

Company registration number: 3636957

Charity registration number: 1102016

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Manningtons
Chartered Accountants
39 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

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Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

22 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Thirtle Harvey

Thirtle Harvey made a donation to Hastings & Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind during the year of £NIL.
(2024: £40,000)

The majority of the trustees of Thirtle Harvey Memorial Home are also Trustees for Hastings & Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind.)

At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Thirtle Harvey was £Nil (2024 - £Nil).

23 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	231,223	(16,978)	214,245
Net debt	231,223	(16,978)	214,245

	At 1 April 2023 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	291,742	(60,519)	231,223
Net debt	291,742	(60,519)	231,223

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted		Total funds at
	General	Restricted	31 March 2025
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	400,506	-	400,506
Fixed asset investments	560,526	-	560,526
Current assets	280,098	6,152	286,250
Current liabilities	(67,323)	-	(67,323)
Total net assets	<u>1,173,807</u>	<u>6,152</u>	<u>1,179,959</u>

	Unrestricted		Total funds at
	General	Restricted	31 March 2024
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	408,398	-	408,398
Fixed asset investments	555,568	-	555,568
Current assets	300,135	6,152	306,287
Current liabilities	(48,878)	-	(48,878)
Total net assets	<u>1,215,223</u>	<u>6,152</u>	<u>1,221,375</u>

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

20 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted funds	1,215,223	1,024,113	(1,062,766)	2,596	(5,359)	1,173,807
Restricted funds						
Restricted fund	<u>6,152</u>	<u>42,745</u>	<u>(40,149)</u>	<u>(2,596)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,152</u>
Total funds	<u>1,221,375</u>	<u>1,066,858</u>	<u>(1,102,915)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,359)</u>	<u>1,179,959</u>

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
Unrestricted funds	1,255,281	915,853	(976,078)	20,167	1,215,223
Restricted					
Restricted fund	<u>6,152</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,152</u>
Total funds	<u>1,261,433</u>	<u>915,853</u>	<u>(976,078)</u>	<u>20,167</u>	<u>1,221,375</u>

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Restricted donation includes a donation from East Sussex Vision Care towards the wages of a Welfare Officer employed by the charity. Restricted donations carried forward are for the purpose for a club run by the charity.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2024	526,477	526,477
Revaluation	12,783	12,783
Additions	79,798	79,798
Disposals	(73,703)	(73,703)
At 31 March 2025	545,355	545,355
Cash held awaiting investment	15,171	15,171
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	560,526	560,526

At 31 March 2025 the cost was £547,369 (2024: £555,194)

17 Stock

	2025 £	2024 £
Blind aids, batteries, provisions etc.	3,680	3,824

18 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Resident fees due	34,298	32,684
Prepayments	30,405	29,165
Other debtors	3,622	9,391
	68,325	71,240

19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	25,230	14,656
Other creditors	42,093	34,222
	67,323	48,878

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2024	464,077	207,887	173,385	845,349
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>4,436</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,436</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>464,077</u>	<u>212,323</u>	<u>173,385</u>	<u>849,785</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024	81,438	193,454	162,059	436,951
Charge for the year	<u>4,925</u>	<u>4,571</u>	<u>2,832</u>	<u>12,328</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>86,363</u>	<u>198,025</u>	<u>164,891</u>	<u>449,279</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2025	<u>377,714</u>	<u>14,298</u>	<u>8,494</u>	<u>400,506</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>382,639</u>	<u>14,433</u>	<u>11,326</u>	<u>408,398</u>

Included within the net book value of land and buildings above is £359,030 (2024 - £367,577) in respect of freehold land and buildings and £18,684 (2024 - £25,630) in respect of other buildings.

16 Fixed asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Other investments	<u>560,526</u>	<u>555,568</u>

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Employers national insurance included in the above figures is £52,030 (2024: £43,740)

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Nursing and care staff	20	19
Administration, welfare and shop	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
	<u>27</u>	<u>26</u>

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £12,878 (2024 - £11,240).

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £88,253 (2024 - £83,352).

13 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>3,168</u>	<u>3,044</u>

14 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

10 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2025 £	2024 £
Profit on disposal of investments	(18,142)	(9,144)
Depreciation of fixed assets	12,328	12,539
Independent review fee	<u>3,168</u>	<u>3,044</u>

11 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.
No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

12 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries including employers national insurance	691,922	593,193
Pension costs - employee and employer costs	<u>29,988</u>	<u>26,227</u>
	<u>721,910</u>	<u>619,420</u>

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

b) Investment management costs

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Other investment management costs;				
Amounts payable to investment managers		6,486	6,486	6,270
		<u>6,486</u>	<u>6,486</u>	<u>6,270</u>

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Healey House including staff costs	823,305	-	-	823,305	708,697
John Taplin Centre	-	26,971	-	26,971	23,502
Other services and assistance	-	79,859	40,149	120,008	120,189
	<u>823,305</u>	<u>106,830</u>	<u>40,149</u>	<u>970,284</u>	<u>852,388</u>

9 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	3,168	3,168	3,044
	<u>3,168</u>	<u>3,168</u>	<u>3,044</u>

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £	Total 2024 £
Trading income;			
Shop income from sale of donated goods and services	114,796	114,796	124,636
Local fundraising and street collection income	7,987	7,987	10,143
	<u>122,783</u>	<u>122,783</u>	<u>134,779</u>

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income from dividends;			
Dividends receivable from other listed investments	16,688	16,688	20,657
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	1,769	1,769	2,196
	<u>18,457</u>	<u>18,457</u>	<u>22,853</u>

7 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of trading activities

Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Costs of goods sold	57,324	57,324	52,375
Local fundraising and street collection	506	506	102
	<u>57,830</u>	<u>57,830</u>	<u>52,477</u>

Staff costs £65,147 (2024: £66,461)

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the statement of financial activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies;				
Donations from individuals and organisations	458	8,151	8,609	46,267
Legacies	4,790	-	4,790	11,330
Gift aid reclaimed	6,636	-	6,636	8,805
Grants, including capital grants;				
Grants from other charities	30,483	34,594	65,077	43,626
	<u>42,367</u>	<u>42,745</u>	<u>85,112</u>	<u>110,028</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Healey House	807,140	807,140	601,408
John Taplin Centre	32,150	32,150	26,823
Other services and assistance	1,216	1,216	19,962
	<u>840,506</u>	<u>840,506</u>	<u>648,193</u>

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Freehold property	2% straight line basis
Other buildings	10% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	20% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers/residents for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised at the transaction price.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Charitable activities

Charitable activities include Healey House residential home, John Taplin day centre, clubs and other services.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

The cost of the land included in the balance sheet but not depreciated is £284,938.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Judgements

In preparing these financial statements, management has made the following judgements:

Determination of whether there are indicators of impairment of the Charity's tangible assets. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance of the asset and where it is a component of a larger cash-generating unit, the viability and expected future performance of that unit.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance programmes are taken into account. Residual values assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values. The carrying amount at the end of the reporting period is £400,506 (2024 - £408,398).

The recoverability of book debts are reviewed by management and a provision is made based on all the information available.

Income and endowments

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

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate when the administrator/executor for the estate has communicated in writing both the amount and settlement date. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title to the asset having been transferred to the charity.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

39 High Street

Battle

East Sussex

TN33 0EE

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind
Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash expenditure		<u>(41,416)</u>	<u>(40,058)</u>
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation			
Investment income	7	12,328	12,539
Loss/(profit) on disposal and other investment non cash adjustments	6	(18,457)	(22,853)
Revaluation of investments		7,544	(9,144)
		<u>(12,783)</u>	<u>(30,442)</u>
		<u>(11,368)</u>	<u>(49,900)</u>
		(52,784)	(89,958)
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	17	144	(218)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	18	2,915	(9,144)
Increase in creditors	19	<u>18,445</u>	<u>10,960</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>(31,280)</u>	<u>(88,360)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	6	1,769	2,196
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	15	(4,436)	-
Purchase of investments	16	(79,798)	(162,703)
Sale of investments		73,703	161,421
Income from dividends	6	<u>16,688</u>	<u>20,657</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		7,926	21,571
Cash flows from financing activities			
Investment charges		<u>6,376</u>	<u>6,270</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(16,978)	(60,519)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>231,223</u>	<u>291,742</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>214,245</u></u>	<u><u>231,223</u></u>

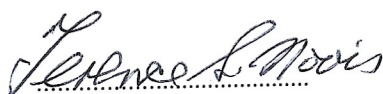
All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 13 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

(Registration number: 3636957)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

The financial statements on pages 8 to 26 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 15 July 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'T Novis', written over a dotted line.

T Novis (Treasurer)
Trustee

The notes on pages 13 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

(Registration number: 3636957)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets			
Investments	15	400,506	408,398
	16	<u>560,526</u>	<u>555,568</u>
		<u>961,032</u>	<u>963,966</u>
Current assets			
Stocks			
Debtors	17	3,680	3,824
Cash at bank and in hand	18	68,325	71,240
		<u>214,245</u>	<u>231,223</u>
		286,250	306,287
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	19	<u>(67,323)</u>	<u>(48,878)</u>
Net current assets		<u>218,927</u>	<u>257,409</u>
Net assets		<u>1,179,959</u>	<u>1,221,375</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted			
	20	6,152	6,152
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted		<u>1,173,807</u>	<u>1,215,223</u>
Total funds	20	<u>1,179,959</u>	<u>1,221,375</u>

For the financial year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The notes on pages 13 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

		Unrestricted		Total
	Note	General £	Restricted £	2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	89,674	20,354	110,028
Charitable activities	4	648,193	-	648,193
Other trading activities	5	134,779	-	134,779
Investment income	6	22,853	-	22,853
Total Income		<u>895,499</u>	<u>20,354</u>	<u>915,853</u>
Expenditure on:				
Costs of trading activities	7	(52,477)	-	(52,477)
Staff Costs	7	(61,899)	-	(61,899)
Investment management costs	7	(6,270)	-	(6,270)
Charitable activities	8	(832,034)	(20,354)	(852,388)
Governance costs		<u>(3,044)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,044)</u>
Total Expenditure	9	(955,724)	(20,354)	(976,078)
Realised gain/(loss) on investments		(9,144)	-	(9,144)
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments		<u>29,311</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,311</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(40,058)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(40,058)</u>
Net movement in funds		(40,058)	-	(40,058)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,255,281</u>	<u>6,152</u>	<u>1,261,433</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u>1,215,223</u>	<u>6,152</u>	<u>1,221,375</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

		Unrestricted		Total
	Note	General £	Restricted £	2025 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	42,367	42,745	85,112
Charitable activities	4	840,506	-	840,506
Other trading activities	5	122,783	-	122,783
Investment income	6	18,457	-	18,457
Total Income		<u>1,024,113</u>	<u>42,745</u>	<u>1,066,858</u>
Expenditure on:				
Costs of trading activities	7	(57,830)	-	(57,830)
Staff Costs	7	(65,147)	-	(65,147)
Investment management costs	7	(6,486)	-	(6,486)
Charitable activities	8	(930,135)	(40,149)	(970,284)
Governance costs		<u>(3,168)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,168)</u>
Total Expenditure		(1,062,766)	(40,149)	(1,102,915)
Realised gain/(loss) on investments		(18,142)	-	(18,142)
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments		<u>12,783</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,783</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		(44,012)	2,596	(41,416)
Transfers between funds		<u>2,596</u>	<u>(2,596)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		(41,416)	-	(41,416)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,215,223</u>	<u>6,152</u>	<u>1,221,375</u>
Total funds carried forward	20	<u><u>1,173,807</u></u>	<u><u>6,152</u></u>	<u><u>1,179,959</u></u>

The notes on pages 13 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

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 the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of , 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 Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind 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.



R T K Walsh
Manningtons Chartered accountants
39 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE

15 July 2025

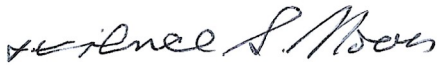
Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Trustees Report

Statement of responsibilities (within Trustees Report)

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 15 July 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
T Novis (Treasurer)
Trustee



.....
A Patmore (Chairman to 17 July 24)
Chairman and trustee

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Trustees Report

Major risks and management of those risks for small charities

Major risks, Business risk and operational risk

To maintain reserves and funding at a level so the charity is able to provide services and any additional services if required.

To manage this risk the charity carries out an annual review of controls over key financial systems and reviews the monthly management accounts to adjust strategies to mitigate significant risks.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments.

The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Trustees Report

Senior Management Team: P Deigan
F Farrier-Twist

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The appointment of trustees, who are also directors, is governed by the Articles of Association of the charitable company. The Board of trustees is authorised to appoint new Trustees to fill vacancies arising through resignation or death of an existing trustee.

The trustees of the charitable company meet on a bi monthly basis or more frequently if circumstances require. The association actively seeks new trustees.

Induction and training of trustees

Trustees are briefed on the organisation and structure, along with some background information on the history of the charity. They receive a copy of the brochure and two years accounts.

Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration

Key management personnel comprises the Chief Executive and Healey House Manager; the remuneration reflects the responsibilities of the role and is agreed by the Trustees.

Organisational structure

The charity is run by the trustees who have appointed a Chief Executive in overall charge of administration. It is the Chief Executive's job to keep trustees regularly informed and to implement the trustees policies. The trustees have also appointed a Manager at Healey House to oversee all aspects of Residential Care. The investments are managed by the stockbrokers and two of the trustees.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Trustees Report

Reference and administrative details

Charity registration number: 1102016
Company registration number: 3636957
The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
Registered office: 39 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE
Independent Examiner: Manningtons
Chartered accountants
39 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE
Bankers: Lloyds Bank
3rd Floor, North Block, St Mary's Court
20 St Mary at Hill
LONDON
EC3R 8NA

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees: T Novis (Treasurer)
R Lane
P J Greenhalgh
A Patmore (Chairman to 17 July 24)
B G Purdey
A J Hollis (Chairman from 11 September 24)
E (Alan) Peirce (Vice Chairman appointed 11 September 2024)
P J Langdon (Resigned 23 May 2024)
Chairman: A Patmore (Chairman to 17 July 24)
A J Hollis (Chairman from 11 September 24)
Chief Executive Officer: F Farrier-Twist
Other Officers: G Stewart, President

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Trustees Report

Public benefit

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind provide public benefit by fulfilling the objects of the charitable company, Clubs and services are available to the public through as many channels as possible.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Use of volunteers

The Charity has approximately 70 volunteers and these volunteers assist in the shops, with ebay, drive or escort on the minibuses, run the clubs and social activities of the members. We are fortunate to have the valuable volunteers that we have, but we are always on the lookout for more to help with driving our minibuses.

Financial review

Policy on reserves

The trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves which are those unrestricted funds not invested in fixed assets, designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. As at 31st March 2025 restricted funds totalled £6,152 (2024: £6,152) and unrestricted funds totalled £1,173,807 (2024: £1,215,223). There were free reserves at the year end of £212,775 (2024: £251,257) represented by unrestricted net current assets.

With the help of monthly management accounts, liquidity problems can be quickly identified and the appropriate action taken. However, the policy of the charitable company is to build up reserves by means of annual operating surpluses and judicious management of our investment assets, to ensure that there is sufficient liquidity available to finance the charity's work at all times given any identified problems.

Principal funding sources

Whilst the charitable company's largest items of income are from Healey House and the shops, the investments, donations, grants and legacies also provide valuable sources of income to help fund the charity.

Investment policy and objectives

The charitable company continues to try to strike a balance between the need for short term liquidity and longer term growth. It is felt that the current assets represented by cash and bank balances are sufficient to meet the association's foreseeable needs. The investments, managed by investment brokers, Walker Crips Stockbrokers Limited are designed to give a reasonable level of dividend income combined with the opportunity for long term capital growth.

As with the previous years, markets remained uncertain; the portfolio is a longer term investment and it is hoped that the market conditions continue to improve.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind

Trustees Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The charity's objective is to provide services and support for visually impaired people living within the area of Hastings and Rother.

The Association's principal activities are residential care carried out at Healey House and day care provision at the John Taplin Centre. We also hold Social and Rehabilitation activities in the John Taplin Centre and in Bexhill and Hastings. We offer advice, information and support to the visually impaired of working age and older living in Hastings and Rother. The society continues to assess the needs for innovation and continues to seek to improve the range and quality of its services where resources and funding allow. The Association employs welfare officers who work out of Healey House.

The policy of the organisation continues to be to provide high quality services and support for visually impaired people living in Hastings and Rother and to generate revenue from fees, donations, legacies, grants and fundraising in order to provide these services.

The Association has two shops: one in Bexhill, the other in Silverhill which continue with the support of our Warehouse. Together they continue to provide an invaluable source of income and our Bexhill Shop, along with the charity continues to provide invaluable gift aid.

Objectives, strategies and activities

In October 2011, a new cross county Low Vision Support Service was launched under a three year funding agreement between East Sussex County Council and East Sussex Vision Care. Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind is responsible for delivering this contract in the Hastings and Rother area with outreach work for patients attending Bexhill and Conquest Hospital eye clinics, along with courses to build confidence, reduce isolation and create independence, skills and strategies for daily living, including cookery and an introduction to computers. In October 2014 funding was secured for a further 3 years, this came to an end in September 2019.

We successfully secured a new grant in October 2019 for five to seven years to provide a comprehensive low vision services for people with visual impairment. This has been extended for a further year.

Hastings and Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind is now responsible for coordinating the first stage of the registration process of CVIs (Certificate of Visual Impairment) on behalf of East Sussex County Council on a county- wide basis.

Fundraising disclosures

Fundraising activities are undertaken by the charity to raise funds.