

**Strategic Report, Report of the Directors and**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 28 February 2023**  
**for**  
**Aston Barclay Limited**

THURSDAY



\*ACXWDZ6B\*

A08

29/02/2024

#195

COMPANIES HOUSE

**Aston Barclay Limited**

**Contents of the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Company Information</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Strategic Report</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Report of the Directors</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Independent auditors' report to the members of Aston Barclay Limited</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Statement of Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Statement of Changes in Equity</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	<b>17</b>

**Aston Barclay Limited**

**Company Information**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

<b>Directors:</b>	G I MacLeod P D Khot
<b>Secretary:</b>	P D Khot
<b>Registered office:</b>	Unit 1-2 Harvard Way Normanton Industrial Estate Normanton West Yorkshire WF6 1FL
<b>Registered number:</b>	01644813 (England and Wales)
<b>Independent Auditors:</b>	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP One Chamberlain Square Birmingham B3 3AX

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Strategic Report** **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

The Directors present their strategic report of the Company for the year ended 28 February 2023.

#### **Principal activities**

The principal activity of the Company is that of a vehicle auction and remarketing supplier.

#### **Review of the Business**

The EBITDA for the year was £2,786,000, a decrease of 41% over the previous year of £4,757,000. The decrease was attributed mainly to the reduction in volume to 85,865 units, a decrease of 13% over the previous year of 98,123 units. The Company's profit after taxation for the year was £952,000, a decrease of 56% over the previous year of £2,175,000. As at 28 February 2023, the Company had net assets of £11,839,000 (28 February 2022: £10,887,000).

At the onset of the financial year, the Company's market was adversely affected by the unexpected turn of macro-economic events, and specifically, the Russia-Ukraine conflict. This led to a global shortage in steel, wiring loom and other critical raw materials required for new car production, and an increase in energy prices, interest rates and inflation.

Vehicle shortages due to new car supply chain issues caused knock on negative effects in the fleet and OEM sectors, with those vendors operating on the basis of lease extensions. This continued to substantially reduce the volume of vehicles coming into the remarketing channel. The increase in energy prices together with the increases in inflation and interest rates led to subdued consumer demand for both new and used vehicles. This caused a decline in forecourt activity with dealers holding on to stock in an attempt to get a better price in the future.

The Company collaborated closely with its customers, employees and other stakeholders to address and mitigate the challenges posed by these adverse market conditions. This included maintaining focus on providing market leading customer experience and outperforming competitors in the key areas of conversion and CAP performance. The Company continued to enhance its refurbishment offerings with improved grades either pre or post-sale, helping customers realise a better return on entries into auction, or a quicker retail-ready vehicle once the hammer has fallen.

Investment in technology solutions remained a priority, supporting dealers through dedicated online closed group platforms for several networks and facilitating the ability for franchise dealers to secure stock exclusively.

During the year, the Company partnered with a French Company, ProovStation, to invest in their AI-led imagery solution. Two state of the art ProovStation gantries were procured during the financial year for implementation in the Company's Wakefield and Donington sites. This innovative on-site appraisal system is powered by Artificial Intelligence to enhance our vehicle appraisal services.

The Company secured a few awards and nominations during the financial year, showcasing the Company's industry recognition and excellence in its field. The Company was the winner of the "Innovation in Remarketing" award by Great British Fleet Awards in May 2022 and winner of "The Best Remarketing Company" award by Business Car in September 2022. The Company was one of the nominees of the "Remarketing Company of the Year" Award in November 2022.

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Strategic Report**

**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

#### **Section 172(1) Statement**

In accordance with Section 172(1) of the Companies Act 2006, the Directors set out below the actions they have taken to comply with their Section 172 duties. Section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 requires Board members to acknowledge that they must act in a manner which is most likely to promote the success of the company for the benefit of its members as a whole. In doing so they must have regard to the following matters:

- a) the likely consequences of any decision in the long term.
- b) the interests of the company's employees.
- c) the need to foster the company's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others.
- d) the impact of the company's operations on the community and the environment.
- e) the desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct; and
- f) the need to act fairly as between members of the company.

#### *Governance and decision making*

The Directors are responsible for making decisions concerning the Company's trading, strategy and future direction. Matters are presented at Board meetings and are considered by the Directors, who give careful consideration to all the matters outlined above when making decisions.

Governance processes, including the comprehensive Terms of Reference structure, are regularly reviewed in detail and various improvements introduced where necessary on an ongoing basis. Any changes are designed to better allow effective delegation of powers to the executive management and the reservation of powers to the Board. Board meetings are held monthly with papers prepared and distributed in advance in respect of any principal decisions which are required to be made. Minutes of all board meetings are prepared and reviewed to ensure they adequately reflect the decision-making process and the discussions which took place in advance of decisions being taken.

#### *Long term outlook*

When making decisions, the Directors look to maximise the potential for the positive long-term development of the Company and consider whether any proposed action is consistent with that aim. The Company has a history in recent years of significant investment in new physical and digital capabilities with the aim of protecting and developing the Company's long-term competitive position.

#### *Employee interests*

The Company's employees are critical to delivering outstanding service to our vendors, buyers and other stakeholders. The Company regularly engages with employees in both informal and formal ways, including regular structured engagement surveys, and the results of these are reported to the Board and discussed by the Directors. There is also a significant ongoing investment in a comprehensive training and development program which aims to maximise the potential of all the Company's employees. For further details see the Employee Engagement section in the Stakeholder section of the Directors' report.

#### *Relationships with suppliers, customers and other stakeholders*

The Company works closely with its vendors and buyers to deliver an open and transparent marketplace for transacting cars and LCVs. There is regular communication by the Company with both vendors and buyers, including structured surveys that deliver focused feedback to the Directors with the aim of that feedback enabling improved products and services. The Company aims to develop strategic supply partnerships where possible, to treat all suppliers fairly and openly, and also seeks to extend this level of openness and transparency to its key financial stakeholders, most notably the providers of long-term debt finance and various working capital facilities.

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Strategic Report** **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

Section 172(1) Statement – continued  
*Community engagement and environment*

The Company aims to generate positive local community impact where possible, and this includes job creation and the recruitment of new permanent and part-time employees where investments are made in new infrastructure. The Company is committed to being environmentally responsible and seeks to limit energy usage and its carbon footprint where possible.

#### *Business conduct, fairness and sustainability*

The Company aims to have high standards of integrity and conduct, and interact with its customers, employees and wider stakeholders in a fair and transparent way. This behaviour seeks to ensure that the Company maintains its position as a key member of its industry and preserves and enhances over time its reputation for high standards of service.

#### **Principal risks and uncertainties**

The Company maintains a risk register which is reviewed and discussed by the senior leadership team on a monthly basis. The Company performs a robust assessment of any newly identified risks and prepares mitigation plans to reduce their impact on business.

The principal risk to the Company is the lack of new car supply which is affecting the supply of vehicles for remarketing, mainly from the current OEM and fleet vendors. The Company has taken steps to increase volume through new business and increasing market share of shared vendors. In addition to this uncertainty around consumer confidence and the impact on discretionary spends continues to be a risk and one the company will look to mitigate with other revenue opportunities and service add-ons.

The Company's banking headroom position has been stress tested for plausible volume reduction scenarios. These assessments have been reviewed and discussed by the Board of Directors, with consideration given to sensible mitigating actions which are readily available to the Company. The directors have considered the commercial terms in place with customers and suppliers, along with the ability, if required, for the business to scale down costs in the event of reduced demand. Whilst these are uncertain times, being able to efficiently manage costs in line with fluctuating volumes is a fundamental part of the offering that the Company already provides to many of its customers.

The Company continues to generate strong cash flows and therefore, the Directors do not consider the business to be at risk from any unforeseen price, supply or demand movements. The Company centralised its treasury operations from 6 sites to the Head office to achieve greater visibility and control on cash management.

#### **Financial risk management objectives and policies**

The Company has a broad range of vendors and buyers and is continually developing a broader service offering and, as such, closely manages volume and price risk. In addition, the Company's cash flow profile generally sees vehicles being paid for before they leave site and with those cash flows from buyers being closely matched to remittances to vendors. The Company therefore closely manages and controls its inherently low levels of credit, liquidity and cash flow risk.

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Strategic Report**

#### **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

#### **Financial key performance indicators**

The Directors use several key performance indicators to measure the performance of the business. In addition to the measures of turnover and profit margins, these include the number of vehicles sold, income per vehicle and the number of vehicles sold as a percentage of those entered. Variable costs are measured against the number of vehicles sold and fixed costs against their utilisation.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Revenue (£'000)	29,325	30,471
Volumes sold (units)	85,865	98,123
Cash at bank at year end (£'000)	18,285	13,072

#### **Other key performance indicators**

The Directors measure the overall trading performance by reference to Earnings Before Interest, Taxation, Depreciation, Amortisation and Exceptional items (EBITDA). The reconciliation of EBITDA to the Operating Profit shown in the Statement of Comprehensive Income is as follows:

	<b>2023 £'000</b>	<b>2022 £'000</b>
EBITDA	2,786	4,757
Exceptional items	(412)	(339)
Amortisation	(537)	(547)
Depreciation (net of profit on disposal)	(840)	(1,316)
Operating profit	<u>997</u>	<u>2,555</u>

The Directors also monitor the results of the performance reviews carried out by customers (both vendors and buyers).

The Directors actively manage working capital and cash with the aim that the Group has significant liquid cash resources and headroom at all times. In addition to a cash and cash equivalents balance of £ £19.9m (including a cash balance of £18.3m in Aston Barclay Limited), ABVR Holdings Limited group also had undrawn revolving credit facilities of £6.5m as at 28 February 2023.

**Aston Barclay Limited**

**Strategic Report**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

**Future developments and post balance sheet events**

The Group, which Aston Barclay Limited is a part of, entered into two sale and lease back agreements in respect of its freehold properties in December 2023. Long term lease agreements have been entered into for the Chelmsford, Westbury, Prees Heath and Leeds sites. The proceeds from the sale of properties were utilised to repay the senior debt of £27.5m that was to be either refinanced or repaid in June 2024. The Group made this strategic decision to remain debt-free and focus on future growth. The Group is in discussions with certain parties for a working capital based short term facility to manage liquidity and support growth. Please refer to the "Going Concern" section in the Report of the Directors on page 8 for further information.

The Company will continue to invest heavily in IT and Operational infrastructure to enhance customer experience with better technology and efficiency. The two state of the art Proovstation gantries have been successfully implemented across Wakefield and Donington sites with a view to a Company-wide roll-out.

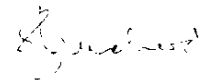
The Company is also investing in EV infrastructure to cater to the growing demand for electric vehicles and align with the changing market trends.

The Company also continues to invest in its people and was awarded the "Investor in People" accreditation in 2023. The Company has expanded its Buyer Service team on sites to provide better service to vendors and buyers. Investments have also been made into the Marketing team to strengthen the communication on the Company's remarketing activities and improve the Company's presence in the market.

The Company received the following ISO accreditations in 2023: ISO 14001 (Environmental Management), ISO/IEC 27001 (Information Security) and ISO 45001 (Occupational Health and Safety), along with the re-certification ISO 9001 (Quality Management Systems). This signifies the Company's commitment to maintain high standards across the organisation.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the employees, customers and suppliers of the Company for their continued support during challenging times, and we look forward to the future with optimism.

This report was approved by the board on 20 February 2024 and signed on its behalf.



**G I MacLeod**  
**Executive Chairman**



## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Report of the Directors** **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

The directors present their report with the audited financial statements of the company for the year ended 28 February 2023.

#### **Results and dividends**

The profit for the year, after taxation, amounted to £952,000 (2022 - £2,175,000).

There were no interim dividends paid during the year. The Directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend (2022 £Nil).

#### **Directors**

The directors of the company who were in office during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements were:

G I MacLeod  
P D Khot  
M A Potter (resigned 5 August 2022)  
T Marley (resigned 10 May 2023)

#### **Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, Report of the Directors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

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, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law).

Under company law, 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 year. In preparing the financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- 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 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 also 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.

#### **Directors' indemnities**

The Company maintains cover under a qualifying third-party indemnity for all directors and officers against liabilities which may be incurred by them whilst acting as Directors or Officers during the financial year and also at the date of approval of the financial statements.

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Report of the Directors** **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

#### **Going concern**

The Directors are required to consider the appropriateness of the going concern basis when preparing the financial statements. The Directors have taken note of the Financial Reporting Council guidance in respect of Going Concern which recommends the reasons for this decision to be explained. The Directors have assessed the future funding requirements of the Company and have determined that the forecasts and projections show that the Company can generate sufficient cash, taking into consideration future possible changes in trading performance.

The Group, which the Company is a part of, repaid its senior debt of £27.5m in December 2023. This repayment was financed by the sale and leaseback of the Group's freehold properties in Chelmsford, Westbury, Prees Head and Leeds. Following the repayment of the senior debt, the balance of the Group's facilities (which were undrawn except for a £500,000 bond) were also repaid and cancelled.

Currently, the Company and Group which it is part of, manages its liquidity needs through a combination of short-term facilities including working capital and long-term shareholder funding. The Group is also in discussions with certain parties to explore short-term working capital based funding.

The Company forecasts and monitors its cash inflows and outflows on a rolling 13-week basis. Furthermore, it utilises rolling integrated financial forecasts to monitor its long term cashflow requirements. The board approves the annual budget and regularly reviews the rolling integrated forecasts, which reflect an up-to-date view of trading in the forecast year.

In evaluating the going concern assumption, and as part of the integrated financial forecasts, the directors have prepared detailed trading and cash flow forecasts for the period to 28 February 2026 on the basis that there are nil long term/ revolving credit facilities. Further sensitivities were applied against these forecasts, including reduction in revenue and corresponding mitigations. The Group's main shareholder, Rutland Partners LLP, are highly supportive of the Group and the Company.

After consideration of the forecasts and sensitivities and support available, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future, and it is therefore appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

#### **Charitable and political donations and expenditure**

The Company contributed £854 (2022: £6,980) to charities for several minor fund-raising projects during the year. The company made no political contributions during the year (2022: £nil).

#### **Matters covered in the strategic report**

The future developments and financial risk management disclosures required under S414C(11) of the Companies Act 2006 are commented upon in the Strategic Report as the directors consider them to be of strategic importance to the company.

#### **Stakeholder Engagement**

- **Employee Engagement**

The Board ensures that the Company complies with the Equality Act 2010 (which replaces the Disability Discrimination Act 1995) and that disabled people falling within the definition of the Act are treated equally and fairly. We aim to ensure we recruit and retain the best people for the Company.

The Company recognises its responsibilities to ensure the fair treatment of all its employees in accordance with UK legislation. Equal opportunities for appropriate training, career development and promotion are available to all employees regardless of any physical disability or their gender, religion, race or nationality. In particular, having regard to their aptitudes and abilities, the Company gives full and fair consideration to applications for employment received from disabled persons. In the event of employees becoming disabled, continuity of employment and appropriate training is arranged, where practicable.

The Company places considerable value on the involvement of its colleagues and has continued to keep them informed on matters affecting them as employees and on the various factors affecting the performance of the Company. This is achieved through many mediums including formal and informal meetings, regular team briefs, quarterly newsletter and webinars, notice board, HR software and colleague forums.

The health and safety of our people remains our top priority. The Company will continue to monitor guidance issued from the various worldwide authorities as the Covid-19 situation progresses to ensure that our business remains well placed to respond appropriately.

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Report of the Directors** **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

#### **Stakeholder Engagement – continued**

- Other Stakeholder Engagement

Our stakeholders and our engagement with them are set out below. Further discussion about our engagement with stakeholders in respect of the principal decisions made by the company are set out in the s172(1) Statement included in the Strategic report.

<b>Stakeholders (excl. Employees)</b>	<b>How we have engaged</b>	<b>What the outcomes are</b>
Vendors	Regular meetings and written and verbal communication	Review and adherence to Vendor SLAs, performance reporting and improvement tracking
Customers	Regular meetings and written and verbal communication	Understand the changing market situation due to the pandemic based on their feedback and react accordingly
Principal suppliers including transport services, valet services and landlords	Regular meetings and written and verbal communication	Review and adherence to Vendor SLAs, performance reporting and improvement tracking
Other supplies of goods and services	Meetings as required and written and verbal communication	Management of the ongoing trading relationship

#### **Disclosure of information to auditors**

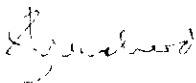
In the case of each director in office at the date the Report of the Directors is approved:

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

#### **Independent Auditors**

The auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, have shown their willingness to continue in office.

This report was approved by the board on 20 February 2024 and signed on its behalf.



**G I MacLeod**  
**Executive Chairman**

Aston Barclay Limited

# **Independent auditors' report to the members of Aston Barclay Limited**

## **Report on the audit of the financial statements**

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, Aston Barclay Limited's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 28 February 2023 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Strategic Report, Report of the Directors and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the statement of financial position as at 28 February 2023; the statement of comprehensive income and statement of changes in equity for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Independence**

We remained independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Aston Barclay Limited**

# **Independent auditors' report to the members of Aston Barclay Limited**

## **Reporting on other information**

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Strategic report and Report of the Directors, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 have been included.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Companies Act 2006 requires us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

## **Strategic report and Report of the Directors**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Strategic report and Report of the Directors for the year ended 28 February 2023 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Strategic report and Report of the Directors.

## **Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit**

### **Responsibilities of the directors for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Statements of directors' responsibilities, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The directors are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Aston Barclay Limited**

# **Independent auditors' report to the members of Aston Barclay Limited**

## **Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the company and industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the Companies Act 2006 and UK tax legislation, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting of inappropriate journal entries and management bias in accounting estimates. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular journal entries posted with unusual account combinations.
- Assessing significant judgements and estimates in particular those relating to impairment intangible and tangible assets, allowance for doubtful debts, value of rebate liabilities booked and net realizable value of inventory and associated disclosures.
- Reviewing the minutes of the board meeting to check any non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Incorporating elements of unpredictability.
- Discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditors' report.

## **Use of this report**

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.

Aston Barclay Limited

# **Independent auditors' report to the members of Aston Barclay Limited**

## **Other required reporting**

### **Companies Act 2006 exception reporting**

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- we have not obtained all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.



Neil Philpott (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
Birmingham  
Date: 22 February 2024

**Aston Barclay Limited****Statement of Comprehensive Income**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

	Notes	Year Ended 28/02/23 £'000	Year Ended 28/02/22 £'000
Turnover	4	29,325	30,471
Cost of sales		(12,301)	(12,331)
<b>Gross profit</b>		17,024	18,140
Administrative expenses		(15,625)	(15,279)
Exceptional administrative expenses	5	(412)	(339)
Total administrative expenses		(16,037)	(15,618)
Other operating income	6	10	33
<b>Operating profit</b>	9	997	2,555
Interest payable and similar expenses	11	-	(2)
<b>Profit before taxation</b>		997	2,553
Tax on profit	12	(45)	(378)
<b>Profit for the financial year</b>		<u>952</u>	<u>2,175</u>

There was no other comprehensive income for the year ended 28 February 2023 (year ended 28 February 2022: £Nil).

All amounts relate to continuing operations.

The notes form part of these financial statements

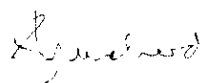


**Aston Barclay Limited (Registered number: 01644813)**

**Statement of Financial Position as at 28 February 2023**

	Notes	28 Feb 2023 £'000	28 Feb 2022 £'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	13	1,159	1,461
Tangible assets	14	1,891	2,060
Investments	15	<u>1,383</u>	<u>1,383</u>
		<u>4,433</u>	<u>4,904</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	16	181	316
Debtors	17	25,705	21,007
Cash and cash equivalents		<u>18,285</u>	<u>13,072</u>
		44,171	34,395
<b>Creditors</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(36,765)</u>	<u>(28,412)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>7,406</u>	<u>5,983</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>11,839</u>	<u>10,887</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>11,839</u>	<u>10,887</u>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Called up share capital	22	500	500
Retained earnings	23	<u>11,339</u>	<u>10,387</u>
<b>Total shareholders' funds</b>		<u>11,839</u>	<u>10,887</u>

The financial statements on pages 14 to 30 were approved by the Board of Directors on 20 February 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



**G I MacLeod**  
**Executive Chairman**

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Aston Barclay Limited**

**Statement of Changes in Equity**  
**for the Year ended 28 February 2023**

	<b>Called up share capital £'000</b>	<b>Retained earnings £'000</b>	<b>Total equity £'000</b>
<b>Balance at 01 March 2021</b>	500	8,212	8,712
<b>Changes in equity</b>			
Profit for the financial year and total comprehensive income	-	2,175	2,175
<b>Balance at 28 February 2022</b>	500	10,387	10,887
<b>Changes in equity</b>			
Profit for the financial year and total comprehensive income	-	952	952
<b>Balance at 28 February 2023</b>	500	11,339	11,839

The notes form part of these financial statements

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements** **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

#### **1. Statutory information**

Aston Barclay Limited is a private company, limited by shares, incorporated in England and Wales. The Company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page.

#### **2. Accounting policies**

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The company's functional and presentation currency is the pound sterling.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year:

##### **Financial Reporting Standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions**

The company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland":

- the requirements of Section 4 Statement of Financial Position paragraph 4.12(a)(iv);
- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows;
- the requirement of Section 3 Financial Statement Presentation paragraph 3.17(d);
- the requirements of Section 11 Financial Instruments paragraphs 11.41(b), 11.41(c), 11.41(e), 11.41(f), 11.42, 11.44, 11.45, 11.47, 11.48(a)(iii), 11.48(a)(iv), 11.48(b) and 11.48(c);
- the requirements of Section 12 Other Financial Instruments paragraphs 12.26, 12.27, 12.29(a), 12.29(b) and 12.29A;
- the requirement of Section 33 Related Party Disclosures paragraph 33.7.

This information is included in the consolidated financial statements of ABVR Holdings Limited as at 28 February 2023 and these financial statements may be obtained from Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ.

##### **Preparation of consolidated financial statements**

The financial statements contain information about Aston Barclay Limited as an individual company and do not contain consolidated financial information as the parent of a group. The company is exempt under Section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirements to prepare consolidated financial statements as it and its subsidiary undertaking are included by full consolidation in the consolidated financial statements of its parent.

##### **Turnover**

##### **Rendering of Services**

Revenue represents selling fees for vehicles sold by the Company together with fees for related services including collection/delivery, valeting and refurbishments. Revenue represents only the selling fees for our services, excluding the value of the vehicle sold. Revenue is recognised at the time the service is provided, which predominantly at the point the vehicle is sold at auction. Revenue is stated net of rebates and value added taxes.

##### **Grant Income**

Grants and other income receivable from government are recognised in Other operating income. Such amounts receivable as compensation for expenses already incurred are recognised when they become receivable. Other grants are only recognised when it is reasonably certain that the Company will comply with the conditions, if any, attached to the grant and that the grant will be received.

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued** **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

#### **2. Accounting policies - continued**

##### **Intangible assets**

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, intangible assets are measured at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

All intangible assets are considered to have a finite useful life. If a reliable estimate of the useful life cannot be made, the useful life shall not exceed ten years.

Amortisation is calculated, using the straight line method, to allocate the depreciable amount of the assets to their residual values over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Computer Software

Up to 5 years straight line

Amortisation is included in administrative expenses in the statement of comprehensive income.

Estimates of the useful economic life are based on a variety of factors such as the expected use of the asset, the expected useful life of the asset, any legal, regulatory or contractual provisions that can limit useful life and assumptions that market participants would consider in respect of similar assets.

Where factors, such as technological advancement or changes in market price, indicate that residual value or useful life have changed, the residual value, useful life or amortisation rate are amended prospectively to reflect the new circumstances. The assets are reviewed for impairment if the above factors indicate that the carrying amount may be impaired.

Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense as incurred. Development costs that are directly attributable to the design and testing of identifiable and unique software products controlled by the Company are recognized as intangible assets when the following criteria are met:

- it is technically feasible to complete the software so that it will be available for use;
- management intends to complete the software and use or sell it;
- there is an ability to use or sell the software;
- it can be demonstrated how the software will generate probable future economic benefits;
- adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development
- and to use or sell the software are available; and
- the expenditure attributable to the software during its development can be reliably measured.

Other development expenditures that do not meet these criteria are recognised as an expense as incurred. Development costs previously recognised as an expense are not recognised as an asset in a subsequent period.

##### **Going concern**

The Directors are required to consider the appropriateness of the going concern basis when preparing the financial statements. The Directors have taken note of the Financial Reporting Council guidance in respect of Going Concern which recommends the reasons for this decision to be explained. The Directors have assessed the future funding requirements of the Company and have determined that the forecasts and projections show that the Company can generate sufficient cash, taking into consideration future possible changes in trading performance.

The Group, which the Company is a part of, repaid its senior debt of £27.5m in December 2023. This repayment was financed by the sale and leaseback of the Group's freehold properties in Chelmsford, Westbury, Prees Head and Leeds. Following the repayment of the senior debt, the balance of the Group's facilities (which were undrawn except for a £500,000 bond) were also repaid and cancelled.

Currently, the Company and Group which it is part of, manages its liquidity needs through a combination of short-term facilities including working capital and long-term shareholder funding. The Group is also in discussions with certain parties to explore short-term working capital based funding.

The Company forecasts and monitors its cash inflows and outflows on a rolling 13-week basis. Furthermore, it utilises rolling integrated financial forecasts to monitor its long term cashflow requirements. The board approves the annual budget and regularly reviews the rolling integrated forecasts, which reflect an up-to-date view of trading in the forecast

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued** **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

#### **2. Accounting policies - continued**

##### **Going Concern – continued**

year.

In evaluating the going concern assumption, and as part of the integrated financial forecasts, the directors have prepared detailed trading and cash flow forecasts for the period to 28 February 2026 on the basis that there are nil long term/ revolving credit facilities. Further sensitivities were applied against these forecasts, including reduction in revenue and corresponding mitigations. The Group's main shareholder, Rutland Partners LLP, are highly supportive of the Group and the Company.

After consideration of the forecasts and sensitivities and support available, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future, and it is therefore appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Plant and machinery	- 20% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Motor vehicles	- 20% on cost
Assets under construction	- No depreciation charged

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

##### **Investments in subsidiaries**

Investments in subsidiaries are measured at cost less accumulated impairment.

##### **Stocks**

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

##### **Debtors**

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Loans receivable are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

##### **Financial instruments**

The Company applies sections 11 and 12 of FRS102 in respect of recognition and measurement of financial instruments.

The Company only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other debtors and creditors, loans from banks and other third parties, loans to related parties and investments in non puttable ordinary shares.

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued** **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

#### **2. Accounting policies - continued**

##### **Financial instruments – continued**

Debt instruments (other than those wholly repayable or receivable within one year), including loans and other accounts receivable and payable, are initially measured at present value of the future cash flows and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Debt instruments that are payable or receivable within one year, typically trade debtors and creditors, are measured, initially and subsequently, at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received. However, if the arrangements of a short term instrument constitute a financing transaction, like the payment of a trade debt deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate or in the case of an out right short term loan not at market rate, the financial asset or liability is measured, initially, at the present value of the future cash flow discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument and subsequently at amortised cost.

Financial assets that are measured at cost and amortised cost are assessed at the end of each reporting period for objective evidence of impairment. If objective evidence of impairment is found, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

For financial assets measured at amortised cost, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. If a financial asset has a variable interest rate, the discount rate for measuring any impairment loss is the current effective interest rate determined under the contract.

For financial assets measured at cost less impairment, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and best estimate of the recoverable amount, which is an approximation of the amount that the Company would receive for the asset if it were to be sold at the reporting date.

##### **Current and deferred taxation**

The tax expense for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, except that a charge attributable to an item of income and expense recognised as other comprehensive income or to an item recognised directly in equity is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity respectively.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date in the countries where the Company operates and generates income.

Deferred tax balances are recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed by the Statement of Financial Position date, except that:

- The recognition of deferred tax assets is limited to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits;
- Any deferred tax balances are reversed if and when all conditions for retaining associated tax allowances have been met; and
- Where they relate to timing differences in respect of interests in subsidiaries, associates, branches and joint ventures and the Company can control the reversal of the timing differences and such reversal is not considered probable in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax balances are not recognised in respect of permanent differences except in respect of business combinations, when deferred tax is recognised on the differences between the fair values of assets acquired and the future tax deductions available for them and the differences between the fair values of liabilities acquired and the amount that will be assessed for tax. Deferred tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

##### **Operating leases: the company as lessee**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight line basis over the lease term. Leases that do not transfer all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as operating leases.

## **Aston Barclay Limited**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued** **For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

#### **2. Accounting policies - continued**

##### **Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

###### **Defined contribution pension plan**

The Company operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Company has no further payment obligations.

The contributions are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Statement of Financial Position. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Company in independently administered funds.

###### **Finance costs**

Finance costs are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income over the term of the debt using the effective interest method so that the amount charged is at a constant rate on the carrying amount.

###### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

###### **Exceptional items**

Exceptional items are disclosed separately in the financial statements where it is necessary to do so to provide further understanding of the financial performance of the company. They are items that are material either because of their size or their nature, or that are nonrecurring are considered as exceptional items and are presented within the line items to which they best relate.

#### **3. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

Company management and the Board of Directors make estimates and assumptions about the future.

These estimates and assumptions impact recognised assets and liabilities, as well as revenue and expenses and other disclosures. These estimates are based on historical experience and on various assumptions considered reasonable under the prevailing conditions. The actual outcome may diverge from these estimates if other assumptions are made, or other conditions arise. The estimates and assumptions that may have a significant effect on the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within financial year include:

- Tangible and intangible assets are recognised at cost, less accumulated depreciation, amortisation and any impairments. Amortisation and depreciation take place over the estimated useful life, down to the assessed residual value. The carrying amount of the company's fixed assets is tested as soon as changed conditions show that a need for impairment has arisen.

In the course of preparing the financial statements, no judgements have been made in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies, other than those involving estimations that have had a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

**Aston Barclay Limited****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023****4. Turnover**

The turnover and profit before taxation are attributable to the one principal activity of the company.

An analysis of turnover by geographical market is given below:

	Year Ended 28/02/23 £'000	Year Ended 28/02/22 £'000
United Kingdom	29,102	30,142
Europe	<u>223</u>	<u>329</u>
	<u>29,325</u>	<u>30,471</u>

**5. Exceptional administrative expenses**

	Year Ended 28/02/23 £'000	Year Ended 28/02/22 £'000
Exceptional administrative expenses	<u>412</u>	<u>339</u>

Exceptional administrative expenses in 2023 and 2022 related to business restructuring expenditure. The charges consists of £216,000 (2022 - £613,000) of consultancy costs, £7,000 (2022 - £12,000) of restructure costs, £468,000 (2022 - £105,000) of staff costs and (£279,000) (2022 - (£391,000)) recovery from the settlement of historic liabilities.

**6. Other operating income**

	Year Ended 28/02/23 £'000	Year Ended 28/02/22 £'000
Grant income - CJRS <sup>1</sup>	-	30
Grant income - ESFA <sup>2</sup>	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>10</u>	<u>33</u>

<sup>1</sup>£nil was received from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) (year ended 28/02/2022: £30,000).

<sup>2</sup>£10,000 was received from Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) (year ended 28/02/2022: £3,000).

**7. Employees and directors**

	Year Ended 28/02/23 £'000	Year Ended 28/02/22 £'000
Wages and salaries	9,367	8,926
Social security costs	889	828
Other pension costs	<u>205</u>	<u>180</u>
	<u>10,461</u>	<u>9,934</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	Year Ended 28/02/23 No.	Year Ended 28/02/22 No.
Management and clerical	139	126
Auction and transport staff	<u>219</u>	<u>204</u>
	<u>358</u>	<u>330</u>



**Aston Barclay Limited****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023****8. Directors' emoluments**

	Year Ended 28/02/23	Year Ended 28/02/22
	£	£
Directors' remuneration	568,778	764,239
Directors' pension contributions to money purchase schemes	51,200	24,991
Compensation to director for loss of office	<u>105,806</u>	<u>-</u>

The number of directors to whom retirement benefits were accruing was as follows:

	No.	No.
Money purchase schemes	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

Information regarding the highest paid director is as follows:

	Year Ended 28/02/23	Year Ended 28/02/22
	£	£
Emoluments etc	194,199	354,184
Pension contributions to money purchase schemes	<u>-</u>	<u>16,982</u>

**9. Operating profit**

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

	Year Ended 28/02/23	Year Ended 28/02/22
	£'000	£'000
Operating lease charges	1,865	1,825
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	852	1,355
Profit on disposal of tangible assets	(12)	(39)
Amortisation of intangible assets	537	547
Loss on disposal of intangible assets	-	62
Impairment of trade debtors	-	16
Impairment of stock	<u>18</u>	<u>10</u>

Administrative expenses include rent of £1,114,000 (2022 - £1,114,000) charged by Aston Barclay Holdings Limited.

**10. Auditors' remuneration**

	Year Ended 28/02/23	Year Ended 28/02/22
	£'000	£'000
Fees payable to the company's auditors for the audit of the company's financial statements	<u>59</u>	<u>54</u>
Total audit fees	<u>59</u>	<u>54</u>
<b>Fees payable to the company's auditors for non-audit services</b>		
Audit-related assurance service	-	3
Other services (tax compliance services)	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

The Company has borne audit fees for the year for fellow group companies.

**Aston Barclay Limited**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

**11. Interest payable and similar expenses**

	<b>Year Ended 28/02/23 £'000</b>	<b>Year Ended 28/02/22 £'000</b>
Other interest payable	-	2
	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>

**12. Tax on profit**

**Analysis of the tax charge**

The tax charge on the profit for the year was as follows:

	<b>Year Ended 28/02/23 £'000</b>	<b>Year Ended 28/02/22 £'000</b>
Current tax:		
Current tax on profit for the year	-	497
Adjustments in respect of previous years	<u>(26)</u>	<u>(70)</u>
Total current tax	<u>(26)</u>	<u>427</u>
Deferred tax:		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	44	4
Adjustments in respect of previous years	13	(4)
Changes to tax rates	<u>14</u>	<u>(49)</u>
Total deferred tax	<u>71</u>	<u>(49)</u>
Tax on profit	<u>45</u>	<u>378</u>

**Aston Barclay Limited****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023****12. Tax on profit - continued****Reconciliation of total tax charge included in profit and loss**

The tax assessed for the year is lower than (2022: lower than) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK. The difference is explained below:

	<b>Year Ended 28/02/23 £'000</b>	<b>Year Ended 28/02/22 £'000</b>
Profit before tax	<u>997</u>	<u>2,553</u>
Profit before tax multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2022 - 19%)	189	485
Effects of:		
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	139	190
Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous years	(12)	(74)
Effect of changes in tax rates	14	(49)
Group relief	<u>(285)</u>	<u>(174)</u>
Total tax charge	<u>45</u>	<u>378</u>

**Factors that may affect future tax charges**

In the Spring Budget 2021, the UK Government announced that from 1 April 2023 the corporation tax rate would increase to 25% from the current rate of 19%. Deferred taxes at the balance sheet date have been measured using these enacted tax rates and reflected in these financial statements.

**13. Intangible assets**

	<b>Computer software £'000</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 March 2022	3,088
Additions	316
Transfers	<u>(81)</u>
At 28 February 2023	<u>3,323</u>
<b>Accumulated Amortisation</b>	
At 1 March 2022	1,627
Amortisation for year	537
Eliminated on disposal	<u>-</u>
At 28 February 2023	<u>2,164</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 28 February 2023	<u>1,159</u>
At 28 February 2022	<u>1,461</u>

**Aston Barclay Limited****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023****14. Tangible assets**

	Assets under construction £'000	Plant and machinery £'000	Fixtures and fittings £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	Totals £'000
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 March 2022	249	602	8,818	1,998	11,667
Additions	336	2	260	98	696
Disposals	(2)	(57)	(80)	(102)	(241)
Transfers	(334)	-	415	-	81
Adjustments	(74)	-	-	-	(74)
At 28 February 2023	175	547	9,413	1,994	12,129
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>					
At 1 March 2022	-	572	7,428	1,607	9,607
Charge for year	-	8	780	64	852
Eliminated on disposal	-	(57)	(80)	(84)	(221)
At 28 February 2023	-	523	8,128	1,587	10,238
<b>Net book value</b>					
At 28 February 2023	175	24	1,285	407	1,891
At 28 February 2022	249	30	1,390	391	2,060

**15. Investments**

	Shares in group undertakings £'000
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 March 2022 and 28 February 2023	1,383
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 28 February 2023	1,383
At 28 February 2022	1,383

The company's investments at the Statement of Financial Position date in the share capital of companies include the following:

**Aston Barclay Chelmsford Limited**

Nature of business: Dormant

	%
Class of shares:	holding
Ordinary	100.00

**Aston Barclay Westbury Limited**

Nature of business: Dormant

	%
Class of shares:	holding
Ordinary	100.00

**Aston Barclay Limited****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023****15. Investments - continued****Aston Barclay Prees Heath Limited**

Nature of business: Dormant

	%
Class of shares:	holding
Ordinary	100.00

**Aston Barclay Leeds Limited**

Nature of business: Dormant

	%
Class of shares:	holding
Ordinary	100.00

The registered office for the above undertakings is Unit 1-2 Harvard Way, Normanton Industrial Estate, Normanton, West Yorkshire, WF6 1FL.

**16. Stocks**

	28 Feb 2023	28 Feb 2022
	£'000	£'000
Finished goods and goods for resale	<u>181</u>	<u>316</u>

An impairment loss of £18,000 (2022 - £10,000) was recognised in cost of sales against stock during the year due to slow moving and obsolete stock.

There is no material difference between the replacement cost of stocks and the amounts stated above.

**17. Debtors**

	28 Feb 2023	28 Feb 2022
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	10,067	8,370
Amounts owed by group undertakings	13,456	11,164
Other debtors	856	378
Corporation tax recoverable	117	-
Deferred tax asset	131	202
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>1,078</u>	<u>893</u>
	<u>25,705</u>	<u>21,007</u>

Amounts owed by group undertakings are unsecured, interest free, have no fixed repayment date and are receivable on demand.

The amount of debtors due after more than one year is as follows:

	28 Feb 2023	28 Feb 2022
	£'000	£'000
Deferred tax asset	<u>131</u>	<u>202</u>
	<u>131</u>	<u>202</u>

**Aston Barclay Limited****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023****18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>28 Feb 2023</b>	<b>28 Feb 2022</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Trade creditors	29,943	20,814
Amounts owed to group undertakings	3,372	3,372
Corporation tax	-	415
Other taxation and social security	264	220
VAT	305	290
Other creditors	1,499	1,192
Accruals and deferred income	<u>1,382</u>	<u>2,109</u>
	<b><u>36,765</u></b>	<b><u>28,412</u></b>

Amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured, interest free, have no fixed repayment date and are repayable on demand.

**19. Loans**

The assets of the company are secured on a group wide loan facility.

Bank facilities are secured with the following:

Cross guarantee and debenture between Aston Barclay Chelmsford Limited, Aston Barclay Limited, Aston Barclay Prees Heath Limited, Aston Barclay Westbury Limited dated 15/12/2010.

Debenture on the banks standard form dated 23/06/2017.

**20. Leasing agreements**

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	<b>28 Feb 2023</b>	<b>28 Feb 2022</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Within one year	1,465	1,876
Between one and five years	8,066	7,262
In more than five years	<u>9,270</u>	<u>9,937</u>
	<b><u>18,801</u></b>	<b><u>19,075</u></b>

**Aston Barclay Limited****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023****21. Provisions for liabilities****Deferred Tax**

	<b>28 Feb 2023</b>	<b>28 Feb 2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
At beginning of year	202	153
(Charge)/credited to profit or loss	(71)	49
	<u>131</u>	<u>202</u>

	<b>28 Feb 2023</b>	<b>28 Feb 2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Accelerated capital allowances	121	195
Other timing differences	10	7
	<u>131</u>	<u>202</u>

**Comprising:**

Asset	131	202
Liability	-	-
	<u>131</u>	<u>202</u>

The company does not have an unused tax losses or tax credits.

**22. Called up share capital****Allotted, issued and fully paid:**  
**Number:****Class:****Nominal**  
**value:**  
**£1**

500,000 (28 Feb 2022: 500,000)

Ordinary

**28 Feb 2023**  
**£'000**  
500**28 Feb 2022**  
**£'000**  
500

**Aston Barclay Limited**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For the Year Ended 28 February 2023**

**23. Reserves**

**Called up share capital**

Share capital represents the nominal value of shares issued.

**Retained earnings**

Retained earnings represents cumulative profits or losses, net of dividends paid and other adjustments.

**24. Pension commitments**

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Company in an independently administered fund. The pension charge amounted to £205,000 (2022 - £180,000). Outstanding contributions of £42,000 (2022 - £30,000) were included within other creditors at the year end.

**25. Contingent liabilities**

The Company is part of a group security given against borrowings of a fellow group subsidiary which amounted to £27,500,000 (2022 - £27,500,000) which was extinguished subsequent to the year end.

**26. Related party disclosures**

No disclosable related party transactions were entered into during the year.

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Aston Barclay Holdings Limited and has taken advantage of the available exemption conferred by section 33.14 of FRS 102 not to disclose transactions with group members due to consolidated financial statements being publicly available.

**27. Ultimate controlling party**

The immediate parent undertaking is Aston Barclay Holdings Limited, a Company registered in England. The Aston Barclay Holdings Limited is the smallest group and ABVR Holdings Limited is the largest group for which consolidated financial statements are prepared, and the ultimate parent undertaking is ABVR Holdings Limited, a Company registered in England. Consolidated financial statements are available from Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ.

The registered office address of the immediate parent Aston Barclay Holdings Limited and ultimate parent ABVR Holdings is Unit 1-2 Harvard Way, Normanton Industrial Estate, Normanton, West Yorkshire, WF6 1FL.

The ultimate parent and controlling party is Rutland Partners LLP a private equity fund manager registered in England.

**28. Post balance sheet events**

The material matters relating to the business have been disclosed within the strategic report.