maximise water use through improving crop competitiveness 4-BA9K BX5	The project will demonstrate the benefits of increasing the distribution of seed per m2 using innovative farmer equipment. Two demonstration sites will be monitored to measure ground cover, water use, erosion risk and weed numbers.	NLP2	\$96,260	1-Oct-19	1-Sep-21
Perennial Pasture Systems for the Upper Eyre Peninsula and Other Dryland Farming Areas 4-FRPYBAZ	This project will demonstrate perennial pastures as an option for improving the productivity of low productive cropping land on the upper Eyre Peninsula.	NLP2	\$99,131	1-Oct-19	1-Sep-21

Warm and cool season mixed cover cropping for sustainable farming systems in south eastern Australia' project. 4-60A5VY4	In this project, a consortium of grower groups and the CSIRO will identify and demonstrate suitable cover crops across south eastern Australia. The impacts of cover cropping on soil health, nutrient cycling, organic carbon, and soil moisture will be measured, and the optimum timing and method to terminate the cover crops will be determined. At Minnipa: one x species evaluation trial to be conducted, followed by cereal crop.	NLP2	\$40,000	1-Jan-19	1-Feb-22
4-BA163W7 - Increasing adoption of new techniques combining physical, chemical and plant based interventions to improve soil function on Eyre Peninsula 4-BA163YG	Increase awareness of methods to address a range of soil constraints, by demonstrating how the combination of deep incorporation of chemical amendments (lime and gypsum) and the inclusion of organic materials can address soil physical and chemical constraints that reduce plant root growth and limit soil biological function. Will conduct a training and extension programme based around field demonstrations of new techniques that allow cost effective deep placement of amendments.	NLP2	\$183,400	1-May-19	1-Oct-21
D - LEADA - National Landcare Program; Smart Farming Partnerships initiative funding Round 1 - Warm and Cool season mixed cover cropping for sustainable farming systems in south eastern Australia	Part of a bigger project across south eastern Australia to identify and demonstrate suitable cover crops. The impacts of cover cropping on soil health, nutrient cycling, organic carbon, and soil moisture will be measured, and the optimum timing and method to terminate the cover crops will be determined.	NLP2	\$72,000	1-Dec-18	1-Mar-22
Boosting profit and reducing risk on mixed farms in low and medium rainfall areas with newly discovered legume pastures enabled by innovative management methods - southern region: EP demo sites and extension (Delivery of DLPS Demo Sites on Upper EP).	Delivery of upper EP demonstration sites for DLPS project, local awareness raising activities (publish DLPS articles in EPFS Summary, on EPARF website, sticky beak days, farmer meetings), host a technical pastures workshop on EP, entry and exit surveys, publish 3 x local awareness articles in local media, case studies produced on demo sites, record attendance at events.	Rural R&D4P	\$80,000	1-Oct-19	1-Mar-22
EP120 - Eyre Peninsula internship in applied grains research	To improve the capacity of grains RD&E in the Eyre Peninsula region. This project will annually engage a recent graduate to work as an intern/trainee in applied grains RD&E, located on Eyre Peninsula.	SAGIT	\$235,600	1-Jul-20	31-Jan-23

LEA120 Taking South Australian Canola profitability to the next level	Determining the maximum achievable water limited yield of canola on Lower EP and the relative significance of key canola yield drivers once disease and phenology are optimised and inform growers and advisors on the yield driving mechanisms and profitability of high production canola systems.	SAGIT	\$130,400	1-Jul-20	1-Aug-23
4.2.003: More profitable crops on highly calcareous soils by improving early vigour and overcoming soil constraints.	AIR EP providing in-kind to the project: access to networks for project extension, to the value of \$9000 total. The team is from PIRSA, NSW DPI, AIR EP and MFMG. Outcomes will be modified agronomic practices and improved soil conditions which increase WUE of crops and farm profitability as well as improved knowledge of the impact of high carbonate on crop performance.	Soil CRC	\$0	22-Jun-20	31-Mar-23
4.2.001 Developing knowledge and tools to better manage herbicide residues in soil	This project will develop new knowledge and tools to better understand the factors regulating herbicide persistence and bioavailability, giving farmers increased confidence in crop choice, timing of sowing and herbicide management to ensure soil and crop performance is not limited by herbicide residues.	Soil CRC	\$69,030	1-May-19	1-Apr-22
1.2.004: Surveying on farm practices	Working alongside grower groups to develop regionally relevant survey tools, this project will initiate the process of surveying land managers across regions and industries. This will bring about an improved understanding of current practices, including farmer aspirations; motivations and their perceptions of existing and proposed R&D initiatives.	Soil CRC	\$0	1-Jul-19	1-Jun-21

\$6,107,391

Sponsorship 2021

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



Thank you to all sponsors for their generous support.

Sponsorship is a vital link in AIR EP being able to provide the services to our members and we hope to be able to continue these relationships.

A special mention and thanks goes to Letcher Moroney Chartered Accountants who willingly audited the finances and supplied the Financial Report for the AIR EP AGM. This support is greatly appreciated.

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION & RESEARCH EYRE PENINSULA INC

ABN 30 709 219 010

**FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2021**

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION & RESEARCH EYRE PENINSULA INC

ABN 30 709 219 010

CONTENTS

Committee Report

Statement of Revenues and Expenses

Statement of Financial Position

Notes to the Financial Statements

Statement by Members of the Committee

Audit Report

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION & RESEARCH EYRE PENINSULA INC.

ABN 30 709 219 010

COMMITTEE REPORT

Your committee members submit the special purpose financial report of the above named incorporated association for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

Committee Members

Bryan Smith (Chairperson)	Greg Scholz (Vice Chair & Public Officer)
Greg Arthur	Ken Webber
Bill Long	John Richardson
Andrew Polkinghorne	Mark Stanley

Principal Activities

Agricultural Innovation & Research Eyre Peninsula Inc. promotes the practical application and advancement of scientific research, education and training in dryland farming systems. Relationships are engaged and developed with government and between participants in the Primary Industry sector. The incorporated association accesses funds to support projects that address key issues and opportunities that aim to increase the profitability, innovation and resilience of agribusiness in the Eyre Peninsula region.

Significant Changes

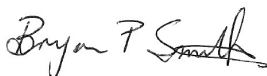
No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

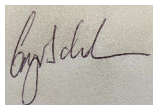
The net loss using the accrual basis of accounting for the year ended 30 June 2021 was \$21,704.13

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.

Committee Chairperson:



Vice Chairperson:



Dated this 26th day of August 2021

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION RESEARCH EYRE PENINSULA INC.
ABN 30 709 219 010

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	2021
	\$
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REVENUES	
Interest Received	5,838.90
Management Fee	104,830.93
Member's Day	14,000.00
Project Funding - Various	434,563.00
Project Funding - RALF Position	108,400.00
Project Funding - Sub Contracts	1,190,175.49
Sponsorship	26,000.00
Other Revenue	3,100.00
	<hr/>
	1,886,908.32
EXPENSES	
Board Expenses	41,027.26
Consultancy Fees	9,640.00
Insurance	7,640.10
Members Day Expenses	20,382.43
Motor Vehicle Expenses	10,944.64
Office Expenses	9,653.01
Project Payments - Various	681,276.84
Projects - Sub Contracts	1,032,528.62
Salaries & Wages	220,019.06
Sundry Expenses	1,353.85
Superannuation Contributions	20,901.89
Website Expenses	3,379.00
WorkCover	745.75
	<hr/>
	2,059,492.45
Loss Excluding Change in Project Obligations	<hr/>
	(172,584.13)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION RESEARCH EYRE PENINSULA INC.
ABN 30 709 219 010

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	2021
	\$
Loss Excluding Change in Project Obligations	(172,584.13)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Project Obligations	<u>(150,880.00)</u>
Accumulated losses at the end of the financial year	<u>(21,704.13)</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION RESEARCH EYRE PENINSULA INC.
ABN 30 709 219 010

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$
ASSOCIATION FUNDS		
Opening Member Funds		632,643.02
Accumulated losses		(21,704.13)
TOTAL ASSOCIATION FUNDS		610,938.89
Represented by:		
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
BankSA Term Deposit #1 (360)		200,811.96
BankSA Term Deposit #2 (160)		200,863.38
BankSA Term Deposit #3 (960)		200,847.86
Rabobank Term Deposit		562,221.59
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit		90,485.00
Bendigo Bank - Business Cash		109,765.80
Bendigo Bank - Easy Saver		203,609.11
BankSA Society Cash		2,440.15
Trade Debtors		6,200.00
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,577,244.85
TOTAL ASSETS		1,577,244.85
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Credit Card		2,615.86
Workcover Payable		396.10
PAYG Withholding - June BAS		16,142.00
GST - June BAS		11,147.00
Project Obligations		936,005.00
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		966,305.96
TOTAL LIABILITIES		966,305.96
NET ASSETS		610,938.89

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION RESEARCH EYRE PENINSULA INC.
ABN 30 709 219 010

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The committee has prepared the financial statements on the basis that the incorporated association is a non reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. These financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to meet the needs of the business.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with significant accounting policies disclosed below which the committee has determined are appropriate to meet the purposes of preparation.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs unless stated otherwise in the notes. The accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of these statements are as follows:

First Year Following Merger

The year 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 is the first year of operation of the incorporated association following the merger of Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation (ERAPF) and Lower Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Development Association (LEADA).

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Project Obligations

Many cash receipts represent project funding which, according to project deeds and agreements, the association is subsequently obligated to pay out as project payments to suppliers and subcontractors. Both the Statement of Revenues and Expenses and the Statement of Financial Position have allowed for the fact that the timing of project income and outgoings vary across multiple financial years and prior to the merger of EPARF and LEADA.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated exclusive of GST as the association reports on a cash basis to the ATO.

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION RESEARCH EYRE PENINSULA INC.
ABN 30 709 219 010

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Motor Vehicles - Operating Leases

During the 2021 financial year the incorporated association entered into Operating Lease contracts for three motor vehicles, used exclusively by the employees for association work only. The total lease payments for all three motor vehicles of \$2,899.43 per month including GST are fully recognised as expenses. Two of the Leases are scheduled to conclude during the 2024 financial year while the other Lease is scheduled to conclude during the 2025 financial year.

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION & RESEARCH EYRE PENINSULA INC.

ABN 30 709 219 010

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

A special purpose financial report has been prepared as the committee has determined that the incorporated association is not a reporting entity. This special purpose financial report including a Statement of Revenues and Expenses and a Statement of Financial Position is required to be prepared in accordance with the SA Associations Incorporation Act [1985] and lodged online with the SA government's Office of Consumer and Business Services.

In the opinion of the committee the attached financial report:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of the incorporated association as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and
2. At the above mentioned date, there were reasonable grounds to believe that the incorporated association was able to pay its debts on time.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Committee Chairperson:



Vice Chairperson:



Dated this 26th day of August 2021

