

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03758661 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1075388

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2022
FOR
MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
03758661 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1075388

Registered office
The Guardian Centre
67 Clarendon Road
Colliers Wood
London
SW19 2DX

Independent Examiners
Andrea L Kibble FCCA
A K Accounting Solutions Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
126a High Street
Whitton
Twickenham
Middlesex
TW2 7LL

Resigned 17 November 2021

Gareth Rees FCA CTA
PB Associates
Chartered Accountants & Chartered Tax Advisers
2 Castle Business Village
Station Road
Hampton
Middlesex
TW12 2BX

Appointed 22 March 2022

Principal Bankers
National Westminster Bank Plc
16 Wimbledon Hill Road
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London
SW19 7ZD

CAF Bank
25, Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Mailing
Kent
ME19 4JQ

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006) are pleased to present their annual Trustees Report, together with the unaudited financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2022, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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) and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

TRUSTEES

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the Charity are set out in Note 12 to the accounts. The Trustees serving during the year and to the date of this report were as follows: -

Mariza Jurgens has returned to South Africa and must resign at the next AGM, also 1 new Trustee, Harry Meade, was co-opted on 25 January 2022 election to be ratified at the next AGM.

H A Cowd (Chairman)
S J Moore (Treasurer)
R G Benjamin
R F Bowman
W A Busbridge
S R D Coates
N Gibson
M Jurgens
H McAuley
V A Morrison
F P Pugh
S Scott

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The charitable company's principal activity during the year was to provide services, information and support to residents of Merton who have a visual impairment. The aim is to support and empower people with a visual impairment, from their diagnosis of permanent sight loss through the entire rehabilitative process, in whatever form is appropriate for them. This includes children, adults, people with dual sensory loss and people with additional difficulties.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Merton Voluntary Association for the Blind is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association dated 23 April 1999, amended 13 October 2000 and a further amendment 9 November 2017. The Charity was originally founded in 1965 and was registered as an unincorporated charity with the Charity Commission 9 March 1966.

Following the AGM 9 November 2017, a special resolution was passed and the Articles of Association of the Charity were changed in their entirety and replaced by new Articles.

All Trustees shall automatically become members of the Charity and their names shall be entered into the Charity's register of members. The number of members of the Charity is unlimited. They remain members until they cease to be members in accordance with the Articles.

Membership shall be open to any individual aged 18 or over whom the Board decides to admit to membership.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Trustees may determine criteria for membership but are not obliged to admit any person satisfying such criteria as members and may decline in their absolute discretion any person's application and need not give reasons for such decision.

Only members are eligible to vote at the AGM/EGM, general or special meetings convened for the purposes of discussing the business of the charitable company.

Appointment of new Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association Trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable company attending the Annual General Meeting and serve for a period of three years and then one third of Trustees are required to retire by rotation but may be re-elected.

Trustees can be recruited by open advert or may be proposed and seconded by members and put forward for election at the AGM in accordance with the terms and timelines determined by the Board and subject to the Board's approval of such nomination.

The Make-up of the Board

The Board consists of not fewer than six and no more than fifteen persons appointed by the Trustees at any time at a meeting or in writing. The Board shall aim to have, as far as reasonable, equal representation on the Board of visually impaired, hearing impaired and sighted people with all Trustees having equal voting rights. Where this cannot be achieved the Board will still be valid irrespective of the make-up of the Board.

Filling vacancies in the Board and co-option

The Board can appoint anyone as a Trustee to fill a vacancy in the membership of the Board. They will hold office until the next annual general meeting where they may be elected by the members (unless they cease to be a Trustee prior to that by virtue of Article 38 or 39). For the purposes of this Article the Board shall decide how many vacancies there are, subject to the maximum and minimum numbers given in Article 33.1.

Trustee recruitment and induction

New Trustees are given induction on their roles, their legal obligations under charity and company law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, and inform them of the content of the Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the Charity.

During the induction day they meet key employees and other Trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Governance and Organisational structure

The Trustees of Merton Voluntary Association for the Blind are responsible for the assets and strategic direction of the Charity. The Chief Executive Officer, who is appointed by the Trustees, is responsible for carrying out the day-to-day management of the Charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and Charity related activities. The Trustees normally meet quarterly during the year to receive reports on all aspects of the Charity's activities and finance. The Chief Executive Officer attends all meetings.

Senior Management Team

Kevin Gregory
Wendy Walsh

Chief Executive Officer from 21 April 2021
Officer Manager

Pay policy for senior staff

The Trustees consider the Board of Trustees and the senior management team comprise the key management personnel of the Charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the Charity on a day-to-day basis. All Trustees give of their time freely and no trustee received remuneration in the year. Details of Trustees' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in Note 12 to the accounts.

The pay of the senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with average earnings. The Trustees benchmark against pay levels in other local charities of a similar size, which are run on a voluntary basis.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the Charity. Any connection between a Trustee or senior management of the Charity with service user, external contractor or supplier of services must be disclosed to the Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

All related party transactions are managed in accordance with the Charity's conflicts of interest policy. All transactions and activities involving organisations in which a Trustee may have an interest are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Charity's financial and procurement procedures. Total reimbursed expenses made to Trustees are shown in Note 12.

In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

Merton Sports and Social Club and Merton Talking Newspaper share our premises, and members or Trustees of these charities are potential trustees of Merton Voluntary Association for the Blind. Trustees who are members of these charities keep the separate interests at 'arm's length'.

Use of volunteers

MertonVision is grateful to all its volunteers, who carry out a variety of different tasks both in and out of the Charity. Our diverse range of volunteers have a variety of interests and reasons for wanting to support the Charity - from gaining experience at the start of their careers to using their wealth of experience and knowledge to meeting the needs of our communities. All our volunteers add value to our work and make a real difference to our clients and communities. Our volunteers are supported and overseen by our Volunteer Coordinator and are managed in accordance with the Volunteers policy.

Due to the size of the Charity, staff and volunteers work closely together and several of the existing staff originally began as volunteers. Volunteers are recruited on a rolling basis. Our volunteers are made up of different groups. There are those who work with the Charity offering support to the clients and staff, sometimes running activities.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Objects

The objects for which the Charity is established are to grant assistance to all blind and partially sighted people ordinarily resident in the London Borough of Merton and if the Trustees so determines elsewhere in England and Wales. The Charity operates using the trading name of MertonVision.

Aims

Our aim is to support and empower people with a visual impairment, from their diagnosis of permanent sight loss through the entire rehabilitative process, in whatever form is appropriate for them. This includes children, adults, people with dual sensory loss and people with other difficulties in addition to their visual loss.

Our services are informed by national guidelines and good practice, in particular 'Seeing it my way' which works to ensure that blind and partially sighted people can access the support, information and services needed for independent living.

We provide a 'pathway' of services and collaborate widely to ensure that as far as possible those needs are met.

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. The review looks at the success of each key activity and the benefits they have brought to those groups of people we are set up to help.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The review also helps us ensure our aims, objectives and activities remained focused on our stated purposes. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Following the Coronavirus pandemic our staff and volunteers continued to help those members and clients who are still self-isolating with a delivery service for shopping, prescriptions and in some cases household emergencies. Any concerns, requirements and anxieties were actioned and addressed. This is still on going and the Guardian Centre gradually opened up again during the current financial year to 31st March 2022 with restricted activities. Members were however reluctant to return due to the continuing fear of infection.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE Charitable activities

PEOPLE HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ABOUT LIVING WITH SIGHT LOSS

We feel that this is best achieved through personal contact. During the past year we have had direct contact with 583 clients, with 3,417 telephone calls. We also made 86 home visits to deliver shopping, prescriptions, essential equipment and to help out with IT problems.

There were 292 new clients during this period.

The Guardian Centre is once again open Monday - Thursday 9 am to 5 pm and on Friday 9 am to 4 pm for personal and telephone callers, and at other times by appointment. In addition we provide:

Patient Support Service at Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

We have found that people are often shocked by the diagnosis of untreatable sight loss, and have provided a support service at Moorfields at St. Georges for the past 24 years. This service is supported by Moorfields NHS trust. Our worker will talk to people at a very emotional time and give information about the help that is available outside of the hospital – this could be their local social services, national or local sight loss charities. Our worker also ensures that the Certificate of Visual Impairment (CVI) 'paperwork' is completed and sent to the appropriate social services or their agents.

The service is available to all patients who attend Moorfields NHS trust eye clinic at St George's Healthcare NHS Trust, not just Merton residents.

Rehabilitation

MertonVision provides a comprehensive rehabilitation service for people with a visual impairment in Merton. The service is contracted from London Borough of Merton. Rehabilitation includes 'problem solving' to help individuals find solutions to the difficulties they may face, and gives them the skills, confidence and equipment to re-order their lives. This will include daily living skills such as cooking, personal care, mobility training and a wealth of information about what is available to help live with sight loss.

MertonVision receive CVI's directly from hospital eye clinics, this enables rehabilitation and support services to be offered quickly. The Association of Directors of Social Services guidelines state that the patient should be contacted within 2 weeks. The service has been offered to 109 adults. Our average wait time for first contact was 25 days the delays have been due to difficulty in recruiting a new rehabilitation officer and assistant.

Habilitation Children

MertonVision has a project for one day per week with London Borough of Merton SENDIS (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Integrated Service) to provide mobility and independence training for children in the borough who have a visual impairment. We sub-contract a qualified rehabilitation and mobility officer to fulfil this project. MertonVision also provide early assessment and daily living skills training as appropriate to the child's age and ability.

Benefits Advice

We have a volunteer who is able to assist with filling in basic forms such as Blue Badge and Taxi Card applications.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Newsletter and other information media

Our main publication is a bi-monthly newsletter, which is distributed to 440 people with a visual impairment and 72 volunteers, supporters and local organisations. Information includes local and national issues of interest to people with a visual impairment. Each person's personal preference is accommodated, with standard or customised large print, Braille, email, and memory stick (MP3) format available.

Additionally we send information on a daily or ad hoc basis to those on our distribution list who have access to email with news and information as it arrives at MertonVision.

The MertonVision website is updated regularly, and we are using social media.

We work closely with Merton Talking Newspaper (MTN) to distribute MP3 players on permanent loan on their behalf. This ensures that people also have the appropriate equipment to listen to audio books and newsletters.

MertonVision is an agent for Wireless for the Blind, which provides specially adapted audio equipment for those in need

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AS APPROPRIATE IS OFFERED

Counselling service

While depression is not an inevitable consequence of vision impairment, it is common. An estimated one-third of older adults with vision loss report clinically significant depressive symptoms. Whether a person with vision loss becomes depressed appears to be more related to the impact the vision loss has on the person's functioning, rather than the severity of vision loss. We are now working in partnership with Wimbledon Guild of Social Welfare and Merton IAPPT who will provide counselling for our clients when required. A grant from the London Community Foundation has allowed us to continue a new telephone Counselling Service, free to our clients who are suffering from the effects of the pandemic. A total of 64 sessions were provided to our clients and staff.

The closures of the Guardian Centre during the financial year meant that face to face meetings, classes, clubs and events under the next headings could not take place fully. These activities are listed here for information and will resume when public confidence grows and the Centre gets back to some normality.

Peer Support

Peer support is often crucial to those newly diagnosed with enduring sight loss. By offering social opportunities MertonVision enables visually impaired people (especially those with a recent diagnosis) to meet with others who are living with sight loss and learn from each other. Our weekly daytime or special events encourage people to meet and socialise.

Weekly social activities

This includes coffee morning, social events and local peer support. We also organise an 'Out and About' group, which meets at various venues in Merton for coffee or lunch.

As this group grows we will be setting up other local groups across Merton.

Lunch club

This gives people the opportunity to meet other people and enjoy a freshly prepared hot meal. We know that many people live alone and are unlikely to cook. MertonVision has retained its 5 stars hygiene rating with London Borough of Merton. We prepared approximately 185 hot and buffet lunches.

Social events

MertonVision arrange social evenings, for example Burns night, Quizzes and Bridge tournaments. During the summer months we arrange trips out on our minibus to the seaside or places of interest. We are fortunate that many of our volunteers give up their free time to accompany and guide those who need it.

Macular group

The local Macular Group meet bi-monthly at MertonVision. Everyone who has macular disease, friends or family are welcome.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Young people with a visual impairment

Most of our service users are elderly, therefore our services are geared towards the needs of older people. However, we are 3 years into a 5-year funded project to employ a Working Age Outreach worker to focus on communicating with this hard-to-reach client group. The worker assists and advises visually impaired working age people in Merton.

Thanks to a grant from the Wimbledon Foundation, we were able to run various activities for young and older visually impaired children during school holidays from Summer 2021 to Easter 2022 with the help of the Royal Society for Blind Children. For the younger children there were circus skills, clowns, magicians and art classes, while the older ones had sports coaching. There was also a Christmas party and disco for all.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

PROVIDE PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS THEY MAY FACE

Home Support

We realised that many people with poor vision have difficulty resolving a problem at home that needs vision, so we set up a service in response to the need. We have helped with a variety of 'problems' for example; restoring the settings on a TV, delivery and setting up a talking microwave, fitting a replacement light bulb for a task lamp and doing a safety check. We also deliver and set up loan CCTV's and training on their use.

Daily Living Aids and Equipment Room

The resource centre offers the opportunity to try some of the practical or specialist equipment which people with a visual impairment may find useful. Equipment is available to buy. Some items are available on short-term loan so that people can try more expensive items in their own home first. Our agreement with the RNIB gives us ordering priority for our clients.

Low Vision Aids

We offer a Low Vision Aids service to people in the community who have been referred by local optometrist practices. The aim of the service is to enable people with low vision access to low vision aids (optical magnifiers) much earlier than the conventional route by referral to GP and subsequent hospital appointment. In addition to early referral, this project allows for a more 'person centred' approach, so that the patient emerges with greater skills in using their magnifiers. The service is funded by the Merton Clinical Commissioning Group and is available at MertonVision by appointment.

We also work in partnership with Moorfields Eye Hospital to offer local patients the choice of attending a clinic either at Moorfields or at MertonVision.

Social and Adult Learning Activities

IT training

We have an accessible IT Suite equipped with 6 PC's with large monitors and accessible software. We give training on the use of the integral magnification and other specialist software, as well as using the computer. We have an IT tutor for 1 session per week. MertonVision provides training for using 'tablets' (iPad and ePad), as these seem particularly accessible for people without previous computer skills. We also have a qualified 'Guide' trainer to help people to set up and use 'Guide' accessible software at home.

Arts and Crafts

We employ an Arts and Craft tutor for one session per week to accommodate people with a visual impairment.

Falls prevention

We offer a weekly Falls Prevention Chair Based Exercise Class, which helps to deliver the Falls Strategy for Older People locally.

Falls are usually caused by one or more of four triggers; trips and hazards, polypharmacy (more than four medications) poor muscle tone or poor vision. We have been working closely with Merton Falls Prevention Lead (NHS) to add a simple sight-screening tool when assessing those who are referred to their service. Those who failed were given our information about eye tests, cheaper options for spectacles and the number to call if they need a domiciliary visit. We are hoping the screening tool will be rolled out to more community assessors.

Yoga

We also offer a weekly Yoga class.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

PROVIDE PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS THEY MAY FACE

Volunteer Services

The main focus of our volunteer services is to provide a Home Visiting Service to people with a visual impairment. This service provides a trained volunteer to people who need additional help not provided at the Guardian Centre.

Our project worker recruits, trains and supports volunteers for a variety of roles within MertonVision. All volunteers undertake enhanced DBS checks. The volunteers have given 875 hours of their time mostly shopping for our clients.

We are pleased that we can accommodate volunteers from diverse cultures and those with disabilities. We are very grateful to our volunteers, without whom many of our services would not run.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Chief Executive Officer gives talks to community groups on the work of MertonVision. We also provide Visual Impairment Awareness Training.

During the year we have worked or collaborated with the following organisations to improve services locally for people with a visual impairment.

Close collaboration means that we can refer clients (with their permission) to other services or organisations where their need can be met.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Merton Clinical Commissioning Group | • MVSC |
| • LBM Library service | • RSBC |
| • LBM Social services | • London Vision |
| • LBM Education Dept. | • Sight For Surrey |
| • Moorfields NHS Trust | • Linden Lodge |
| • Merton Public Health Team | • Wandsworth Commissioning Team |
| • LBM Ageing Well Programme Phase 2 | • Vision Foundation |
| • Wimbledon Guild of Social Welfare | • Wimbledon Foundation |
| • Age UK Merton | • Commonsense Trust |
| • Merton Community Transport | • Merton Chamber of Commerce |
| • Safer Neighbourhood team | • Wimbledon Dons |
| • Merton Asian Elderly group | • Merton Mutual Aid |
| • Thomas Pocklington Trust | • Sutton Vision |
| | • Croydon Vision |

Transcription Services

Providers of written information are required to offer accessible formats such as large print, Braille and audio.

We are pleased that we are able to offer a transcription service free to our members and on a commercial basis to our customers. MertonVision is the preferred provider of braille transcription to the London Borough of Merton.

MertonVision is a member of COTIS (Confederation of Transcribed Information Services).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Difficulties with the new building project have been both frustrating and disappointing. Staff time has been wasted disposing of fixtures and fittings and packing up for our temporary move to the Wilson Hospital. Trustee time has also been wasted on endless meetings, more often than not fruitless, with the developer and the NHS. This time could have been devoted to our clients, trying to tempt them back to the Guardian Centre with old favourites and new, innovative activities. The Trustees will however, continue to remain steadfastly committed to ensuring a sustainable organisation for the benefit of its service users. The Trustees consider the overall financial performance of the Charity for the year to again be disappointing, but there is light at the end of the tunnel for 2022/2023 with the award of the 3 year National Lottery grant.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

During the current year, the Charity's income profile has not changed significantly. The Charity's income remains heavily reliant on the public sector funds with the Local Authority who have, because of the pandemic, extended our grant funding for another year until March 2023. The Wimbledon Foundation project to engage a Working Age Outreach Worker has, again due to the pandemic, been extended by 2 more years. A further grant was received from them to support various activities for visually impaired children during school holidays. A grant was also received from Merton Connected to run a sports satellite scheme for physically inactive young people. Our finances were further boosted by a further Coronavirus crisis grant from the National Lottery in respect to our response towards caring for our members, clients and staff during the pandemic. Finally, a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund, distributed by Merton Giving, to increase our existing IT Support Worker's time to train members, clients and staff to access technology and encourage the use of devices primarily to aid isolation and to facilitate online shopping. The Government Job Retention Scheme also continued to allow us to subsidise the salaries of our four furloughed staff who were paid in full throughout the period to 30 September 2021. There have been some changes during the year within the other categories of income.

The Charity's Trustees wish to express our sincere gratitude to all our grant funders, listed in note 3 on page 20 of these accounts, for their support during another unprecedented year.

The Charity's incoming resources have decreased by 25.95% to £291,421 (2021: £393,569) due to decrease in grants. The Charity's expenditure has decreased to £353,713 (2021: £360,261) due mainly to an overall decrease in activity. The net effect of the above is a decrease in total reserves of £62,292 (2021 – increase of £33,308).

The Charity's Trustees will continually attempt to keep the cost structure of the organisation stable and tightly controlled.

Future plans

We are very pleased to report that our grant application to the National Lottery was successful, with a 3 year total grant of £363,509. The first 6 monthly advance was received on 10 June 2022 and involves the creation of, 2 full time and 1 part time, new staff roles. A Volunteer Service Manager, an Outreach Activities Worker and an IT Support Trainer, all of whom are now in place. They will be collectively known as the Outreach Team. The Volunteer Service Manager will support existing, find and train new volunteers to support the home visiting service, befriending and running social activities. The Outreach Activities Worker will utilise these volunteers to support existing and new centre activities, mainly to our older members. Finally, the IT Support Trainer will through a team of volunteers train those members, still not confident to leave their homes, with new and existing ways to use technology to communicate with relatives, friends and order shopping online. This will alleviate feelings of isolation and depression. He will also train staff to use new technology.

The new building project was progressing well with our decampment to the Wilson Hospital imminent but was dramatically halted due to differences between the developer and the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group. The project is currently on hold, therefore we will need to increase member participation in centre activities at the Guardian Centre.

After 25 years, Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust have unfortunately terminated our contract to supply an Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) at St. George's Hospital with effect from 27 January 2023. Fortunately, the London Borough of Merton have given a one-off payment for a rehabilitation assistant to clear the backlog of cases brought about during the Coronavirus pandemic. Our ECLO staff member has been transferred to this new role.

Our Chief Executive Officer has successfully tendered for a 3 year Pride Grant from the London Borough of Merton starting 1 April 2023. It has 3 separate components Preventative Activities (Well-Being), Emergency Support and Growing Strengths and Capabilities and is worth £81,467 per annum, an increase of £26,752 a year.

We are currently awaiting the outcome of a grant application to Children in Need for desperately needed support for a full time Children's Facilitator to enable us to continue our previous work with visually impaired and deaf children.

Investment policy and objectives

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the Charity, have kept available funds in an interest-bearing deposit account and seek to achieve a rate on deposit which matches or exceeds inflation as measured by the retail prices index.

The Trustees have designated the Emily Wells legacy (£51,526) as an income-generating fund. The Trustees have explored suitable short-term investments to generate income on the remainder of their free reserves. These investments have been placed with different banking institutions to mitigate any possible losses the institutions might suffer.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Reserves policy and going concern

At a committee meeting held on 11 March 2021 to address the continuing economic uncertainties of the Coronavirus pandemic and the inability to attract new core funding the Trustees agreed to change their previously established policy, whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in fixed assets (the free reserves) held by the Charity should be up to six rather than twelve months of the resources expended, which now equates to approximately £177,000. At this level the Board of Trustees feel that they would still be able to continue the current activities of the Charity in the event of a significant drop in funding.

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular to operations and finances. Operational risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures and policies, with a regular review of these to ensure current good practice. A disaster plan to ensure business continuity in the event of unplanned events has been prepared. The Trustees have identified the inherent risks associated with having one primary funding source. Our reserves policy mitigates some of the risks of loss of funding. The Trustees have implemented and augmented a fundraising programme.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Merton Voluntary Association for the Blind for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

Company law requires the Charity's Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the Financial statements unless they are satisfied 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 those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

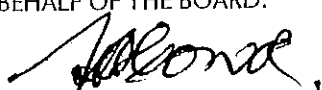
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP 2019 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This Trustees report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:



H A Cowd - Chairman

21 March 2023

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

I report to the Charity's Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 15 to 29.

Respective and basis of report

As the Charity's Trustees of the charitable company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your Charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the '2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's report

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in Section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those accounting records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- (4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended practice for accounting and reporting by charities.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gareth Rees FCA CTA
On behalf of
PB Associates
2 Castle Business Village
Station Road
Hampton
Middlesex
TW12 2BX

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

				2022	2021
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
INCOME	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	19,531	-	19,531	10,198
Income from charitable activities:	3				
Grants		76,478	41,038	117,516	232,640
Charitable Activities		8,005	-	8,005	10,089
Contracted services		144,785	-	144,785	139,989
Other trading activities:					
Fundraising and events	4	1,502	-	1,502	293
Investment income	5	82	-	82	360
Total Income		250,383	41,038	291,421	393,569
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	6	680	-	680	737
Charitable activities:					
Charity Activities	7	303,413	49,620	353,033	359,524
Total expenditure		304,093	49,620	353,713	360,261
NET Income/(expenditure) before transfers		(53,710)	(8,582)	(62,292)	33,308
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
NET Income/(expenditure) after transfers		(53,710)	(8,582)	(62,292)	33,308
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	19				
Total funds brought forward		549,827	28,779	578,606	545,298
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		496,117	20,197	516,314	578,606

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All incoming resources and resources expended arise from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2022

				2022	2021
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	15	51,826	-	51,826	54,350
Investments	16	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
		<u>76,826</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,826</u>	<u>79,350</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks		633	-	633	633
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	17	31,131	70	31,201	32,106
Cash at bank and in hand		399,776	20,407	420,183	479,094
		<u>431,540</u>	<u>20,477</u>	<u>452,017</u>	<u>511,833</u>
LIABILITIES					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	18	(12,249)	(280)	(12,529)	(12,577)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>419,291</u>	<u>20,197</u>	<u>439,488</u>	<u>499,256</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>496,117</u>	<u>20,197</u>	<u>516,314</u>	<u>578,606</u>
TOTAL FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted Funds	19			496,117	549,827
Restricted Funds	19			20,197	28,779
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>516,314</u>	<u>578,606</u>

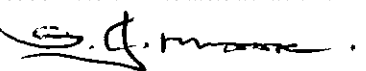
The Trustees consider that the charitable company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") relating to small companies and members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

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 Board of Trustees on 21 March 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:


H A Cowd – Chairman and Trustee


S J Moore – Treasurer and Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Company status

Merton Voluntary Association for the Blind is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales. The registered office and company registration number are detailed on page 3.

Basis of preparation

Merton Voluntary Association for the Blind meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are presented in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees have considered the company's balance sheet, trading activity and estimated cash flows for a period of at least 12 months from the date these financial statements were signed and have concluded that the charity will continue to be able to meet its obligations as these fall due.

Judgement and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Charity is required to make judgments, 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 on-going 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.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the Trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Where necessary, a quarterly report is sent to the donor detailing the expenditure.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in Note 20 on pages 27 & 28 of the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Income

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is deferred only when the Charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in future period.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the Charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the Charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. Some of the management and activity of the Charity is carried out by volunteers. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the volunteer time is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Charity which is the amount the Charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Expenditure

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

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings having regard to the nature of the expenditure.

Expenditure for raising funds includes only directly related costs for traditional fundraising including staff time where applicable. All roles within the senior management team that have fundraising responsibility in its broader sense of restricted income generation in the form of, for example, larger multi-year statutory grants remain within costs for charitable activities. This is to ensure that the fundraising income and costs shown in the Statement of Financial Activities relate to each other and can be reasonably compared.

Grants paid to individuals

Certain grants are applied for on behalf of clients and where these applications are successful; the amounts received are expended in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant application.

Donated services and facilities

Gifts are recorded as received however, as the value of most gifts received cannot be measured reliably these are not included in the accounts.

Voluntary help

A certain amount of time is expended on the Charity's activities, which is donated free of charge, which includes pro bono counselling and therapist time. It is not possible to quantify the value of time given and accordingly it is neither recorded as donated income nor as an expense in the accounts.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

Since 1 August 2016 employees were able to join the money purchase scheme, which has been established in compliance with the regulations on workplace pensions under the Pensions Act 2008. Employees were automatically enrolled into the money purchase scheme unless they have exercised their right to opt out of scheme membership.

Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation. Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Asset Category	Annual Rate
Freehold buildings	Fully depreciated
Computer equipment	33% on cost
Plant and machinery	20% on cost
Office furniture and fittings	25% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	20% on reducing balance

Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The income arising on the investments is shown under investment income in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Gains and losses on investment assets disposed of are shown as gains and losses in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Stocks

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

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account, as well as cash in hand held by Charity at the year end.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are recognised at the invoiced cost prepaid.

Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Taxation

The Charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010. Accordingly it is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income and capital gains received to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes. No provision for taxation has been made in these financial statements.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations	13,603	9,334
Legacies	5,016	-
Membership	912	864
	<u>19,531</u>	<u>10,198</u>

Income from Donations was £19,531 (2021: £10,198) all of which was unrestricted in both financial years.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

3. INCOME RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2022 £	2021 £
Grants	Grants	117,516	232,640
Catering income	Charitable Activities	1,220	-
Hall Hire	Charitable Activities	4,122	9,550
Members club sales	Charitable Activities	1,210	-
Other income	Charitable Activities	286	372
Resales	Charitable Activities	229	267
Transport charges	Charitable Activities	938	(100)
Access to Work	Contracted Services	38,124	34,429
Maintenance of LBM register	Contracted Services	1,254	1,238
Merton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	Contracted Services	2,184	2,172
Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	Contracted Services	23,857	23,857
Rehabilitation Charges	Contracted Services	79,366	78,293
		<u>270,306</u>	<u>382,718</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Vision Foundation for London (formally GLFB)	-	90,000
London Borough of Merton	59,429	54,715
Merton Connect IT (restricted grant)	9,915	-
Merton Connect Work with Children	2,000	-
Wimbledon Foundation (restricted grant)	25,000	25,000
Wimbledon Foundation Child Fund (restricted grant)	5,000	-
Wimbledon Foundation Coronavirus Fund Grant	-	5,000
The National Lottery Community Fund	9,940	18,097
The London Community Foundation (restricted grant)	-	19,994
HMRC Furlough Grants	5,039	15,564
DWP - Access to Work (restricted grant)	1,123	3,844
Other Small Grants	70	426
	<u>117,516</u>	<u>232,640</u>

4. FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Fundraising events	580	-
MVAB Lottery	286	269
100 Club	636	24
	<u>1,502</u>	<u>293</u>

All of the Charity's Fundraising income of £1,502 (2021: £293) is unrestricted

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

5. INVESTMENT INCOME	2022 £	2021 £
Deposit account interest	48	176
Investment income	34	184
	<u>82</u>	<u>360</u>

All of the Charity's investment income of £82 (2021: £360) arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts and is unrestricted.

6. RAISING FUNDS COSTS	2022 £	2021 £
Publicity and fundraising cost	70	737
100 club prizes	610	-
	<u>680</u>	<u>737</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS	Direct costs £	Governance costs £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Charity Activities	345,474	7,559	353,033	359,524
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>345,474</u>	<u>7,559</u>	<u>353,033</u>	<u>359,524</u>

8. ANALYSIS OF DIRECT COSTS	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Totals £	2021 Totals £
Wages and salaries	234,760	46,093	280,853	297,708
Other staff costs	3,315	297	3,612	6,346
Volunteer expenses	1,670	110	1,780	48
Direct project costs	5,345	1,935	7,280	3,947
Premises costs	23,556	-	23,556	27,470
Office costs	26,983	1,185	28,168	16,678
Grants paid to individuals	225	-	225	214
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>295,854</u>	<u>49,620</u>	<u>345,474</u>	<u>352,411</u>

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

9. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accountancy	1,200	1,200
HR fees	2,863	2,863
Independent Examiner fees	1,850	1,850
Legal fees	13	13
Payroll fees	432	360
Subscriptions and fees	1,201	827
	<u>7,559</u>	<u>7,113</u>

10. NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES

Net resources are stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent Examiner's fees	1,850	1,850
Depreciation - owned assets	2,524	6,610
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

11. STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross Wages	258,220	273,345
Employers National Insurance	15,662	17,156
Pension costs	6,971	7,207
	<u>280,853</u>	<u>297,708</u>

No employees had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2021: £Nil). Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred.

The key management personnel of the Charity comprise of the Trustees, the Chief Executive Officer and the Office Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £70,827 (2021: £70,844).

The average monthly number of employees (including casual and part time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2022	2021
	No	No
Senior Management Team	2	2
Other Direct Charitable Staff	12	12
	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>

12. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The Charity Trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the Charity in the year (2021: £Nil) During the year, no Trustees were reimbursed for disbursements (2021: £Nil) in respect of fundraising and other related expenses.

No charity Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the Charity (2021: £Nil).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

13. PENSION COSTS

The Charity has a defined contribution pension scheme, which all employees are entitled to join. From 1 April 2019 the Charity contributes 3% and the employees contribute a minimum of 5%, however employees may make further additional voluntary contributions.

During the year ended 31 March 2022, the Charity's total contributions amounted to £6,971 (2021: £7,207) The Trustees are satisfied that any foreseeable change in employer's contributions can be budgeted for without detriment to the Charity's on-going activities.

14. TRANSACTIONS AND RELATED PARTIES

There were no related party transactions during the year or the previous year, other than the remuneration of key management personnel set out in Note 11.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

15. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold Property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2021	108,541	37,800	27,295	82,168	255,804
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	(2,274)	(2,274)
At 31 March 2022	108,541	37,800	27,295	79,894	253,530
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2021	58,521	36,049	26,680	80,204	201,454
Charge for year	-	437	123	1,964	2,524
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	(2,274)	(2,274)
At 31 March 2022	58,521	36,486	26,803	79,894	201,704
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2022	50,020	1,314	492	-	51,826
At 31 March 2021	50,020	1,751	615	1,964	54,350

16. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	2022 £	2021 £
National Savings Income Bonds - valued at cost	25,000	25,000

17. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Other debtors & accrued income	25,625	22,571
Prepayments	5,576	9,535
	31,201	32,106

18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	895	722
Other creditors	-	95
Accruals	11,634	11,760
	12,529	12,577

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Current Year

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	168,530	(53,710)	-	114,820
Designated - Emily Wells Memorial Fund	51,526	-	-	51,526
Designated - General Building Maintenance	104,131	-	-	104,131
Designated - Gym Equipment	15,000	-	-	15,000
Designated - Hall Refurbishment	10,640	-	-	10,640
Designated - High Tech Loan Equipment	15,000	-	-	15,000
Designated - IT and other Equipment	45,000	-	-	45,000
Designated - Minibus	55,000	-	-	55,000
Designated - Removal Costs	20,000	-	-	20,000
Designated - Resource Room Equipment	15,000	-	-	15,000
Designated - Social Club Refurbishment	50,000	-	-	50,000
	<u>549,827</u>	<u>(53,710)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>496,117</u>
Restricted funds				
Access to Work	1,964	(1,964)	-	-
Dora and Leslie Barter Conservatory Fund	6,250	-	-	6,250
Hearing Impaired Children	454	-	-	454
The London Community Foundation	14,461	(14,461)	-	-
Wimbledon Foundation	5,650	5,178	-	10,828
Wimbledon Foundation-Child activities	-	687	-	687
Merton Connect IT Project	-	1,978	-	1,978
	<u>28,779</u>	<u>(8,582)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,197</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>578,606</u>	<u>(62,292)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>516,314</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement In Funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	250,383	(304,093)	(53,710)
	<u>250,383</u>	<u>(304,093)</u>	<u>(53,710)</u>
Restricted funds			
Access to Work	1,123	(3,087)	(1,964)
Wimbledon Foundation	25,000	(19,822)	5,178
Wimbledon Foundation – Child Activities	5,000	(4,313)	687
Merton Connected IT Project	9,915	(7,937)	1,978
The London Community Foundation	-	(14,461)	(14,461)
	<u>41,038</u>	<u>(49,620)</u>	<u>(8,582)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>291,421</u>	<u>(353,713)</u>	<u>(62,292)</u>

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS continued
Comparative Year

	At 1/4/20 £	Net movement In funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	312,612	26,035	(170,117)	168,530
Designated - Emily Wells Memorial Fund	51,526	-	-	51,526
Designated - General Building Maintenance	105,915	(1,784)	-	104,131
Designated - Gym Equipment	-	-	15,000	15,000
Designated - Hall Refurbishment	10,640	-	-	10,640
Designated - High Tech Loan Equipment	-	-	15,000	15,000
Designated - IT and other Equipment	-	-	45,000	45,000
Designated - Minibus	33,373	-	21,627	55,000
Designated - Removal Costs	-	-	20,000	20,000
Designated - Resource Room Equipment	-	-	15,000	15,000
Designated - Social Club Refurbishment	15,000	-	35,000	50,000
	<u>529,066</u>	<u>24,251</u>	<u>(3,490)</u>	<u>549,827</u>
Restricted funds				
Access to Work	5,564	(3,600)	-	1,964
Dora and Leslie Barter Conservatory Fund	6,250	-	-	6,250
Eye Can Do It	775	(4,265)	3,490	-
Grants to Individuals	214	(214)	-	-
Hearing Impaired Children	454	-	-	454
The London Community Foundation	-	14,461	-	14,461
Wimbledon Foundation	2,975	2,675	-	5,650
	<u>16,232</u>	<u>9,057</u>	<u>3,490</u>	<u>28,779</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>545,298</u></u>	<u><u>33,308</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>578,606</u></u>
Net movement In funds, included in the above are as follows:		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement In funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund		344,731	(318,696)	26,035
Designated - General Building Maintenance		-	(1,784)	(1,784)
		<u>344,731</u>	<u>(320,480)</u>	<u>24,251</u>
Restricted funds				
Access to Work		3,844	(7,444)	(3,600)
Eye Can Do It		-	(4,265)	(4,265)
Grants to Individuals		-	(214)	(214)
Hearing Impaired Children		-	-	-
The London Community Foundation		19,994	(5,533)	14,461
Wimbledon Foundation		25,000	(22,325)	2,675
		<u>48,838</u>	<u>(39,781)</u>	<u>9,057</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u><u>393,569</u></u>	<u><u>(360,261)</u></u>	<u><u>33,308</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

20. FUNDS DETAILS

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Funds have been designated as follows:

Emily Wells Memorial Fund

This capital amount was designated in committee to provide revenue.

General Buildings Maintenance

The Trustees have taken advice on the risks involved in owning a large building and the likely repair and maintenance needs over the longer term. This amount has been set aside to meet large repair and maintenance needs.

Gym Equipment

To augment our ageing well services the Trustees have decided to purchase suitable equipment for use in the hall.

Hall Refurbishment

The Trustees have agreed to refurbish the hall area.

High Tech Loan Equipment

A fund to build a bank of loan equipment, iPads, laptops and similar equipment that can be loaned to members, under the instruction of volunteers, to access online meetings, tutorials and activities from home.

IT and other Equipment

In the prior year the Trustees have decided to designate the following:

- Charitylog - The Trustees are setting up a fund to train new staff in the use of and enhancements to our members treatment monitoring system - £10,000
- Computer System - The Trustees have decided to replace the outdated hardware and software -£35,000

Minibus

In a prior year an amount of £33,373 had been reserved for the purchase of a replacement minibus, however the replacement cost increased, so an additional £21,627 has been transferred from general funds.

Removal Costs

In a prior year, the Trustees have decided to set-up a fund to cover possible, unforeseen expenditure on our decampment during the reconstruction of The Guardian Centre.

Resource Room Equipment

The Trustees have decided to refurbish the demonstration equipment available to members and begin a travelling demo service

Social Club Refurbishment

The Trustees have agreed to update and refurbish the social club area. Following a donation from the social club bank account and to recognise its source, it was decided in committee to increase the fund by a similar amount to a total now of £50,000.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

20. FUNDS DETAILS - continued

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Access to Work

Funding received from the Department for Work and Pensions for various equipment required by a visually impaired member of staff to assist them in carrying out their employment. Certain items of computer equipment were capitalised and are being depreciated.

The Dora and Leslie Barter Conservatory Fund

In accordance with the provisions of the Dora Barter legacy the funds donated therein are to be applied to the building of a new conservatory.

Hearing Impaired Children

Funding received from Wimbledon District Nursing and Midwifery Benevolent Society to enable hearing-impaired children to join the Eye Can Do It programme.

The London Community Foundation

Two grants totally £14,461 were received to provide a specialist counselling service from an empathetic visual impairment background to tackle the growing feelings of anxiety and depression our service users are experiencing brought on from Covid19 isolation which is directly blamed on their visual impairment. In addition, the worry from fall out after lock down is over.

Wimbledon Foundation

We secured three year project funding to engage a Working Age Outreach Worker to develop social and peer support activities and to promote the take up of statutory and voluntary services for working age people with impaired vision in Merton. The project provides £25,000 per annum to cover salary costs, expenses and overheads of the Outreach Worker until 31 March 2022. Due to the disruption caused by the COVID pandemic the project has been extended until 31 March 2024.

Wimbledon Foundation - Child Activities

A grant of £5,000 was received to support various activities for visually impaired children during school holidays.

Merton Connected IT Project

Grant of £9,915 to increase our IT support worker's time to train members, clients and staff to access technology.

21. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The Charity has authorised and contracted for expenditure of £Nil. The Charity has authorised but not contracted for expenditure of £Nil in its capital budget for the upcoming year.

MertonVision are in negotiations with a developer to exchange our restricted freehold of the Guardian Centre site for a long leasehold interest in a newly constructed building to be shared with two GP practices in collaboration with the local NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Planning permission was authorised by the London Borough of Merton on 15 July 2021. No agreements have been exchanged between the parties. The Charity Commission must first give a ruling as to whether MertonVision are receiving fair value for its freehold interest.

In a prior year a designated fund has been created by the trustees for any potential removal costs and a transfer of £20,000 has been made from the general fund.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS- CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

22. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCOME	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Income and endowments from: Donations and legacies	10,198	-	10,198
Income from charitable activities:			
Grants	183,802	48,838	232,640
Charitable Activities	10,089	-	10,089
Contracted services	139,989	-	139,989
Other trading activities:			
Fundraising and events	293	-	293
Investment income	360	-	360
Total Income	344,731	48,838	393,569
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising funds	737	-	737
Charitable activities:			
Charity Activities	319,743	39,781	359,524
Total expenditure	320,480	39,781	360,261
NET Income/(expenditure) before transfers	24,251	9,057	33,308
Transfers between funds	(3,490)	3,490	-
NET Income/(expenditure) after transfers	20,761	12,547	33,308

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

The following pages do not form part of the financial statements.

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
INCOME		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	13,603	9,334
Legacies	5,016	-
Membership	912	864
	<u>19,531</u>	<u>10,198</u>
Fundraising Income		
Fundraising	580	-
MVAB Lottery	286	269
100 Club	636	24
	<u>1,502</u>	<u>293</u>
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	48	176
Investment income	34	184
	<u>82</u>	<u>360</u>
Income from charitable activities		
Grants	117,516	232,640
Catering income	1,220	-
Hall Hire	4,122	9,550
Members club sales	1,210	-
Other income	286	372
Resales	229	267
Transport charges	938	(100)
Access to work	38,124	34,429
Maintenance of LBM register	1,254	1,238
Merton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	2,184	2,172
Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	23,857	23,857
Rehabilitation Charges	79,366	78,293
	<u>270,306</u>	<u>382,718</u>
Total income	<u>291,421</u>	<u>393,569</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

MERTON VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
EXPENDITURE		
Raising Funds Costs	70	737
Publicity and fundraising cost	610	-
100 Club Prizes		
	680	737
Charitable Activities		
Wages	258,220	273,345
Employer National Insurance	15,662	17,156
Pension	6,971	7,207
Locum costs	-	3,150
Volunteer costs	119	48
Insurance	4,489	5,774
Light, heat and water rates	11,633	5,136
Rates	1,326	1,251
Telephone	2,734	2,891
Postage and Stationery	3,842	1,741
Sundries	2,191	487
Transport costs	2,894	2,985
Travel costs	209	72
Office cleaning and materials	765	1,047
Activity costs	6,203	-
Catering expenses	1,137	51
Members club purchases	987	545
Computer and IT costs	9,262	9,795
Repairs and maintenance	8,868	7,651
Access to work equipment	1,123	1,570
Staff training	3,374	3,125
Bank charges	465	427
Resales	251	133
Grants to individuals	225	214
Depreciation of fixtures and fittings	2,524	6,610
	345,474	352,411
Governance costs		
Accountancy	1,200	1,200
Independent Examiners fees	1,850	1,850
HR fees	2,863	2,863
Legal fees	13	13
Payroll Fees	432	360
Subscriptions and fees	1,201	827
	7,559	7,113
Total exemptions	353,713	360,261
Net Income (expenses)	(62,292)	33,308

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