

Charity registration number 1044133

Company registration number 02794243 (England and Wales)

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Ms M Clare Mrs E C Boycott Ms R Ward
Secretary	Ms M Clare
Charity number	1044133
Company number	02794243
Registered office	The Old Dairy Pelsall Lane Little Bloxwich Walsall West Midlands WS3 3DH
Auditor	Edwards 34 High Street Aldridge Walsall West Midlands WS9 8LZ
Solicitors	Enoch Evans LLP St Paul's Chambers 6-9 Hatherton Road Walsall West Midlands WS1 1XS

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

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WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The principal activity of the charity is to provide accessible and affordable transport to other local agencies and community groups.

Our vision

To be a valued community organisation providing a sustainable and accessible transport service that is relevant for local need.

Our Mission for:

People

- To be helpful caring and efficient
- To respect all our service users and to treat them with dignity
- To have well trained, motivated and supported staff (both paid and voluntary)
- To publicise our services well and target marginalized groups

Service Development

- To maintain the highest standards in all aspects of service delivery
- To be cost effective and viable
- To be innovative, competitive and at the 'leading edge' of service provision within available resources
- To seek out new viable business opportunities

Community

- To work in partnership with other local organisations for the benefit of our customers
- To maintain a high profile in the Walsall and surrounding areas.
- To provide other local voluntary groups with advice about accessible transport matters

Public benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and feel that this has been achieved by their efforts to maximise income and service delivery.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Achievements and performance

We are pleased to make this report to the Charity's Annual General Meeting on our performance to the end of March 2024.

This has been a year when we have been able to refocus our energies towards supporting the voluntary sector as well as grow our core support services to give the charity a stable footing on which to move forward. The Let's Chat project has enabled us to provide more affordable transport for other community groups both for regular day-to-day activities and for local trips out to allow the groups to encourage members to return to their organisations. It was encouraging to see this support encouraged group to venture out again with and over 4000 users benefitted from these journeys. We have also continued to provide regular transport for colleges and day centres in Walsall throughout the year giving another 28,000 residents access to safe reliable affordable transport.

Our new presence in Walsall Bus Station with the Let's Chat Information Hub has increased the profile of Community Transport in Walsall and turned an unused space into a now warm., welcoming place where passengers can access community information and share a drink and a chat with other people. At the end of March 10,750 had visited the hub with over 50% of those seeking the support staff give. A partnership with Walsall Connected enabled the hub to offer users support with digital skills and the many support groups that have used the hub has meant the hub has become a 'one stop shop' for residents to come for specialised advice services. We have also used and managed the Combined Authority's exhibition bus as a further asset for the project in the Wolverhampton area, the mobile hub visited Bilston Bus Station twice a week and 1,277 users visited the bus during the year.

We continued to be involved in the Thrive project with Public Health, Bloxwich Community Partnership and Manor Farm Community Association supporting residents' Health and Wellbeing post COVID. However, this year with similar objectives to that of the Let's Chat scheme it made sense to combine the projects and offer both services from the same mobile unit. This enabled us to increase our offer to 5 days a week and allowed 1,974 residents to access the support on offer.

With Transport for West Midlands (TfWM), we have operated a Door-to-Door Shopping Service across Walsall to support its elderly and disabled residents with their shopping for many years. Elderly users continuing to be hesitant about shopping for themselves numbers have remained lower than in previous years, but positively we have seen 69 new passengers register and provided 3,460 passenger journeys this year.

This continued support we enjoy from Transport for West Midlands continues to be instrumental in confirming the ongoing stability of the charity, the financial support given to our bus services at pre COVID levels has continued throughout this year and passenger numbers have steadily grown as confidence in using public transport returns. Also, in October we were awarded a further contract bringing annual passenger numbers up to more than 216k this year an increase on the previous year of 27%. Our involvement in these routes has always been to support the older traveller who benefit from the expertise and experience our staff have from our CT services, in addition having regular staff offering support on and off the vehicle gives our passengers continued confidence to travel knowing they will be looked after.

As an operator in the West Midlands, we have been involved in the formation of the West Midlands Enhanced Partnership Scheme and whilst this has put additional pressures on us as a small operator to keep up with the required improvement in standards, we must acknowledge that without our involvement in the scheme and associated services we would struggle to support the organization.

One of the main financial pressures on the Charity continues to be the need to upgrade our fleet to meet the region's air quality targets, having revised our replacement strategy we have paused purchasing additional vehicles this year to settle outstanding finance and shall recommence our purchasing during the next financial year. At the end of this financial year our fleet consisted of 22 minibuses and 2 staff cars, we will continue to purchase low floor minibuses as this style of vehicle with its easy access has proved the most flexible in delivering our range of services.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

This year we saw the retirement of a key member of the operational team, Kevin Nelson had been with the charity for over 25 years and was a pivotal figure in the running of services, known to everybody over the years Kevin was part of the fabric of the charity and his departure has been a huge hole to fill. Thankfully we were able to plan for his departure and recruited a colleague from TfWM as our Operations Manager, his prior knowledge of the charity has enabled there to be a seamless transition to the next generation. The continued dedication of all staff towards the charity and its users is at the heart of its continued success. To this end we have continued to support staff where we could during what are financially challenging times however with what are labour intensive services and staffing costs continuing to account for 57% of our overall expenditure the pressure ever increasing wage levels bring to the charity is immense and difficult to absorb without passing some of the cost on to the end users which is not ideal. We will need to keep control over staffing levels in the future to ensure this continues to be manageable.

Finally, thanks are also extended to all trustees for their interest, time, and expertise. Community Transport is fortunate like many other voluntary organisations to have trustees who collectively bring together a rich mix of gender, outlooks, professional and personal skills.

Financial review

Overall audited accounts show a surplus of £39,622 for 2023/24 (£8,214 for 2022/23) with net assets of £238,382 (2023: £198,760).

Income

Total income was £1,408,092 (2022/23 - £1,258,375). The detailed analysis is shown in notes 3 to 5 of the financial statements.

Expenditure

Total expenditure was £1,368,470 (2022/23 - £1,250,161). The detailed analysis is shown in notes 6 and 7 of the financial statements.

Reserves and Cash

Total reserves at 31 March 2024 were £238,382 (31 March 2023 - £198,760). The Committee continued its cautious risk policy, with reserves designated for future community services, core costs, working capital and potential redundancy costs in case of funding cuts.

At 31 March 2024 cash balances were £16,801 (31 March 2023 - £26,515).

Going concern

The directors have prepared profit and cash flow forecasts for the post accounting year end period based upon current expectations of activity levels and the directors' assessments of the likely level of demand from key customers.

The directors consider cash flow projections on a monthly basis and ensure that appropriate facilities are available to be drawn upon as necessary.

Based upon the activity levels forecast, the directors consider that the company will be able to maintain its cash at bank resources through the year that is twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

Therefore, after making the enquiries that they consider necessary the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate funding resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 26 February 1993 and registered as a charity on 14 February 1995.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under those articles, every member of the management committee must retire from office at each Annual General Meeting but are eligible for re-election.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Ms M Clare
Mr G Brookes (Resigned 9 May 2024)
Mrs E C Boycott
Ms R Ward

Recruitment of new trustees is done through nominations from the charity's membership with elections made at the Charity's AGM, there is no maximum number of officers however the minimum number of committee members must be three.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Auditor

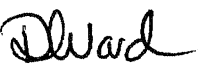
In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Edwards be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


Mrs E C Boycott
Trustee


Ms R Ward
Trustee

19 November 2024

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees (who are also directors of Walsall Community Transport Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.



Mrs E C Boycott
Trustee



Ms R Ward
Trustee

19 November 2024

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Walsall Community Transport Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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 Charity'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.

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 in this regard.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out on page 6, the Trustees, (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law), are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees 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 Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable 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 Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 auditor's 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.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the Charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, employment law, health & safety and operator's license regulations compliance.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be in the following areas: the override of controls by management, revenue journals, inappropriate treatment of non-routine transactions and areas of estimation uncertainty. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, review and discussion of non-routine transactions, sample testing on the posting of journals and review of accounting estimates for biases.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

These inherent limitations are particularly significant in the case of misstatement resulting from fraud as this may involve sophisticated schemes designed to avoid detection, including deliberate failure to record transactions, collusion or the provision of intentional misrepresentations.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Edwards (Statutory Auditor)

27th November 2024

34 High Street
Aldridge
Walsall
West Midlands
WS9 8LZ

Edwards is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	123,601	118,296
Charitable activities	4	992,035	895,167
Other income	5	292,456	244,912
Total income		1,408,092	1,258,375
Charitable activities	6	1,368,470	1,252,289
Other expenditure	7	-	(2,128)
Total expenditure		1,368,470	1,250,161
Net income and movement in funds		39,622	8,214
Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		198,760	190,546
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		238,382	198,760

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		202,163		250,458
Current assets					
Debtors	12	124,397		144,871	
Cash at bank and in hand		16,801		26,515	
		<u>141,198</u>		<u>171,386</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(92,222)</u>		<u>(187,161)</u>	
Net current assets/(liabilities)			48,976		(15,775)
Total assets less current liabilities			251,139		234,683
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14		<u>(12,757)</u>		<u>(35,923)</u>
Net assets			<u>238,382</u>		<u>198,760</u>
The funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted funds			<u>238,382</u>		<u>198,760</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 19 November 2024


Mrs E C Boycott
Trustee


Ms R Ward
Trustee

Company registration number 02794243 (England and Wales)

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	22		36,935		76,664
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,767)		(90,801)	
Proceeds from disposal of tangible fixed assets		-		3,500	
Net cash used in investing activities			(2,767)		(87,301)
Financing activities					
Repayment of bank loans		(10,000)		(10,000)	
Payment of obligations under finance leases		(33,882)		(33,780)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(43,882)		(43,780)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents			(9,714)		(54,417)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			26,515		80,932
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			16,801		26,515

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Walsall Community Transport Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is the Old Dairy, Pelsall Lane, Little Bloxwich, Walsall, West Midlands, WS3 3DH.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

The directors have prepared profit and cash flow forecasts for the post accounting year end period based upon current expectations of activity levels and the directors' assessments of the likely level of demand from key customers.

The directors consider cash flow projections on a monthly basis and ensure that appropriate facilities are available to be drawn upon as necessary.

Based upon the activity levels forecast, the directors consider that the company will be able to maintain its cash at bank resources through the year that is twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

Therefore, after making the enquiries that they consider necessary the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate funding resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Charity.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold property improvements	11.1% Straight line
Plant and machinery	25% Reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	15% Reducing balance
Computer equipment	25% Reducing balance
Motor vehicles	20% Reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.12 Leases

Leases are classified as finance leases whenever the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the lessees. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Assets held under finance leases are recognised as assets at the lower of the assets fair value at the date of inception and the present value of the minimum lease payments. The related liability is included in the balance sheet as a finance lease obligation. Lease payments are treated as consisting of capital and interest elements. The interest is charged to net income/(expenditure) for the year so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
CBSSG - WMCA	4,674	11,613
Voluntary sector project funding	46,543	67,070
WMCA - Let's Chat Project Funding	72,384	39,613
	<u>123,601</u>	<u>118,296</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Activities for generating funds		
Contract use including SLA	226,743	231,004
Shoppers SLA	28,092	24,772
Local bus service support funding	580,369	502,200
Direct payments	156,831	137,191
	<u>992,035</u>	<u>895,167</u>

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Other charitable income		
Commercial passenger usage	39,578	14,078
Local bus service fare income	46,773	34,900
Bus service operations grant	7,842	9,781
Concessionary fares scheme	176,100	156,130
Non contract income	17,151	26,351
Driver awareness MIDAS	-	1,015
Shopping bus and other income	5,012	2,657
	<u>292,456</u>	<u>244,912</u>

6 Charitable activities

	Community transport £	Depreciation £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	802,684	-	802,684	682,986
Depreciation and impairment	-	51,062	51,062	47,315
Vehicle and fuel costs	382,923	-	382,923	404,635
Cleaning costs	2,458	-	2,458	2,573
Volunteer expenses	1,643	-	1,643	1,097
Uniform costs	5,367	-	5,367	52
Rent, rates and insurance	40,605	-	40,605	39,414
Light and heat	6,370	-	6,370	6,369
Repairs and renewals	12,680	-	12,680	12,364
Printing, stationery and advertising	4,563	-	4,563	2,968
Telephone and postage	5,275	-	5,275	5,358
HP interest and charges	8,049	-	8,049	8,049
Staff recruitment and training	214	-	214	2,726
Legal and professional fees	27,404	-	27,404	20,470
Audit and accountancy fees	7,750	-	7,750	7,565
Bank charges, interest and loan interest	2,429	-	2,429	2,088
Office sundries	6,994	-	6,994	6,260
	<u>1,317,408</u>	<u>51,062</u>	<u>1,368,470</u>	<u>1,252,289</u>
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds	<u>1,317,408</u>	<u>51,062</u>	<u>1,368,470</u>	
For the year ended 31 March 2023				
Unrestricted funds	<u>1,204,974</u>	<u>47,315</u>		<u>1,252,289</u>

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Net movement in funds

2024

2023

£

£

The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):

Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements

4,725

4,500

Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets

51,062

47,315

Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets

-

(2,128)

Operating lease charges

32,000

32,000

8 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2024
Number

2023
Number

Staff

42

40

Employment costs

2024

2023

£

£

Wages and salaries

741,411

633,306

Social security costs

46,957

36,146

Other pension costs

14,316

13,534

802,684

682,986

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

2024

2023

£

£

Aggregate compensation

58,680

57,352

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold property improvements	Plant and machinery	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Computer equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 1 April 2023	27,927	17,225	31,127	20,788	864,067	961,134
Additions	-	-	-	1,467	1,300	2,767
At 31 March 2024	27,927	17,225	31,127	22,255	865,367	963,901
Depreciation and impairment						
At 1 April 2023	27,076	13,370	27,665	19,461	623,104	710,676
Depreciation charged in the year	502	964	519	777	48,300	51,062
At 31 March 2024	27,578	14,334	28,184	20,238	671,404	761,738
Carrying amount						
At 31 March 2024	349	2,891	2,943	2,017	193,963	202,163
At 31 March 2023	851	3,855	3,462	1,327	240,963	250,458

The net book value of tangible fixed assets includes £67,568 (2023 - £84,459) in respect of assets held under finance leases or hire purchase contracts. The depreciation charge in respect of such assets amounted to £16,891 (2023 - £21,114) for the year.

12 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	39,058	59,826
Other debtors	66,033	72,458
Prepayments and accrued income	19,306	12,587
	124,397	144,871

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Bank loans	15	9,960	9,960
Obligations under finance leases	16	13,068	33,784
Other taxation and social security		12,184	8,661
Trade creditors		44,485	102,981
Other creditors		3,299	2,100
Accruals and deferred income		9,226	29,675
		92,222	187,161

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans	15	11,707	21,707
Obligations under finance leases	16	1,050	14,216
		<u>12,757</u>	<u>35,923</u>

15 Loans and overdrafts

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans	<u>21,667</u>	<u>31,667</u>
Payable within one year	9,960	9,960
Payable after one year	<u>11,707</u>	<u>21,707</u>
	<u>21,667</u>	<u>31,667</u>

A Bounce Back Loan was received in the year ended 31 March 2021. No repayments or interest were due from the company for a period of one year, after which interest is charged at 2.5% and repayments are due over a period of five years. This is a Government backed loan with no security required on the Charity's part.

16 Finance lease obligations

Future minimum lease payments due under finance leases:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	13,068	33,784
Within two and five years	<u>1,050</u>	<u>14,216</u>
	<u>14,118</u>	<u>48,000</u>

Net obligations under finance lease contracts are secured on the assets to which they relate.

17 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes	2024 £	2023 £
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>14,316</u>	<u>13,534</u>

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund.

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the Charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	32,000	32,000
Between two and five years	64,000	96,000
	<u>96,000</u>	<u>128,000</u>

19 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

20 Charges

Lloyds Bank plc holds a debenture dated 10 March 2006 over the undertaking and all property and assets present and future including goodwill, book debts, uncalled capital, buildings, fixtures, and fixed plant and machinery.

21 Members' liability

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital and consequently the liability of members is limited, subject to an undertaking by each member to contribute to the net assets or liabilities of the company on winding up such amounts as may be required not exceeding £1.

22 Cash generated from operations

	2024 £	2023 £
Surplus for the year	39,622	8,214
Adjustments for:		
Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(2,128)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	51,062	47,315
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	20,474	(42,579)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(74,223)	65,842
Cash generated from operations	<u>36,935</u>	<u>76,664</u>

WALSALL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

23 Analysis of changes in net (debt)/funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	26,515	(9,714)	16,801
Loans falling due within one year	(9,960)	-	(9,960)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(21,707)	10,000	(11,707)
Obligations under finance leases	(48,000)	33,882	(14,118)
	<u>(53,152)</u>	<u>34,168</u>	<u>(18,984)</u>