

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04652487 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1096779

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE
(OPERATING AS SHROPSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY)

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

TRUSTEES	Mr HED Strickland (Chairman) Mrs NJ Cooper Mr J P Howick Mr A Jebb (resigned 3 June 2021) Mr CW Johnson Ms S King (resigned 3 February 2021) Mr M Thorn Mr S Broad (appointed 4 March 2021) Dr H Patterson (appointed 11 May 2021) Miss R Henley (appointed 14 September 2021)
REGISTERED OFFICE	4 The Creative Quarter Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury SY2 6LG
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	04652487 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1096779
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	TCA (Shrewsbury) LLP 4 Claremont Bank Shrewsbury Shropshire SY1 1RW
SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM	Mrs J Baron, Chief Executive Mrs S Homden, Head of Finance Mrs D. Simmons, Head of Service Mrs K. Harrison, Marketing and Communications Manager Mrs S. Teece, Fundraising Manager
ADVISERS	Bankers - Nat West, London, EC3P 3HX Investment Managers James Hambro & Partners LLP 45 Pall Mall, St. James's, London, SW1Y 5JG CCLA Investment Management Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street London, EC4V 4ET

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' REPORT **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their Annual Report together with the financial statements of the Community Council of Shropshire (operating as Shropshire Rural Communities Charity) for the year 1st April 2020 to 31 March 2021. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 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 2015) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2015).

Since the charitable company qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

The charitable company also trades under the name Shropshire Rural Communities Charity (Shropshire RCC).

Objectives and Activities

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

Shropshire RCC is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It was set up by a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The Objects as set out in the governing document are:

- To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the Community in the ceremonial County of Shropshire and its immediate surrounding area by assisting the work of statutory authorities and voluntary organisations engaged in advancing education, furthering health, relieving poverty, distress and sickness, or in pursuing any other charitable purposes
- To promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the said purposes and to that end to bring together representatives of the authorities and organisations engaged in the furtherance of the said purposes within the area of benefit.

The main activities undertaken in relation to these purposes are:

- Speaking up for communities (particularly, but not exclusively rural communities) and raising awareness of the issues in Shropshire.
- Delivering direct project work to tackle problems where there are gaps in provision.
- Supporting other charities and voluntary groups to deliver their objectives and services in Shropshire.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

b. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the charity commission relating to public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance.

Context

Shropshire is characterised by an ageing community; a decline in rural services (shops, medical services, schools, etc); poor broadband and mobile phone infrastructure; isolated and fragmented communities; poor public transport, and rural isolation for people who are unable to travel or be involved in community activities, due to caring responsibilities, poor health, or disability.

There is a strong culture of self-help and high levels of voluntary activity. However these can be hampered by limited access to advice, information and professional support. The voluntary and community sector is characterised by small organisations, disconnected from wider networks, operating with low levels of resources and very limited staffing levels.

Our remit across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin is very diverse and the Board approved a Business Plan to focus our work for greatest impact under three key strategic objectives:

1. **“Combatting Rural Isolation”** - To develop and support practical solutions that combat rural isolation and deliver social benefits to people in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.
2. **“Tackling Rural Poverty”** - To develop, maintain and expand innovative practical solutions that tackle rural poverty and bring economic benefits to people in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.
3. **“Helping communities to help themselves”** working collaboratively with statutory, voluntary and private sector partners to establish the charity as a “hub” for the community and voluntary sector in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and to strengthen our role as independent experts in rural communities.

In addition, the Trustees are committed to ensuring that the Charity is sustainable, appropriately resourced, and has the broadest strategic choice to enable it to meet its vision. Overhead costs are continually under review to ensure that these are kept to a minimum.

Achievements and performance

a. REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

This year was completely dominated by coming to terms with working through a pandemic. The immediate priority was to ensure that support could continue for members of our rural communities at this most challenging time. We made it possible for staff to work from home and where their normal projects were disrupted, we either deployed staff to other projects or furloughed them temporarily until circumstances improved.

Our key areas of activity during the year were:

1. **Combatting rural isolation**
2. **Tackling rural poverty**
3. **Helping communities to help themselves**
4. **Strengthening our organisation**

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1. Combatting rural isolation

- 1 **Wise & Well Team** – Our Wise & Well Team support people in the community to stay fit well and connected in the community through events, talks and organising activities to keep people active in their community. These are almost always face-to-face and inevitably stopped completely in March as the country went into lockdown. Most clients are older, often vulnerable and were shielding, and many live alone. Rural isolation was potentially an even greater risk than normal.

It was necessary to switch to an entirely different model of delivery and our first area of focus was to support the Good Neighbours schemes in the County. They were on the frontline of supporting vulnerable people in the community, including “Helping Hands Whitchurch” which we set up and co-ordinated as there was insufficient other support locally. Our support to the groups included three Zoom meetings to share good practice, update groups on information on funding, PPE, and offer general peer support.

During the year 1085 volunteers were mobilised supporting 1370 clients with 6279 hours of support

We also supported our partners Oswestry Community Action to deliver welfare calls. 60 calls were made and a report was written for OCA evaluating how the system worked for the welfare of their group members

In June we wrote to over 300 previous attendees of Functional Fitness MOTS, to invite them to join a new “Wise & Well Club”. The club started with 34 online recipients plus 5 who did not use email but wanted to receive printed copies of the e-newsletters. The newsletters include links to research papers, articles, websites and webinars.

The first e-newsletter was published on 28 July and was opened by 30 recipients. By the end of September membership had increased and the e-newsletter mailing reached 46 recipients.

On 4th October, London Marathon Day, we held a Wise & Well Club Virtual Walking Marathon. Members were asked to walk as far as they felt comfortable and send in a photo with how far they had walked. Total distance walked collectively by the participants was 65 miles and the photos were shared in the next newsletter. All participants were sent a Certificate of participation and £744 was raised for charity

Keeping Well Keeping Active

We also supported our ASET network of self-employed Exercise Teachers, all of whom were previously delivering exercise classes county wide in accessible community venues. They needed to adjust their delivery model and began offering classes on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube. For clients who were unable/unwilling to use internet media we provided exercises at home leaflets, BOCCIA at home and teachers called their class members to check on their welfare and to encourage some safe activity.

In return we supported our volunteers and teachers to remain positive, and successfully applied for two grants to support the ASET members and the members that attend their classes:

- A grant from Energize “Tackling Inequality Fund” helped towards costs for PPE, the purchase of extra equipment, and training opportunities.
- A grant from the Hilton-Jones Trust will support the classes to restart while attendee numbers are low and members a little nervous to resume activities.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2. Sight and Hearing Loss Team

The objective of our 40 hearing loss volunteers is to offer peer support and practical help to hearing aid users which will increase or maintain levels of successful use of hearing aids. The Team provides peer support, practical help to live more independently with a sensory impairment, education, information and signposting. Eighty percent of the volunteers are themselves hearing impaired and can therefore offer lived experience to clients.

Normally, a key part of this service is volunteers visiting adult hearing aid users in their homes and we had to modify this for the pandemic. A number of our older volunteers were shielding, but some of our volunteers were willing and able to do doorstep visits, so that people who were already isolated by hearing loss were not completely cut off. One of our particularly active volunteers received an award from the High Sheriff, Dean Harris.

Most referrals come from NHS Audiology although we also receive referrals from other community groups, medical centres, and self-referrals. During the year our nine active volunteers did 558 doorstep visits (113 in Telford and 445 in Shropshire). We were not able to deliver any effective hearing programmes or clinics due to covid restrictions.

3. Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)

Our contract to deliver a volunteer representatives service under the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards regulations continued. In July 2019 Shropshire Council confirmed a contract extension to June 2020 to prepare for the contract to go out to tender and in the midst of the pandemic there was a further extension to March 2021. In March we were invited to tender for a further year and we have been awarded the contract for a further year to March 2022.

Our contract involves finding and training a volunteer for those people in Care Homes who do not have a family member to be their representative. Visiting Care Homes has been particularly challenging this year with our volunteers either making phone calls or occasionally using electronic devices or calling to wave through the window. Despite these challenges, we had 14 active volunteers managing a caseload of 71 existing cases and 116 new cases. We have been actively recruiting and training new volunteers now that more visits to care homes can take place.

4. Social groups for people who are socially isolated

Our Care and Share groups (in Market Drayton, Albrighton, Shrewsbury and Church Stretton) provide peer support and an alternative respite solution for people caring for someone with dementia. These groups were unable to meet and we furloughed the Project Officers during this period. Once the strict lockdown was eased, Project Officers kept in regular touch by phone and started to run virtual sessions on Zoom. Everyone is very keen to get back to face-to-face meetings as soon as it is safe to do so.

Sight Loss Opportunity groups (SLOG) offer interesting and adventurous activities to encourage people with sight loss to keep active, stay confident, meet and make new friends and have some fun.

During the year contact was maintained with the SLOG members, using their preferred choice of phone, e-mail, or video calls. We also arranged for four SLOG members to become email support buddies for other members who were finding the pandemic challenging.

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We supported members with ever changing ophthalmology information – appointments, clinics access to transport, etc. As information about services changed email updates were sent out and we also facilitated group audio calls with the Shropshire Council Sensory Team to provide members with updates and advice. Four sessions took place with 7 members on each call. We also continued to signpost or refer members to other services as needed.

2. Tackling rural poverty

1. Wheels 2 Work (Support for unemployed people to access work and training through transport assistance)

Wheels 2 Work helps people in need to get to work by providing transport advice and a time-limited loan of mopeds or electric bikes. Wheels 2 Work breaks the cycle of having no job, no money and no transport – helping people moving from benefits to work, start a career and support themselves and their families. We support people to stay in employment by helping with budgeting and saving for their own transport.

Wheels 2 Work marked 25 years of operation in August 2020 but despite its proven track record and longevity, we have struggled to sustain funding for the service. Project staffing hours were reduced in March 2017 and the position has not improved since. As the table below shows, activity has reduced over the years as a result.

Wheels 2 Work statistics	2020 – 21 (Pandemic year)	2019 - 20	2018 - 19	2017- 18
No of enquiries	100	218	184	226
No of full applications	75	162	113	157
No of travel plans completed	8	32	17	29
No moped clients supported	19	42	48	59
No electric bike clients support	8	13	14	23
Number entered for CBT	12	35	40	64

In March 2020, as the country went into lockdown, a number of mopeds on loan were returned as clients were not working having been furloughed or made redundant. FastTrak – which stores and maintains our mopeds – and the Compulsory Basic Training centre closed temporarily which limited our ability to issue new mopeds, even when there was a temporary lifting of restrictions in the summer.

Fortunately, we were able to secure additional funding from a National Emergencies Trust grant to support the scheme and this also enabled us to purchase some electric bikes. Although we furloughed our own Project Officer for a while, we ensured as far as we could, that key workers still had access to transport.

2. Tackling fuel poverty

A household is said to be in fuel poverty if:

- They have required fuel costs that are above average (the national median level), and
- Were they to spend that amount they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line.

Shropshire RCC has been working to tackle fuel poverty for over ten years through a variety of projects

- **Bulk buying fuel**

This service is designed to reduce the cost of heating oil for people living in “off gas” areas of the county. By buying oil as part of a community buying scheme, the price can be negotiated to a level where everyone gets a discount, which particularly benefits the more vulnerable members of the community.

During the pandemic we saw fuel prices fall sharply and in May achieved our lowest price to date with fuel costs at less than 20p per litre. Our service provided a lifeline to some vulnerable customers. During the year we brokered the purchase of 1,030,150 litres of oil (2019: 1,093,125) saving at least £30,904 for Shropshire residents – based on a conservative saving of 3p per litre (2019: £32,794).

- **Affordable warmth and electricity switching**

This work is funded by BEIS through the Big Energy Saving Network. We once again successfully bid to have a BESN Champion. The pandemic made this more challenging to deliver but by moving to online sessions we were able to advise 77 consumers against our target of 75. Fifty-five people had one-to-one appointments online and 22 clients were seen in group sessions.

- **Winter Warmth grants**

Since 2011 we have invited people in receipt of Winter Fuels payments to donate them for us to use for people who are experiencing fuel poverty. Our newly appointed Fundraising Manager was able to increase the funds raised very significantly and during 2020-21 the appeal generated £20,297 in grants and donations.

In addition, we were commissioned by Shropshire Council to deliver a programme of small hardship grants to families in fuel poverty because of reduced income as a result of covid. In total we distributed over 100 grants to help clients pay for energy arrears boiler repairs and other necessary expenditure to enable people keep warm through the winter months.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

3. Helping Communities help themselves

1. Community led planning

At the end of March our Community Officer had been in the process of helping The Three Parishes Neighbourhood Plan (3PNP) group to design a resident's questionnaire which included a housing needs survey. This was paused until late summer when they decided to go ahead. We arranged the distribution offering a freepost returns service with questionnaires returned to the RCC and data inputted into software. The group also had a web link to complete online.

Pontesbury Neighbourhood Plan group which had also been dormant since early lock down and were roughly at the same stage as 3PNP wanted to send their survey out during July. We supported the group by taking care of the paper form data input and the survey was eventually closed at the beginning of September.

Our Officer completed the Community Led Housing enabler qualification and gave support to the newly emerging Marches Community Led Housing Hub to put together a brochure and organise three launch events which were held via zoom in early June.

High level advice and guidance was given to several other areas who are considering a revised plan

2. Support for Community buildings

Our Volunteer, Graham Betts, had a particularly busy year. Village Halls were closed of course, and the voluntary committees which manage them were understandably very concerned about their responsibilities and obligations. We received tremendous support from our national body, ACRE, who provided the whole RCC network with up-to-date guidance to enable us to advise others with accurate and timely information.

During the year Graham handled 312 individual enquiries of which around 50% were covid-related. Graham sent out very regular newsletters with the latest information and we piloted zoom calls which proved to be popular. Several village halls also sent representatives to our bitesize training courses about safeguarding, fundraising and governance.

We also made sure that halls knew what emergency funding was available to them to support their costs while closed. At least 44 halls were able to access £10,000 grant funding from the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund (RHLFG) through our support.

We grew our paid community building membership during this time. A number of halls who had approached us for help were not previously members and therefore have now seen value in joining us.

Support for voluntary organisations

Many voluntary organisations and community groups became particularly active during the pandemic and new groups sprang up at neighbourhood level. Through these groups, local people were supported with shopping, hot meal delivery, prescription collection, dog walking, befriending, entertainment activities, IT support and other activities to keep them connected and safe during the lockdown period. Many new volunteers also came forward to help and there was an ambition to help these new volunteers to sustain their effort and for the groups to develop and thrive. The RCC was commissioned by Shropshire Council to undertake a survey about what plans groups might have to continue and what help they would need to enable them to do so.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The report we produced was shared with a range of committees and working groups and eventually became the basis of a proposal to Shropshire Council to invest in on-going infrastructure support for the sector. In the interim it was used as evidence to support an application to the Lottery which brought in a grant of £33,000. This was used to deliver a programme of training, mentoring and development support, all delivered online. Over 100 people from around 30 small organisations received training in fundraising, working with volunteers, safeguarding, good policies and procedures.

Vaccination & Rapid Testing Centre Volunteers

With the roll out of the Covid 19 vaccination programme, there was a call for volunteers to meet, greet and reassure clients waiting for their vaccinations. Shropshire RCC, as a member of the Shropshire Infrastructure Partnership, agreed to take on the lead role of recruiting and coordinating the volunteers with support from Shropshire Youth Association.

Our call to action resulted in the first few weeks to over 1,400 people coming forward to support the vaccination programme. The process of risk assessment, taking up references and training reduced the numbers who went through to completion but over 840 volunteers were deployed to vaccination centres and around 80 to lateral flow testing centre across the County.

Shropshire Community Fund

We continue to offer small grants to groups to support their work through funds we have available either from the yield from our endowed funds, or through grant schemes we operate on behalf of others.

- In February 2020 we set up a Community Resilience appeal, initially for support to overcome the impact of heavy flooding, but this quickly morphed into a more general fund to help organisations who had lost funds because of being closed during the pandemic, but had ongoing costs of utilities, insurance and maintenance. In 2020-21 we received £26,000 from public donations and small grants to the fund. Forty-two applications were received and processed and inevitably many of the applications we received were from village halls.
- Shropshire Council commissioned us to distribute £50,000 of small grants to enable community groups to purchase PPE to enable them to open safely. It proved difficult to find groups who needed this support, and it has been agreed that the underspend can be used to support groups recover from the pandemic.

4. Strengthening our organisation

In January 2020 we applied for the Weston Charity Award and in May we were delighted to learn that we had been successful in this highly competitive award. This included a modest bursary with mentoring and leadership support from a group of "Pilotlighters" over a period of nine months, to help strengthen our organisation. The sessions all took place on zoom which meant that most Trustees and all the senior staff were able to be involved. Our priority was to use the sessions to work on our strategic plan and this was concluded with a joint session of staff and Trustees.

The funding environment for small charities like Shropshire RCC continues to be challenging and although we have seen a considerable increase in funding in this extraordinary year, we anticipate a reduction in public expenditure as we recover from the pandemic.

The Trustees concluded that time and resources should be directed at raising funds from other sources, and after a delayed start, we recruited a Fundraising Manager who took up her post in September. This very quickly made an appreciable difference, particularly in generating project income.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Our planned rebranding was delayed by the focus on other activity and is planned for a launch in November 2021. The installation of a CRM database did go ahead and is gradually being rolled out across the organisation enabling us to record our activity and contacts and measure our impact more accurately.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

a. Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

b. Reserves Policy

To protect the charity from serious disruption to its charitable work it is the policy of the Board to build up free reserves as part of its strategic planning. An assessment of the stability and certainty of future income sources forms an important part of the Board's assessment of risk and feeds in to both the budget and reserves policy.

To ensure the charity can meet its contractual liabilities in the event the organisation has to close the Board has set up a designated 'continuity fund' which covers specific liabilities the charity would need to meet in the event that extreme events, most likely an unsustainable reduction in funding were to force the charity to close down. This includes: 12 months mortgage payments on the current Libor variable rate; the net value of any outstanding lease agreements and staff redundancy costs based on the current staff establishment.

As a large part of our income is insecure, or vulnerable to factors outside of our control, the Board aims to hold sufficient reserves to:

- Provide funding for up to 6 months of continuation of essential services for beneficiaries in the event of vulnerable income sources not being renewed and to allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut back on related expenditure.
- Provide an appropriate level of working capital for when funding is paid in arrears.
- Cover unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, for example employing temporary staff to cover a long-term sickness.

Following a review of the above criteria in the context of an evaluation of the Charity's current short and long-term financial risks, the Board have agreed it should aim to hold 'free reserves' of £124,000. At 31st March 2021 the charity's free reserves were £122,528 (2020: £79,417).

c. Material Investments Policy

The charity's investment policy is based on the Charities and investment matters: a guide for trustees (CC14), produced by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

a. Investment Objectives

All investments are made to further the charity's aims. The charity has three main investment objectives:

- (i) To invest the unrestricted surplus funds of the charity, not needed in the short or medium term, in a managed investment portfolio designed for longer-term capital growth. The aim is to achieve the best financial capital growth, within an acceptable level of risk, to spend on the charity's longer term organisational aims
- (ii) To invest sufficient funds required for use in the short or medium term in easily accessible cash-based deposit funds.
- (iii) To invest the grant making endowment funds of the charity, in managed investment portfolios. These are designed to produce an investment yield to distribute as grants to community and voluntary groups and/or individuals, in accordance with the criteria of the individual named fund, and to provide long term capital growth. The aim is to achieve a balance between capital growth and income returns, in order to meet both the current and future needs of the charity's beneficiaries.

b. Investment Time Frame

The charity's investments can be both short and long-term

Endowment funds and unrestricted surplus funds of the charity not needed in the short or medium term are held in longer-term investments.

Restricted funds and unrestricted funds needed in the short-term are held in interest bearing short-term deposits or held on in account with instant access.

In order to be able to react to unplanned events all unrestricted funds held in investments are capable of withdrawal with no more than 12 months' notice, unless otherwise agreed by the Board. The Board understand that this may negatively impact upon potential returns or incur penalties upon encashment.

c. Investment Risk

In setting the investment objectives the trustees have considered the level of risk that is appropriate for the charity and the management of those risks.

Due to the potential risk to capital and our liquidity needs, restricted funds and those funds needed for short or medium needs, are not held in long-term investment funds. A drop in capital value for funds invested in the longer term is less critical because such investments can be held until their value has recovered.

Capital risk in long-term investments is mitigated by having managed diversified investment portfolios.

Market risk is managed by being aware of likely changes in inflation and interest rates and substantially investing in markets where financial services are closely regulated, and compensation schemes are in place.

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Counterparty risk managed by:

- Ensuring that as far as possible investments are held with a reputable and regulated firm
- Using agreed performance measures so that all parties know what is expected of them
- Ensuring that quarterly monitoring and review arrangements are in place
- Ensuring that contractual agreements are reviewed periodically to make sure they continue to be appropriate for the charity's needs.

Cash deposit risks are managed by:

- Ensuring that cash deposits are held with institutions that are registered with the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS).
- Limiting the amount deposited in any one institution as far as possible to the maximum levels of compensation provided by the FSCS.

Short-term investments

Short-term investments include deposit accounts held with FCA registered financial institutions with a maximum of 12 months' notice. The charity uses the Bank of England base rate as a benchmark to monitor the performance of its short-term cash investments. In year £2,228 was earned in interest from these deposits giving an overall interest return of 0.57% which was higher than the Bank of England averaged Base Rate over the year of 0.1%. (2020: £4,219)

Long-term investments

The long-term investments of the charity are managed by independent investment managers – James Hambro and Partners (appointed at the end of 2016-17 following a competitive tender) and CCLA Investment Management Limited.

In year our investments made unrealised investment gains of £224,400 (2020: £34,870 loss). The Total return for the financial year was £237,495 (20.58%) (2020: £20,486 loss -1.72% return).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

a. Constitution

Shropshire RCC is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It was set up by a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The Board of Directors consists of the Trustees all of whom are individual members of Shropshire RCC.

Shropshire RCC is an independent charity but affiliated to the national charity Action for Communities in Rural England (ACRE). ACRE acts as the managing agent for the money received from Defra.

b. Method of appointment or election of Trustees.

Trustees are recruited through a variety of methods including advertisement, personal contacts and networks. The appointment process includes completion of a formal application form, a meeting with the Chief Executive and an interview with a small panel of existing Trustees. If suitable, Trustees are invited to appoint the prospective Trustee for the period until the AGM, when they stand for election.

All Trustees are elected by the wider membership at the Annual General Meeting for a period of three years and retire in rotation, one third each year as specified in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. One of the Trustees is appointed by them as Chair for a period of three years.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The Trustees have continued to seek new members of the Board this year. In year one Board Member stood down due to personal circumstances and one new Board Member was recruited.

c. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

All members of the Board give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. Any incidental expenses to enable Trustees to attend meetings are reimbursed if requested.

Trustees receive induction which includes time with each of the teams and the senior managers. As part of their induction, new Trustees are given a copy of the Trustees Handbook which is regularly updated. This loose-leaf folder contains information about the role and responsibilities of Trustees as well as copies of organisational policies and procedures, a copy of the Annual Review and the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Trustees have access to training locally and nationally. Any expenses incurred to attend training are reimbursed by the Charity.

d. Pay Policy for Senior Staff

The Charity, in common with many other voluntary sector organisations, uses the Local Government NJS pay scales to set pay levels and costs of living awards for all staff. The Chief Executive's pay also includes a market supplement.

e. Organisational Structure and Decision Making

Trustees regularly assess the structure and effectiveness of the Board committees and the Board as whole.

During the period the Board met four times for ordinary Board meetings. These were supported by meetings for Finance, Governance & Risk, and a new Fundraising & Marketing committee. All meetings were held by Zoom due to the pandemic.

Strengthening the Board and its processes was a key focus this year with additional support from the "Pilotlight" programme. During the year the Board began using the Charity Commission Code of Governance for small charities and "15 questions Trustees should ask" as frameworks for ensuring they operate using best practice.

In February 2021, Trustees reviewed the pattern of meetings of the Board and the committees. It was decided that from April 2021 all business should be discussed at Board meetings and that the frequency of Board meetings would change from quarterly to monthly, with each meeting having a specific focus previously covered by committee: finance, governance and risk, fundraising and marketing.

The AGM was held in November, 60 years from the day of the very first meeting of the RCC. We were very disappointed that this had to be held online and that a "birthday" celebration would have to be held another time. The focus of the AGM was to look back over our history at how much has changed but also how we have stayed true to our roots.

Day to day operational decisions are taken by the Chief Executive and her staff of 15, within the delegated authority conferred by the Board.

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During 2020-21 the charity's work was supported by just over 1,000 volunteers who gave approximately 27,000 hours. (2020: 159 volunteers, 12,108 hours). Of these volunteers 8 were directly involved in the governance of the Charity.

Plans for future periods

a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The experience of living through a global pandemic has been an interesting one. It has strengthened our position as an organisation as the value of our work with communities has become more visible and valued, and particularly our work with village halls. However much of our work involves getting people out of their homes and into the community to reduce their isolation. As this has not been possible, we have looked at how we can deliver our services in different ways, using the array of digital tools that have become available.

Securing the financial future of some of our own projects remains a high priority.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

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

This report was approved by the Trustees on 12th October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr CW Johnson,
Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Community Council of Shropshire ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of ICAEW 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 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.

C Moelwyn-Williams

C Moelwyn-Williams BSc FCA
TCA (Shrewsbury) LLP
4 Claremont Bank
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY1 1RW

Date: 22nd October 2021

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	2	41,360	183,023	548	224,931	136,627
Charitable activities						
General	5	40,451	379,918	-	420,369	278,055
Fundraising and trading activities	3	35,256	-	-	35,256	41,228
Investment income	4	6,789	14,680	-	21,469	25,600
Other income	6	-	517	-	517	3,339
Total		123,856	578,138	548	702,542	484,849
EXPENDITURE ON						
Raising funds	7	53,423	-	3,850	57,273	43,203
Charitable activities						
Rural Isolation		791	178,208	-	178,999	222,320
Rural Poverty		21,830	95,890	-	117,720	102,869
Helping Communities		40,596	155,313	-	195,909	134,001
Strengthening our organisation		48,365	-	-	48,365	42,427
Total		165,005	429,411	3,850	598,266	544,820
Net gains/(losses) on investments		70,617	-	156,837	227,454	(34,869)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		29,468	148,727	153,535	331,730	(94,840)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		988,457	119,655	766,613	1,874,725	1,969,565
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		1,017,925	268,382	920,148	2,206,455	1,874,725

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	15	601,288	619,296
Investments	16	<u>1,379,064</u>	<u>1,154,664</u>
		1,980,352	1,773,960
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	17	114,623	44,385
Cash at bank		<u>398,209</u>	<u>345,631</u>
		512,832	390,016
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(92,164)</u>	<u>(75,477)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>420,668</u>	<u>314,539</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,401,020	2,088,499
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	19	<u>(194,565)</u>	<u>(213,774)</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>2,206,455</u>	<u>1,874,725</u>
FUNDS	23		
Unrestricted funds		1,017,925	988,457
Restricted funds		268,382	119,655
Endowment funds		<u>920,148</u>	<u>766,613</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>2,206,455</u>	<u>1,874,725</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) 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.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - continued

31 MARCH 2021

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 12th October 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CW Johnson', followed by a dotted line.

Mr CW Johnson – Trustee

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>80,525</u>	<u>(65,457)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>80,525</u>	<u>(65,457)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(11,245)	-
Interest received		<u>2,229</u>	<u>4,219</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(9,016)</u>	<u>4,219</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Capital repayments in year		<u>(18,931)</u>	<u>(18,518)</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		<u>(18,931)</u>	<u>(18,518)</u>
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		52,578	(79,756)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>345,631</u>	<u>425,387</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>398,209</u>	<u>345,631</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	331,730	(94,840)
Adjustments for:		
(Gain)/losses on investments	(224,400)	36,949
Depreciation	29,253	19,822
Interest received	(2,229)	(4,219)
Increase in debtors	(70,238)	(23,794)
Increase in creditors	<u>16,409</u>	<u>625</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u><u>80,525</u></u>	<u><u>(65,457)</u></u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>345,631</u>	<u>52,578</u>	<u>398,209</u>
	<u>345,631</u>	<u>52,578</u>	<u>398,209</u>
Debt			
Finance leases	(1,906)	743	(1,163)
Debts falling due within 1 year	(18,395)	(278)	(18,673)
Debts falling due after 1 year	<u>(212,643)</u>	<u>18,465</u>	<u>(194,178)</u>
	<u>(232,944)</u>	<u>18,930</u>	<u>(214,014)</u>
Total	<u><u>112,687</u></u>	<u><u>71,508</u></u>	<u><u>184,195</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. 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, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

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

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows;
- the requirement of paragraph 3.17(d);
- the requirements of paragraphs 11.42, 11.44, 11.45, 11.47, 11.48(a)(iii), 11.48(a)(iv), 11.48(b) and 11.48(c);
- the requirements of paragraphs 12.26, 12.27, 12.29(a), 12.29(b) and 12.29A;
- the requirement of paragraph 33.7.

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.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life or, if held under a finance lease, over the lease term, whichever is shorter.

Freehold property - 50 years straight line
Motor vehicles - 2 to 4 years straight line
Fixtures and fittings - 3 to 5 years straight line

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each fund is set out in the notes.

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.

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Endowed funds are funds where the capital must be maintained. Income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used as unrestricted funds.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations	74,498	39,471
Grants	35,238	9,700
Membership	4,241	5,001
Government grants	<u>110,954</u>	<u>82,455</u>
	<u>224,931</u>	<u>136,627</u>

Included within the income from donations and legacies was £41,360 attributable to unrestricted funds (2020: £13,814), £183,023 attributable to restricted funds (2020: £116,234) and £548 attributable to endowed funds (2020: £6,579).

3. FUNDRAISING AND TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Fundraising events	3,443	3,700
Income from letting property temporarily surplus to operating requirements	21,704	21,701
Other charity trading	<u>10,109</u>	<u>15,827</u>
	<u>35,256</u>	<u>41,228</u>

In 2021 £35,256 of the income from trading activities was attributable to unrestricted funds (2020: £39,428) and £nil was attributable to endowed funds (2020: £1,800).

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Investment income	19,240	21,381
Bank interest	<u>2,229</u>	<u>4,219</u>
	<u>21,469</u>	<u>25,600</u>

In 2021 £6,789 of the investment income was attributable to unrestricted funds (2020: £9,585) and £14,680 was attributable to restricted funds (2020: £16,015).

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
European grants	-	7,801
Government grants	307,060	139,526
Primary purpose trading	6,908	14,707
Letting non-investment property in furtherance of charitable purposes	7,095	8,701
Grants	38,240	42,140
Fuel buying membership	8,766	9,424
Beneficiary chargeable services	7,811	23,807
Government contracts	<u>44,489</u>	<u>31,949</u>
	<u>420,369</u>	<u>278,055</u>

Included within the income from charitable activities is £40,451 attributable to unrestricted funds (2020: £57,185) and £379,918 attributable to restricted funds (2020: £220,870).

6. OTHER INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gain on sale of tangible fixed assets	<u>517</u>	<u>3,339</u>

Other income was wholly attributable to restricted funds in both the current and prior year.

7. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2021	2020
	£	£
Seeking donations	16,340	9,112
Writing grant bids	19,711	5,059
Operating membership	992	2,862
Fundraising events	3,493	6,928
Tenancy costs	8,707	10,854
Trading costs	<u>479</u>	<u>1,261</u>
	<u>49,722</u>	<u>36,076</u>

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7. RAISING FUNDS - continued

Investment management costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Portfolio management	<u>7,551</u>	<u>7,127</u>
Aggregate amounts	<u>57,273</u>	<u>43,203</u>

In 2021 £53,423 of the expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds (2020: £39,330) and £3,850 was attributable to endowed funds (2020: £3,873).

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 9) £	Support costs £	Totals £
Rural Isolation	151,293	1,468	26,239	178,999
Rural Poverty	70,143	30,227	17,350	117,720
Helping Communities	124,593	35,907	35,408	195,909
Strengthening our organisation	47,073	-	1,293	48,365
	<u>393,102</u>	<u>67,602</u>	<u>80,290</u>	<u>540,993</u>

In 2021 £111,582 of the expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds (2020: £146,965) and £429,411 was attributable to restricted funds (2020: £354,652).

9. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2021 £	2020 £
Rural Isolation	1,468	284
Rural Poverty	30,227	3,644
Helping Communities	<u>35,907</u>	<u>26,751</u>
	<u>67,602</u>	<u>30,679</u>

During the year £35,907 of grants payable were made to 61 institutions (2020: £26,751 of grants payable were made to 41 institutions) and £31,695 of grants payable were made to 125 individuals (£3,928 of grants payable were made to 26 individuals).

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

10. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance £	Central office functions £	Total £	2020 £
Rural Isolation	5,288	20,951	26,239	31,237
Rural Poverty	2,290	15,060	17,350	10,928
Helping Communities	5,132	30,276	35,408	11,790
Strengthening our organisation	239	1,054	1,293	4,986
	<u>12,949</u>	<u>67,341</u>	<u>80,290</u>	<u>58,941</u>

11. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation - owned assets	28,477	19,402
Depreciation - assets on hire purchase contracts and finance leases	776	420
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	(517)	(3,339)
Independent Examiners fee	<u>2,280</u>	<u>2,220</u>

12. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020. There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

13. STAFF COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	315,743	299,402
Social security costs	21,270	19,611
Other pension costs	<u>14,276</u>	<u>14,346</u>
	<u>351,289</u>	<u>333,359</u>

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

	2021	2020
Generating funds	1	1
Rural isolation	4	5
Rural poverty	2	2
Helping communities	2	2
Strengthening our organisation	1	1
Support	4	4
Governance	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>

Average headcount expressed as a full time equivalent for the year was 10.04 (2020: 10.7)

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 during the year (2020: nil).

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

13. STAFF COSTS - continued

The remuneration of the key management personnel, 5 members of staff, during the year was £164,826 (2020: 4 members of staff, £139,525) and their employer pension contributions were £7,914 (2020: £6,948).

14. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	13,814	116,234	6,579	136,627
Charitable activities				
General	57,185	220,870	-	278,055
Fundraising and other trading activities	39,428	-	1,800	41,228
Investment income	9,585	16,015	-	25,600
Other income	-	3,339	-	3,339
Total	120,012	356,458	8,379	484,849
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising funds	39,330	-	3,873	43,203
Charitable activities				
Rural Isolation	11,959	210,361	-	222,320
Rural Poverty	38,093	64,776	-	102,869
Helping Communities	54,486	79,515	-	134,001
Strengthening our organisation	42,427	-	-	42,427
Total	186,295	354,651	3,874	544,820
Net gains/(losses) on investments	(10,545)	-	(24,324)	(34,869)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(76,828)	1,807	(19,819)	(94,840)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	1,065,285	117,848	786,432	1,969,565
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>988,457</u>	<u>119,655</u>	<u>766,613</u>	<u>1,874,725</u>

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2020	840,658	82,715	62,916	986,289
Additions	-	-	11,245	11,245
At 31 March 2021	<u>840,658</u>	<u>82,715</u>	<u>74,161</u>	<u>997,534</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2020	223,317	81,241	62,435	366,993
Charge for year	<u>16,752</u>	<u>775</u>	<u>11,726</u>	<u>29,253</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>240,069</u>	<u>82,016</u>	<u>74,161</u>	<u>396,246</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2021	<u>600,589</u>	<u>699</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>601,288</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>617,341</u>	<u>1,474</u>	<u>481</u>	<u>619,296</u>

The net book value of tangible fixed assets includes £775 (2020 - £1,906) in respect of assets held under hire purchase contracts.

16. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 April 2020	1,154,664
Revaluations	<u>224,400</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,379,064</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2021	<u>1,379,064</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,154,664</u>

Investment assets were made up of £814,150 in the UK (2020: £868,331) and £564,916 outside of the UK (2020: £286,333).

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

17. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	60,097	23,489
Other debtors	2,612	1,437
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>51,914</u>	<u>19,459</u>
	<u>114,623</u>	<u>44,385</u>

18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 20)	18,673	18,395
Hire purchase (see note 21)	775	775
Trade creditors	21,347	11,987
Social security and other taxes	8,058	5,400
VAT	5,204	3,191
Other creditors	13,438	11,051
Funds held on behalf of others	10,685	14,810
Accruals and deferred income	<u>13,984</u>	<u>9,868</u>
	<u>92,164</u>	<u>75,477</u>

19. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Bank loans (see note 20)	194,178	212,643
Hire purchase (see note 21)	<u>387</u>	<u>1,131</u>
	<u>194,565</u>	<u>213,774</u>

20. LOANS

The bank loan is secured against the property by way of a 25-year loan at a variable rate of interest.

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank loans	<u>18,673</u>	<u>18,395</u>
Amounts falling between one and two years:		
Bank loans - 1-2 years	<u>18,955</u>	<u>18,673</u>
Amounts falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loans - 2-5 years	<u>58,600</u>	<u>57,728</u>
Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
Repayable by instalments:		
Bank loans more than five years by instalments	116,623	136,242

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

21. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under hire purchase fall due as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Net obligations repayable:		
Within one year	775	775
Between one and five years	<u>37</u>	<u>1,131</u>
	<u><u>1,162</u></u>	<u><u>1,906</u></u>

22. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Analysis of net assets by fund – Current year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	2021 Total funds £
Fixed assets	601,288	-	-	601,288
Investments	470,965	-	908,099	1,379,064
Current assets	218,901	281,882	12,049	512,832
Current liabilities	(78,664)	(13,500)	-	(92,164)
Long term liabilities	<u>(194,565)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(194,565)</u>
	<u><u>1,017,925</u></u>	<u><u>268,382</u></u>	<u><u>920,148</u></u>	<u><u>2,206,455</u></u>

Analysis of net assets between funds – Prior year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Endowment fund £	2020 Total funds £
Fixed assets	618,815	481	-	619,296
Investments	399,687	-	754,977	1,154,664
Current assets	244,634	133,746	11,636	390,016
Current liabilities	(60,905)	(14,572)	-	(75,477)
Long term liabilities	<u>(213,774)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(213,774)</u>
	<u><u>988,457</u></u>	<u><u>119,655</u></u>	<u><u>766,613</u></u>	<u><u>1,874,725</u></u>

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	698,232	25,584	723,816
Designated fund	<u>290,225</u>	<u>3,884</u>	<u>294,109</u>
	988,457	29,468	1,017,925
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	119,655	148,727	268,382
Endowment funds			
Endowment fund	<u>766,613</u>	<u>153,535</u>	<u>920,148</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>1,874,725</u></u>	<u><u>331,730</u></u>	<u><u>2,206,455</u></u>

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	122,741	(98,968)	1,811	25,584
Designated fund	<u>1,115</u>	<u>(66,037)</u>	<u>68,806</u>	<u>3,884</u>
	123,856	(165,005)	70,617	29,468
Restricted funds				
Restricted fund	578,138	(429,411)	-	148,727
Endowment funds				
Endowment fund	548	(3,850)	156,837	153,535
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>702,542</u>	<u>(598,266)</u>	<u>227,454</u>	<u>331,730</u>

The other general fund movement is made up a £70,617 investment gain and a £68,806 transfer to designated funds

The other designated fund movement in made up of a £68,806 transfer from general funds.

The other endowed fund movement is made up of a £156,837 investment gain.

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	757,526	(59,294)	698,232
Designated fund	<u>307,759</u>	<u>(17,534)</u>	<u>290,225</u>
	1,065,285	(76,828)	988,457
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	117,848	1,807	119,655
Endowment funds			
Endowment fund	786,432	(19,819)	766,613
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,969,565</u>	<u>(94,840)</u>	<u>1,874,725</u>

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

	At 1.4.20	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/ (Losses)	At 31.3.21
Designated funds	£	£	£	£	£	£
Technology Capital Fund	2,253	-	-	-	-	2,253
Premises Maintenance Fund	40,212	1,115	-	18,000	-	59,327
Staff Training & Development	-	-	-	8,000	-	8,000
Continuity Fund	134,002	-	(6,500)	4,401	-	131,904
Marketing & Communication	11,240	-	(8,145)	6,905	-	10,000
Fundraising	35,000	-	(23,966)	24,000	-	35,034
Hearing Support	9,000	-	-	(9,000)	-	-
Wheels to Work	13,845	-	-	9,000	-	22,845
Data Information System Development	29,591	-	(23,707)	-	-	5,884
Endowment Building	12,422	-	(1,059)	-	-	11,363
Cyber-security	-	-	-	7,500	-	7,500
Website developments	2,660	-	(2,660)	-	-	-
	290,225	1,115	(66,037)	68,806	-	294,109
General Fund	698,232	122,741	(98,968)	(68,806)	70,617	723,816
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	988,457	123,856	(165,004)	-	70,617	1,017,925

Technology Capital Fund – a fund designed to meet the capital costs for replacement technological infrastructure.

Premises Maintenance Fund – A fund to meet the costs of estimated future building maintenance costs.

Staff Training & Development – a fund to meet staff training and development.

Continuity Fund – A fund designed to cover contractual liabilities the charity would need to meet in the event that extreme events, most likely an unsustainable reduction in charity income, were to force the charity to close down.

Marketing & Communication Fund – A fund designated to provide a marketing and communication strategy to support the delivery of strategic and operational plans and to support the charity's planned rebranding.

Wheels to Work – A fund designated to meet any shortfall in funding for the Wheels to Work programme whilst longer-term funding is sought.

Data Information System Development – a fund designed to support the continued development and integration of the charity's information systems.

Endowment Building – A fund designated to provide staffing resources to continue grow the Shropshire Community Fund Endowment.

Cyber-security – a fund designated to reduce our cyber security risk and to provide resources for securing Cyber Essential Accreditation.

Website Developments A fund designated to pay for improvements to the website during 2020-21.

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Unrestricted funding includes:

- £13,363.42 grant funding through HMRC for wages claimed through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme
- £5,000 grant funding through Shropshire Council Business Covid-19 Business Extension Grant
- £6,500 award from the Garfield Weston Trust and leadership support to help strengthen our organisation
- £3,000 grant from NAVCA to support our work on the Voluntary Sector Emergency Partnership
- £2,000 donation from the Westcroft Trust
- £1,500 donation from the Edge E Lawley Foundation
- £500 donation from the WED Charitable Trust
- £330 Marches Centre for Community Led Housing to support our work on the Community Housing Hub
- £300 donation from the ME Sargeant Charitable Trust

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

	At 1.4.20	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (Losses)	At 31.3.21
Endowed Funds	£	£	£	£	£
Shropshire Grassroots Grants to community and voluntary organisations	323,447	48	(3,268)	64,466	384,693
Grassroots Shrewsbury U25 Education, Development & Training	31,065	-	(314)	6,428	37,179
Grassroots Shrewsbury Grants Hardship	20,715	-	(211)	4,916	25,420
Grassroots Harnage Trust	5,599	-	(57)	1,134	6,676
Community First Mid Counties Co-op	192,648	-	-	39,357	232,005
Community First Denso	29,639	-	-	6,055	35,694
Community First - Mike & David Lowe Fund	37,486	-	-	7,659	45,145
County Endowment (Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin)	126,014	500	-	26,822	153,336
TOTAL ENDOWED FUNDS	766,613	548	(3,850)	156,837	920,148

These grant-making endowed funds are held in management investments, designed to provide an investment yield to distribute as grants and provide long-term capital growth. During the year £14,680 of the investment yield was directly credited to the restricted grant-making programmes for distribution as grants (2020: £16,105).

Shropshire Grassroots Grants to community and voluntary organisations – makes grants to small voluntary and community organisations in the Shropshire unitary area

Grassroots Shrewsbury U25 Education, Development & Training – makes grants to improve the life chances and aspirations of persons under the age of 25 who are normally resident in Shrewsbury, or in the parishes of Astley, Bicton or Bomere Heath.

Grassroots Shrewsbury Grants Hardship – makes grants to individuals resident in Shrewsbury or in the parishes of Astley, Bicton or Bomere Heath who are in need, hardship or distress.

Grassroots Harnage Trust – makes grants to individuals resident in the parishes of Cressage who are in need, hardship or distress.

Community First Mid Counties Co-op – grants are distributed on behalf of Mid Counties Co-operative to voluntary and community organisations in the county of Shropshire

Community First Denso – grants are distributed in accordance with the wishes of the names fund to charitable causes in the Telford & Wrekin area.

Community First - Mike & David Lowe Fund – grants are distributed in accordance with the wishes of the names fund to charitable causes in the Telford & Wrekin area.

County Endowment (Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin) – makes grants to voluntary and community groups in the county of Shropshire.

- Signification donations during the year to the fund include a £500 donation from the Shropshire Society London.

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

	At 1.4.20	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (Losses)	At
	£	£	£	£	31.3.21 £
Restricted Funds					
<u>Tackling Rural Isolation</u>					
Health & Well-being activities	9,537	135,322	(100,133)	-	44,726
Sight and Hearing Loss support	3,677	65,830	(46,296)	-	23,211
Helping Family Carers	26,669	29,204	(18,624)	-	37,249
Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards	1,728	12,065	(12,584)	-	1,209
Digital inclusion	10,135	600	(652)	-	10,083
<u>Alleviating Poverty</u>					
Wheels to Work	-	56,890	(56,091)	-	799
Alleviating Fuel Poverty	5,444	26,126	(15,378)	-	16,192
Supporting people through volunteering	1,793	-	-	-	1,793
Alleviating hardship	238	36,599	(24,483)	-	12,354
<u>Helping Communities to Help themselves</u>					
Supporting community organisations	60,434	158,565	(98,233)	-	120,766
CV19 Vaccine & Rapid testing volunteering	-	56,937	(56,937)	-	-
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	119,655	578,138	(429,411)	-	268,382

Health & Well Being funding includes:

- £80,640 service level funding through the WIPS partnership administered by Age UK (Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin) funded by Shropshire Council
- £30,000 grant from Shropshire Council for the Well-being Resource Project
- £16,331 grant from Shropshire Council for social prescribing
- £5,000 grant from Shropshire Council for CV19 infection control measures
- £3,351 grant from Energize, Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin for tackling health inequalities

Sight & Hearing Loss support funding includes:

- £50,331 grant funding from Shropshire Council
- £6,480 donation from the Grace Trust
- £3,240 grant from The Lady Forester Trust
- £1,000 grant from the CPF Trust
- £1,865 grant from the Shrewsbury & Telford Hospitals NHS Trust
- £500 grant from the Lynn Foundation
- £400 donation from Sight Loss Shropshire
- £200 grant from the Sir John Sumners Trust

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

- £500 grant through Groundwork from the Tesco Community Grants
- £100 donation from the Blakemore Foundation

Helping Family Carers funding includes:

- £19,679 grant from the National Lottery Community Fund
- £9,025 grant funding through HMRC for wages claimed through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme
- £480 In memoriam donations

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards work is funded through a £12,000 service level agreement with Shropshire Council.

Wheels to Work funding includes:

- £19,168 (£14,402 & £4,766) grant income from the National Emergencies Trust through the Community Foundation for Staffordshire
- £16,200 grant income as part of the ACRE Rural Community Action Network activities funded through the Department for Environmental, Food & Affairs
- £6,434 grant funding through HMRC for wages claimed through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme
- £2,500 donation from the Euro Quality Foundation
- £1,417 donated sponsorship through the 2.6 Giving Challenge
- £1,300 Wrekin Housing Trust
- £1,275 donation from the Garth Hall Charitable Settlement
- £250 donation from The TTC Group

Alleviating Fuel Poverty & Hardship funding includes:

- £36,000 grant income from Shropshire Council to distribute grants to individuals in fuel poverty/hardship in Shropshire
- £10,000 grant income from the Francis Winham Foundation to Warmer Winter Appeal
- £5,500 grant income from the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux
- £1,500 grant income from Community Energy Twemlows Fund (Power to Change) to support fuel poverty work in North Shropshire
- £750 grant income from West Power Distribution Fund to the 20/21 Warmer Winter Appeal
- £250 donation income from Oswestry Lions to the 2020/21 Warmer Winter Appeal
- £150 donation from Bridgnorth Lions to 2020/21 Warmer Winter Appeal
- £8,976 raised from individual donations and gift aid to the 2020/21 Warmer Winter Appeal

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Supporting community organisations includes:

- £50,000 grant income from Shropshire Council to support community and voluntary groups with CV19 infection control measures
- £24,935 grant income as part of the ACRE Rural Community Action Network activities funded through the Department for Environmental, Food & Affairs
- £20,000 donation from Gower Power Coop CIC to distribute as grants as part of the Community Resilience Appeal
- £8,610 grant income from Gower Power Coop CIC to distribute as grants to organisations in North Shropshire
- £5,000 donation from the Millichope Trust to distribute as grants to Community Buildings
- £500 donation from Ellison Hobson Charitable Trust to distribute as grants as part of the Community Resilience Appeal
- £500 donation from Lloyds Animal Feeds to distribute as grants as part of the Community Resilience Appeal
- £100 donation from Gethin & Co to distribute as grants as part of the Community Resilience Appeal
- £4,805 raised from individual donations and gift aid to distribute as grants as part of the Community Resilience Appeal

CV19 Vaccine & Rapid testing volunteering includes:

- £14,081 grant fund from Shropshire Council
- £42,855 accrued grant income from Shrewsbury & Telford Hospitals NHS Trust

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/ (Losses)	At 31.3.20
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds						
Technology Infrastructure Capital Fund	3,586	-	(1,333)		-	2,253
Premises Maintenance Fund	44,117	649	(4,554)		-	40,212
Continuity Fund	136,726	-	(2,724)		-	134,002
Fundraising	10,000	-	-	25,000	-	35,000
Marketing & Communication	18,239	-	(6,999)		-	11,240
Wheels to Work	30,000	-	(16,155)		-	13,845
Data Information System Development	29,591	-	-		-	29,591
Endowment Building	20,000	-	(7,578)		-	12,422
Rural Community Support	6,500	-	(6,478)	(22)	-	-
Hearing Support Services T&W	9,000	-	-	-	-	9,000
Website refresh	-	-	-	2,660		2,660
	307,759	649	(45,821)	27,638	-	290,225
General Fund	757,526	119,363	(140,474)	(27,638)	(10,545)	698,232
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	1,065,285	120,012	(186,295)	-	(10,545)	988,457

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (Losses)	At 31.3.20
Endowed Funds	£	£	£	£	£
Shropshire Grassroots Grants to community and voluntary organisations	338,228	276	(3,098)	(11,959)	323,447
Grassroots Shrewsbury U25 Education, Development & Training	32,580	-	(298)	(1,217)	31,065
Grassroots Shrewsbury Grants Hardship	21,846	-	(200)	(931)	20,715
Grassroots Harnage Trust	5,868	-	(54)	(215)	5,599
Community First Mid Counties Co-op	198,948	-	-	(6,300)	192,648
Community First Denso	30,608	-	-	(969)	29,639
Community First - Mike & David Lowe Fund	38,712	-	-	(1,226)	37,486
County Endowment (Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin)	119,642	8,103	(224)	(1,507)	126,014
TOTAL ENDOWED FUNDS	786,432	8,379	(3,874)	(24,324)	766,613

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

23. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19	Income	Expenditure	Gains/ (Losses)	At
	£	£	£	£	31.3.20 £
Restricted Funds					
<u>Tackling Rural Isolation</u>					
Health & Well-being activities	17,002	85,336	(92,801)	-	9,537
Sight and Hearing Loss support	6,029	66,074	(68,426)	-	3,677
Helping Family Carers	30,992	34,982	(39,305)	-	26,669
Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards	(1,255)	12,000	(9,017)	-	1,728
Digital inclusion	10,919	-	(784)	-	10,135
<u>Alleviating Poverty</u>					
Wheels to Work	13,613	28,548	(45,499)	3,338	-
Alleviating Fuel Poverty	6,796	9,568	(10,920)	-	5,444
Supporting people through volunteering	1,219	7,801	(7,227)	-	1,793
Alleviating hardship	84	1,067	(913)	-	238
<u>Helping Communities to Help themselves</u>					
Supporting community organisations	32,449	107,744	(79,759)	-	60,434
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	117,848	353,120	(354,651)	3,338	119,655

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

24. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The charitable company pays into a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in independently administered funds. The total pension cost charge amounted to £14,276 (2020: £14,346). At the balance sheet date contributions of £2,460 (2020: £2,009) were payable.

25. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.