RNS Number : 8727M Mountview Estates PLC 20 November 2024

> Mountview Estates P.L.C. Half Year Report 20 November 2024

MOUNTVIEW ESTATES P.L.C.

("Mountview" or "the Group" or "the Company")

UNAUDITED INTERIM RESULTS FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

Mountview is pleased to announce its unaudited interim results for the six months ended 30 September 2024.

OUR PERFORMANCE

Turnover at £37.4 million down by 4.6% (2023 - £39.2m)

Gross profit at £23.1 million down by 4.5% (2023 - £24.2m)

Profit before tax at £18.1 million down by 9.0% (2023 - £19.9m)

Earnings per share at 347.9 pence down by 9.1% (2023 - 382.7p)

Net assets per share at £103.2 up by 1.7% (2023 - £101.5)

DIVIDEND INFORMATION

Mountview Estates P.L.C. advises its shareholders that, following the issue of the interim results, the relevant dates in respect of the interim dividend payment of 250p per share are as follows:

Ex-dividend date - 20 February 2025

Record date - 21 February 2025

Payment date - 31 March 2025

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S STATEMENT

At the Annual General Meeting held on 14 August 2024 those shareholders deemed to be independent exercised their right to reject the re-election of Mr. Anthony Powell and Ms. Mhairi Archibald as independent non-Executive Directors. At the General Meeting held in accordance with the UK Listing Rules of the Financial Conduct Authority on 18 November 2024, when all shareholders were entitled to vote, it was resolved to re-elect Mr. Anthony Powell and Ms. Mhairi Archibald as Directors of the Company. Thus the status quo is maintained.

TRADING

The economic difficulties being suffered throughout the country have contributed to the Company's gross profit for the six months ended 30 September 2024 decreasing by 4.5% and profit before tax by 9.0%.

Although interest rates have been reduced slightly in recent months, they are still at levels last experienced over ten years ago and are a significant factor in our increased costs. Our purchasing activity, which is the future of the Company, has remained strong during these six months and we continue to be offered further opportunities. Our financial strength should enable us to take advantage of the best of these, but we will not compromise our financial prudence.

With a staff of less than thirty we are a tiny company but the increased taxation and the ever expanding regulatory and administrative burden imposed by various authorities is disproportionate to a company of this size. We will not abandon our financial prudence, but I am determined that we shall protect our staff from the worst economic misfortunes. Many of our staff have been loyal to the Company for many years and they deserve our loyalty.

INTERIM DIVIDEND

In March 2022 and March 2023, the Company paid an exceptional interim dividend totalling 500p per share, but it would not be possible to continue at this level without compromising the Company's financial prudence. At this time in 2022 I advised that it would be prudent to only anticipate an interim dividend payable in March 2024 at the increased basic rate of 250p per share.

The Company has continued to make good purchases and so an interim dividend of 250p per share is the prudent option and still represents a good return on your investment.

This dividend is payable on 31 March 2025 to shareholders on the Register of Members as at 21 February 2025.

OUTLOOK

We live in difficult times, but I believe that this Company will continue to prosper and can continue to care for its staff and its shareholders.

D.M. SINCLAIR
Chief Executive Officer
20 November 2024

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the half year ended 30 September 2024

	Unaudited Half year ended 30.09.2024 £000	Unaudited Half year ended 30.09.2023 £000	Audited Year ended 31.03.2024 £000
Revenue	37,416	39,236	79,472
Cost of Sales	(14,352)	(15,007)	(31,023)
Gross Profit	23,064	24,229	48,449
Administrative expenses	(2,767)	(2,718)	(7,006)
Gain on sale of investment properties	192	-	-
Operating profit before changes in fair value of investment properties	20,489	21,511	41,443
Increase in fair value of investment properties	-	-	153
Profit from operations	20,489	21,511	41,596
Net finance costs	(2,389)	(1,609)	(3,710)
Profit before taxation	18,100	19,902	37,886
Taxation - current Taxation - deferred	(4,809) 272	(4,982)	(9,429) (38)
Taxation total	(4,537)	(4,982)	(9,467)
Profit attributable to equity shareholders and total comprehensive income	13,563	14,920	28,419
Basic and diluted earnings per share (pence)	347.9p	382.7p	728.9p

All items within the consolidated statement of comprehensive income relate to continuing operations.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION for the half year ended 30 September 2024

	Unaudited Half year ended 30.09.2024 £000	Unaudited Half year ended 30.09.2023 £000	Audited Year ended 31.03.2024 £000
Assets	2000	2000	2000
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	1,405	1,464	1,440
Investment properties	24,335	25,415	25,568
	25,740	26,879	27,008
Current assets			
Inventories of trading properties	459,624	442,231	446,398
Trade and other receivables	1,571	2,593	1,479
Cash and cash equivalents	929	1,908	739
	462,124	446,732	448,616
Total assets	487,864	473,611	475,624

Equity and liabilities

Capital and reserves attributable to equity holders of the Company

Share capital Capital reserve Capital redemption reserve Other reserves Retained earnings	195	195	195
	25	25	25
	55	55	55
	56	56	56
	402,142	395,550	399,301
	402,473	395,881	399,632
Non-current liabilities	77,300	66,200	66,500
Long-term borrowings	5,532	5,766	5,805
Deferred tax	82,832	71,966	72,305
Current liabilities Trade and other payables Current tax payable	842	841	2,303
	1,717	4,923	1,384
	2,559	5,764	3,687
Total liabilities	85,391	77,730	75,992
Total equity and liabilities	487,864	473,611	475,624

CONSOLIDATED CASHFLOW STATEMENT for the half year ended 30 September 2024

Cash flows from operating activities	Unaudited Half year ended 30.09.2024 £000	Unaudited Half year ended 30.09.2023 £000	Audited Year ended 31.03.2024 £000
Profit from operations Adjustment for:	20,489	21,511	41,596
Depreciation Gain on sale of investment properties Increase in fair value of investment properties	28 (192) -	29 - -	53 - (153)
Operating cash flows before movement in working capital	20,325	21,540	41,496
Increase in inventories	(13,226)	(19,489)	(23,656)
(Increase)/Decrease in receivables (Decrease)/Increase in payables	(92) (1,461)	4,063 (1,143)	5,177 319
Cash generated from operations	5,546	4,971	23,336
Interest paid Income taxes paid	(2,389) (4,470)	(1,609) (1,923)	(3,710) (9,908)
Net cash (Outflow)/Inflow from operating activities	(1,313)	1,439	9,718
Investing activities Proceeds from disposals of investment	1,425	-	-
properties Net cash inflow from investing activities	1,425	-	-
Cash flows from financing activities			
Increase in borrowings Equity dividend paid	10,800 (10,722)	9,500 (9,747)	9,800 (19,495)
Net cash Inflow/(Outflow) from financing activities	78	(247)	(9,695)
Net Increase in cash and cash equivalents	190	1,192	23
Opening cash and cash equivalents	739	716	716

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the half year ended 30 September 2024

	Unaudited Half year ended 30.09.2024 £000	Unaudited Half year ended 30.09.2023 £000	Audited Year ended 31.03.2024 £000
Shareholders' funds as at the beginning of the period	399,632	390,708	390,708
Profit for the period	13,563	14,920	28,419
Dividends	(10,722)	(9,747)	(19,495)
Shareholders' funds at the end of the period	402,473	395,881	399,632

Notes to the Half Year Report

Basis of preparation

These condensed consolidated interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Disclosure and Transparency Rules of the Financial Conduct Authority and in accordance with UK adopted International Accounting Standard 34 (IAS 34) "Interim Financial Reporting". The condensed consolidated interim financial statements should be read in conjunction with the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 which have been prepared in accordance with UK adopted International Accounting Standards.

The accounting policies used are consistent with those contained in the Group's last Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Directors have reviewed the current and projected financial position of the Group and are satisfied that the Group has adequate resources to cover all liabilities becoming payable for the foreseeable future. Therefore, the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the half year report.

Basis of consolidation

The Group's financial statements incorporate the results of Mountview Estates P.L.C. and all of its subsidiary undertakings made up to the reporting date.

Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Group.

Control is recognised when the Group is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its investment in the entity and has the ability to affect these returns through its power over the relevant activities of the entity.

On acquisition, the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities of a subsidiary are measured at their fair values at the date of acquisition. The purchase method has been used in consolidating the subsidiary financial statements.

All significant inter-company transactions balances and unrealised gains on transactions between Group companies are eliminated on consolidation within the consolidated accounts.

Consistent accounting policies have been used across the Group.

Status of the interim financial information

These condensed consolidated interim financial statements are unaudited and do not constitute statutory accounts within the meaning of Section 434 of the Companies Act 2006. The Group's published financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 have been reported on by the Group's auditors and filed with the Registrar of Companies. The report of the auditors was unqualified and did not contain any statement under Section 498 of the Companies Act 2006.

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 20 November 2024. The preparation of the interim financial information requires management to make assumptions and estimates about future events which are uncertain, the actual outcome of which may result in a materially different outcome from that anticipated.

Availability of the Half Year Report

Copies of this statement are being sent to Shareholders. Copies may be obtained from the Company's registered office or from the Company's website - www.mountviewplc.co.uk.

This announcement contains inside information as stipulated under the UK version of the Market Abuse Regulation No 596/2014 which is part of English Law by virtue of the European (Withdrawal) Act 2018, as amended. On publication of this announcement via a Regulatory Information Service, this information is considered to be in the public domain.

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