

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03898093 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1079421

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
FOR
RYE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
82 High Street
Tenterden
Kent
TN30 6JG

RYE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the Charity are to provide and maintain non-profit community transport services and to assist the charitable work of other organisations providing relief to the inhabitants of Rye and district who are in need because of age, mental or physical disability or otherwise. The focus of the Charity's activities must always be public benefit - the Charity's strength is entirely due to its position within the community.

The trustees have regard to the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The RDCT continues to deliver its core services to the community in an efficient and cost-effective manner under Section 19 and 22 Permits, exclusively for non-commercial purposes in support of its Objectives and its 326-community bus service (Section 22 Permit). In normal times it provides transport for more than half the primary schools in the Rye area to swimming lessons and other academic and sporting activities while 3 buses deliver students to and from Homewood School in Tenterden. The Dial-a-Ride service helps to transport the elderly and infirm to attend clinics at Rye Hospital and medical appointments, go shopping, and attend club meetings and day centres. With the opening in 2021 of the Hub on the Hill (part of Rye Hospital) the bus service is vital in transporting users of its facilities. Group Hire is also very popular.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

During the past year the Directors' efforts have continued to concentrate on stabilising the Charity's financial position and focussing on a business strategy to ensure ongoing viability. The cost base for RDCT is high but the Permits only allow for recovery of certain operating costs from passengers and excludes any administrative expense. This means that the charity relies heavily on community funding for support. Organisations such as the Friends of Rye Hospital, Rye Town Council, the Rye Fund, Icklesham Parish Council, Sussex Community Foundation, Rye Bonfire Society and Jempsons have all supported the Charity during the year and much is also done by other fund-raising initiatives. It is also extremely grateful for very generous donations from the public who have used the service and value its contribution to their transport needs.

During the past year, the Charity suffered particularly from the high inflationary cost pressures and the need to maintain an ageing transport fleet. This has entailed a higher funding need, placing even greater emphasis upon donations and grants. It is likely that this trend will continue.

The results for the year ended 31 March 2024 have reflected these funding pressures resulting in a shortfall before depreciation and whilst this is unwelcome, the Trustees are looking at alternative sources of grant income to ensure future break-even situations.

Since the year end, thanks to the substantial and very welcome fund raising by Mrs Jane Conlin, the Trust was able to buy a replacement vehicle which will continue to be known as HarryBus in her late husband's memory.

The Trustees would like to thank the Operations Manager for her unstinting commitment to the Bus Company, the employees and all the volunteers and donors who do so much to ensure we continue to provide an excellent and much appreciated community service. The Bus Company is indeed the glue that binds the community together.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have also ensured that reserves should be sufficient to permit operations to continue for at least 12 months in the event of a major downturn in income and to help build up funds for any future bus replacement.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are recruited and appointed from members of the local community who wish to assist the charity.

Risk management

The Trustees continue to work to ensure that risks to which the charity is exposed are identified and dealt with appropriately, with particular regard to fraud and error and the safety of passengers and drivers.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03898093 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1079421

Registered office

Rye Wharf
Harbour Road
Rye Harbour
Rye
East Sussex
TN31 7TE

Trustees

M J Miller
B M Nealon
I J Foster

No director has any beneficial interest in the charitable company. All directors are appointed representatives of member organisations who have guaranteed to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up. The number of guarantees at 31 March 2024 was 25.

Company Secretary

I J Foster

Independent Examiner

David Ashby FCCA ACA
Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
82 High Street
Tenterden
Kent
TN30 6JG

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 19 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

B M Nealon - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Rye & District Community Transport ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the 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 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 statement

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 Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those 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 (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

David Ashby FCCA ACA

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
82 High Street
Tenterden
Kent
TN30 6JG

23 December 2024

RYE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		37,945	-	37,945	40,496
Charitable activities					
Operation of bus service		76,829	-	76,829	70,521
Other trading activities	3	6,774	-	6,774	8,642
Investment income	4	399	-	399	201
Total		<u>121,947</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>121,947</u>	<u>119,860</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		2,400	-	2,400	2,565
Charitable activities					
Operation of bus service		<u>124,726</u>	<u>3,048</u>	<u>127,774</u>	<u>122,952</u>
Total		<u>127,126</u>	<u>3,048</u>	<u>130,174</u>	<u>125,517</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(5,179)	(3,048)	(8,227)	(5,657)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		32,123	12,257	44,380	50,037
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>26,944</u></u>	<u><u>9,209</u></u>	<u><u>36,153</u></u>	<u><u>44,380</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	2,810	8,974	11,784	15,698
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	4,172	81	4,253	3,727
Cash at bank and in hand		28,769	154	28,923	31,662
		32,941	235	33,176	35,389
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(8,807)	-	(8,807)	(6,707)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		24,134	235	24,369	28,682
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		26,944	9,209	36,153	44,380
NET ASSETS		26,944	9,209	36,153	44,380
FUNDS	13				
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund				26,944	32,123
Restricted funds				9,209	12,257
TOTAL FUNDS				36,153	44,380

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 19 December 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

B M Nealon - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

Rye & District Community Transport is a private charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found in the reference and administrative details in the Report of the Trustees.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

INCOME

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Government grants are recognised and accounted for under the performance model.

Grants that do not specify any future performance-related conditions are recorded when the grant proceeds are received or receivable. Any grant that imposes specified future performance-related conditions is recognised only when the performance-related conditions are met. Grants received before the revenue recognition criteria are satisfied are recognised as a liability.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Fixed assets are recorded at cost or, in cases where fixed assets have been donated to the Charity, at valuation at the time of acquisition.

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Office equipment	20% on written down value
Motor vehicles	25% on written down value

TAXATION

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

FUND ACCOUNTING

As all the activities of the charity are within its primary objective to provide non-profit community transport services, it has not been considered necessary to designate any funds or show any funds as restricted.

Where funds are received for a significant and specific project these are allocated to restricted funds.

DONATED SERVICES

Donated services are included at a value equivalent to market value at the date of donation.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Debtors and creditors are recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts.

Creditors 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.

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising events	1,884	3,252
Social lotteries	4,890	5,390
	<u>6,774</u>	<u>8,642</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>399</u>	<u>201</u>

5. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Operation of bus service	<u>17,160</u>	<u>392</u>	<u>1,575</u>	<u>19,127</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2024	2023
	Operation of bus service	Total activities
	£	£
Independent examination	525	432
Accountancy fees	1,050	898
	<u>1,575</u>	<u>1,330</u>

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>3,914</u>	<u>5,222</u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

8. STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	61,766	60,962
	<u>61,766</u>	<u>60,962</u>

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

	2024	2023
Drivers	3	3
Administration	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	40,496	-	40,496
Charitable activities			
Operation of bus service	70,521	-	70,521
Other trading activities	8,642	-	8,642
Investment income	201	-	201
Total	<u>119,860</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>119,860</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	2,565	-	2,565
Charitable activities			
Operation of bus service	<u>118,944</u>	<u>4,008</u>	<u>122,952</u>
Total	<u>121,509</u>	<u>4,008</u>	<u>125,517</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(1,649)	(4,008)	(5,657)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	33,772	16,265	50,037

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	32,123	12,257	44,380

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	1,589	63,368	64,957
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	1,367	47,892	49,259
Charge for year	44	3,870	3,914
At 31 March 2024	1,411	51,762	53,173
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	178	11,606	11,784
At 31 March 2023	222	15,476	15,698

11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	557	475
Other debtors	2,145	1,759
Prepayments	1,551	1,493
	4,253	3,727

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Social security and other taxes	802	729
Other creditors	8,005	5,978
	8,807	6,707

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	32,123	(5,179)	26,944
Restricted funds			
20/20	599	(150)	449
Bus Fund	11,658	(2,898)	8,760
	<u>12,257</u>	<u>(3,048)</u>	<u>9,209</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>44,380</u>	<u>(8,227)</u>	<u>36,153</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	121,947	(127,126)	(5,179)
Restricted funds			
20/20	-	(150)	(150)
Bus Fund	-	(2,898)	(2,898)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,048)</u>	<u>(3,048)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>121,947</u>	<u>(130,174)</u>	<u>(8,227)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	33,772	(1,649)	32,123
Restricted funds			
20/20	798	(199)	599
Bus Fund	15,467	(3,809)	11,658
	<u>16,265</u>	<u>(4,008)</u>	<u>12,257</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>50,037</u>	<u>(5,657)</u>	<u>44,380</u>

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	119,860	(121,509)	(1,649)
Restricted funds			
20/20	-	(199)	(199)
Bus Fund	-	(3,809)	(3,809)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,008)</u>	<u>(4,008)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>119,860</u>	<u>(125,517)</u>	<u>(5,657)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/4/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	33,772	(6,828)	26,944
Restricted funds			
20/20	798	(349)	449
Bus Fund	15,467	(6,707)	8,760
	<u>16,265</u>	<u>(7,056)</u>	<u>9,209</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>50,037</u>	<u>(13,884)</u>	<u>36,153</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	241,807	(248,635)	(6,828)
Restricted funds			
20/20	-	(349)	(349)
Bus Fund	-	(6,707)	(6,707)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(7,056)</u>	<u>(7,056)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>241,807</u>	<u>(255,691)</u>	<u>(13,884)</u>

The 20/20 fundraising appeal was set up to mark the Charity's 20th anniversary and allowed the replacement of 2 buses. All funds have been spent and the balance on the fund represents the carrying value of the fixed assets acquired.

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

The bus fund consists of grants and donations which were used to complete the purchase of the new Dial-a-Ride bus and the purchase and fit-out of the replacement to FN04 NLM (written off in an accident). A small amount of these funds still remains and will be used to cover the costs of any further equipment required.

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

15. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The company is controlled by the Board of Trustees.

16. GOVERNMENT GRANT INCOME

The charity received £5,000 in the year in the form of financial assistance from local government.

Included in the above figure, is £5,000 which was unrestricted in relation to helping towards the general running costs of the charity.

The funds received from Government and its Agencies were:- £3,000 from Icklesham Parish Council and £2,000 from Rye Town Council.