

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1114570

Details

Other names	BOURNEMOUTH SOCIETY FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	05792657
Registered	2006-06-06
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	5 Victoria Park Road Bournemouth BH9 2RB
Phone	01202546644
Email	info@bournemouthblindsociety.uk
Website	www.bournemouthblindsociety.uk

Activities

Objects: (A) TO ASSIST AND BENEFIT, BUT NOT WITH DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, PEOPLE WITH A VISUAL IMPAIRMENT AND/OR HEARING IMPAIRMENT LIVING WITHIN THE BOURNEMOUTH/CHRISTCHURCH/POOLE AREA. (B) TO PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF SIGHT AND/OR HEARING LOSS.

Activities: Bournemouth Blind Society operates a Sight & Hearing Resource Centre; Community Support; Befriending Service; Emotional Support; Sight Awareness Training and provides activities for blind and partially sighted people from its centre in Moordown, Bournemouth. The Society also actively works with the hard of hearing. It promotes independent living and encourages members to remain in their own homes.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH, POOLE AREA
- Bournemouth
- Dorset
- Hampshire
- Poole

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£141,288	£203,013	-	-
2024-03-31	£134,834	£190,731	-	-
2023-03-31	£219,893	£188,114	-	-
2022-03-31	£180,366	£163,478	-	-
2021-03-31	£176,052	£163,554	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Madeleine Avis	Chair	2014-02-24
Andrew Nicholas Sherriff		2024-09-02
Ann Copland		2023-06-06
Dr Rodney Frederick Cooper		2018-09-03
MARGARET JOYCE VOUSDEN		2016-02-29
Richard Alexander Copland		2025-06-23
Tania Patricia Barber		2024-09-02

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1114570

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2025

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1114570

COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 05792657

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2025

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BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2025



The Board of Trustees has pleasure in presenting their Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Chairman's Report

The Bournemouth Blind Society has continued to effectively support its Members throughout the past year, 2024/2025, despite the numerous challenges which have sadly forced many other local charities to close.

The Society is fortunate in owning premises where Members meet, fundraising activities take place, a permanent resource centre is located and accommodation is available for local groups and residents to hire.

The Society welcomed a number of new Members to weekly activities and also new Trustees to the Board.

A comprehensive newsletter, available in several formats, provides regular updates on activities, fundraising and new resources and reaches not only Members but a much wider audience. The newsletter and talks to Community Groups by the Chief Executive continues to raise awareness of the work of the Society.

Going forward there will still be challenges surrounding fundraising, finding qualified volunteer minibus drivers, expanding the volunteer group and reaching out to potential new Members.

Thanks to the Chief Executive, Staff, Volunteers and Befrienders, Trustees and supporters of the Charity for their continued work and dedication in maintaining and supporting the Society and its Members.

Review of Activities

Bournemouth Blind Society exists "to assist and benefit, but not with direct financial assistance, people with a visual impairment and/or hearing impairment living within the Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole area and to promote public awareness of sight and/or hearing loss." Alternative ways of delivering the assistance and benefit mentioned were introduced as a result of the 2020 Covid pandemic, many of which are still in use.

The activities of the Charity are designed, where possible, to:

- reduce isolation;
- retain or improve skills;
- give a sense of well-being and belonging;
- maintain independence.

We aim to deliver all our services in a cheerful, purposeful way. Many of the Members refer to our Centre in Moordown as their "second home" and the people they meet there as their "extended family". Many of our Members are older and a number live in their own home, often alone as their life partners have predeceased them. A number also refer to the Centre to be their "happy place".

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The loss of sight is a significant life changing event and often results in a highly emotional time, which can often be hidden. Spirits which appear high during a one-hour phone call can often mask the reality of not coping very well. As an organisation, we try and encourage those Members who are experiencing emotional insecurity to take part in activities, even if only an occasional phone call.

Social Activities

The Social Groups run each Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. The groups are approximately half the size of the pre-Covid groups as a number of previous Members have either passed away; are now too ill to attend; or have decided to remain in relative isolation. A number of new attendees have been welcomed during the year, but the increase in group sizes is slow. The hours spent at the Centre each day are gradually increasing, and all groups take place in Rooper Hall to allow for greater distancing and air circulation.

On Mondays and Thursdays, a two-course lunch is served, followed by some form of engagement with the Members. In the year under review this has all been provided by the Staff and Volunteers and has included quizzes, word games, music appreciation, story time and memory boxes. As the majority of people attending these groups have mobility issues the activities provided tend to be sedentary.

The Tuesday Group remains as a breakfast club and attracts a number of more active Members who are only seen in this group. They all feel very much 'at home' among the group and this is often the opportunity to discuss problems they are each facing or the opportunity for interaction with the specialist services provided by the Society.

During the year, the monthly Walking Group resumed during the dryer, warmer months. This included walks by the sea, around Christchurch and in various local parks. Through the summer months, the Charity provided a driver, together with a sighted escort, and the use of its minibus for the Dorset Visually Impaired Cricket Team during their trips to away fixtures.

Practical Support in the Community

Face to face interventions are available for all support services provided by the Society, both in the client's own home or at the Centre. The staff provide a friendly face to each service as users are often in great need.

The Society received a grant from BCP Council toward providing a Resource Centre for both sight impairment and hearing impairment, together with a Community Support service. The relationship between the staff of BCP's Adult Social Care Sight & Hearing Team and the Society's staff remains favourable and as strong as ever.

The Service Level Agreement for the Sight and Hearing Resource Centre is to open for 8 hours each week. The Trustees have made the decision to increase this by opening the Resource Centre from Monday to Friday, 10am to 1pm (15 hours per week). The number of visitors to the Centre is similar to last year. Callers (whether over the phone or face to face) have wanted information and advice about products to help them live independently. Any callers who needed help that the Society was unable to provide were signposted to relevant alternative organisations. During the year a total of 175 (2024: 182) people visited the Resource Centre, with 120 (2024: 121) phone calls. Visits took an average of 50 minutes each (2024: 31), with phone calls averaging 21 (2024: 14) minutes each. Numbers are still considerably below pre-Covid figures, partly due to a greater reliance by potential callers asking their family to search for advice/equipment via the internet.

During the current year, the number of face-to-face befriending visits has increased, but almost 75% of Befriending is still over the telephone, especially those contacted by paid staff, who have other roles within the Society. The Befriending Service currently has 21 registered befriendees (2023/24: 22), but it is known that a number of Volunteers continue to phone Members who are not registered with the service. Finding suitable befriendees is proving difficult, as a long-term commitment is required.

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The Emotional Support Service continued to provide a valuable resource to anyone of any age group who is experiencing emotional, psychological or relationship difficulties arising from sight loss. As with all other services, face to face sessions are offered, but a number still want to receive the support either by telephone or via video conferencing, all in line with the recommendations made by BACP (The British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy). The Emotional Support given is much in demand and this service has continued to be provided free of charge, with clients asked to consider donating where possible. During the year, 43 clients (2023/24: 42) have received support from this service. At the year end, the case load is 15 cases (2023/24: 21), with a further 4 referrals waiting for their initial assessment.

The Assistive Technology suite has been available most Tuesdays throughout the year, plus support has continued over telephone and video links. A total of 29 clients (2023/24: 22) have received help/tuition in Assistive Technology.

Awareness

The Society is keen to work with local people, groups and businesses to help them understand the needs of the visually impaired. A sight awareness session was delivered to the passenger Special Assistance team at Bournemouth Airport. Talks on both sight and hearing awareness have been offered to numerous other groups and societies, but with no interest being shown. Alternative means of delivering the information are being investigated.

The bi-monthly newsletter was published 6 times in the year. The newsletter is available in many formats including large print, e-mail and audio on CD or USB stick. It provides useful information to the Members, together with details of the services available at Bournemouth Blind Society and its fundraising events. An e-newsletter is also produced; aimed primarily at supporters it advertises fundraising opportunities, invites potential Volunteers and informs supporters of the ongoing work of the Society.

Fundraising

The number of face-to-face Fundraising Events held during the year has been limited to our ever-popular quarterly Quiz Nights and both a Summer Concert and a Christmas Concert provided by Wessex Chorus. This is primarily due to the lack of volunteers willing to give of their own time for fundraising events.

Hiring out of the Rooper Hall for private parties at weekends continues and the hall has been in use many weekends of the year, along with regular lets on Wednesdays to the NHS Diabetic education programme and other weekday evenings to various groups. The Training School hires rooms in the main building using them during the daytime, in the evenings and occasional weekends.

Funds have been raised through pink elephant collection pots placed in local shops, although the sums raised are being reduced as people stop using cash for transactions.

Bournemouth Blind Society received donations from various sources including "Friends" of the Society; Bournemouth Rotary Club; Bournemouth North Rotary Club; Bournemouth East Cliff Rotary Club; Bournemouth Lions; Tops Day Nursery and the Holdenhurst Charity. Donations received in Memory of deceased Members was £905 (2023/24 £762).

Further donations were received from numerous other generous supporters, both organisations and individuals.

A number of supporters also provided the Society with their time and services free of charge. Where significant, these have been identified in the accounts. The energy and time provided by Volunteers must not go unnoticed. The majority of the Society's volunteers have been with the organisation for many years and their services are still given freely, willingly and with a smile.

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Buildings

The Society owns the land and buildings it operates from, due to the foresight of supporters many years ago. The building was purpose built as a residential block but has since been converted into an Activity and Social Centre. The building fabric is maintained to a high standard but being almost 100 years old need constant attention. The Senior Management endeavour to only divert funds to maintenance when absolutely essential.

Trustees

Like so many charities, the Society relies heavily upon the generous donation of time by its Trustees. Their role is referred to elsewhere in this annual report. The work of the Trustees is often behind the scenes and goes on unseen by the majority of those who interact with the Society in whatever guise that may be.

Recruitment of suitable people to work as Trustees is slow and the search for new Trustees continues.

Staff

With a mixture of work patterns to suit operational needs, it is rare for all staff to be on site at the same time. Regular team sharing times and social events keep the team spirit high and means that all staff are aware of what is happening with the Society and its Members. The number of hours worked each week ranges from 15 to 34 hours. All staff are paid at least the Living Wage Foundation minimum wage, with rates reviewed to commence on 1st April each year.

The staff regularly go 'over and above' to support the Members and frequently attend out-of-hours functions to support the Society, at no cost to the Society. Bournemouth Blind Society is blessed with a dedicated, long-serving workforce who are committed to providing the best services possible to the blind and partially sighted people they come across.

The Trustees/Directors wish to record their sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to the benefit of the Society, whether Staff, Volunteer, or Supporter. They are all essential parts of the organisation.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2025

A. Reference and Administrative Information

The Bournemouth Blind Society was incorporated in England and Wales on 24 April 2006 as Bournemouth Society for the Visually Impaired. The change of name to Bournemouth Blind Society was recorded by Companies House on 6 March 2015. The company number is 05792657. Bournemouth Blind Society is also registered with the Charity Commission, number 1114570.

The Society operates from its registered address, 5 Victoria Park Road, Bournemouth, BH9 2RB.

Trustees

During the year and up to the date of this report the following have served as Trustees, who are also Directors of the Company:

Mrs Madeleine Avis	Chair Board of Trustees
Dr Rodney Frederick Cooper	Chair Finance Committee
Mrs Tania Barber	Co-opted 02.09.2024
Mrs Ann Elizabeth Copland	
Mr Martin Simon Goldman	
Mrs Barbara Lauraine Russell	
Mr Andrew Nicholas Sherriff	Co-opted 02.09.2024
Mrs Margaret Joyce Vousden	Deputy Chair Board of Trustees

The Trustees/Directors are also the Members of the company.

The Trustees/Directors due to retire by rotation at the AGM in June 2025 are Mrs Tania Barber, Dr Rodney Frederick Cooper, Mr Martin Simon Goldman and Mr Andrew Nicholas Sherriff. Mrs Tania Barber, Dr Rodney Frederick Cooper and Mr Andrew Nicholas Sherriff all offer themselves for re-election.

The Company Secretary and Chief Executive of the charity is Mr Philip Tarrant.

On 31 March 2025 there were two hundred and nine (2024: 194) registered blind and partially sighted users on the society's register, which only records those for whom a signed GDPR consent form is on file. A number of visually impaired users who access services, choose not to be included on the register. It is estimated the total pool of users is in the region of four hundred and fifty people.

Principal Advisers

BANKERS

Barclays Bank plc
Leicester, LE87 2BB

INVESTMENT MANAGERS

Redmayne Bentley
139 Commercial Rd, Poole BH14 0JD

ACCOUNTANTS

TC Group
10 Bridge Street, Christchurch, BH23 1EF

B. Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Bournemouth Blind Society is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the company being wound up each voting Member is required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. There were six voting Members at the balance sheet date. The operations of Bournemouth Blind Society are governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which were agreed on 24 April 2006, amended by Special Resolution on 22 October 2009, amended by Special Resolution on 11 July 2013, amended by Special Resolution to change the name on 1 September 2014, amended by Special Resolution to update the Objectives on 3 June 2019 and amended by Special Resolution on 4 October 2021.

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Recruitment and Appointment of the Board of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association one third of the members of the Board of Trustees must retire each year with those being longest in office retiring at the next Annual General Meeting. A retiring member of the Board will be eligible to seek for re-election. The Board has the authority to co-opt members to its number to fill any vacancy left open at any time. Members of the Board are elected at Annual General Meeting by a show of hands.

Trustee Induction and Training

Trustees are sought to bring a spread of skills, knowledge and Diversity to the Society.

All new trustees receive a pack containing:

- 1 Memorandum and Articles of Association
- 2 The Charity Commission's guide "The Essential Trustee"
- 3 Latest financial statements
- 4 Literature outlining the work of the Charity
- 5 The Charity's policies handbook

Organisational Structure

The Bournemouth Blind Society Board of Trustees may number between three and twelve members. At present there are six trustees. Responsibility for the day to day running of the Society is delegated to the Bournemouth Blind Society Chief Executive and through him to the paid Staff and Volunteers. Budgetary control rests with the delegated Finance Committee.

The Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee each meet four times a year, or as often as is necessary. Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings are submitted to the Board of Trustees.

Risk Management

The Trustees actively encourage the senior management to review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated and retaining sufficient restricted funds combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have implemented a Risk Management system which determines a pattern of regular reviews to reduce risk to a minimal level.

The Policies of the Society are written, reviewed by the Trustees, and published with a view to protecting the beneficiaries of the charity, as well as the Volunteers, Trustees and paid Staff. The policies lay down the principles for the interaction between paid Staff, Volunteers and Beneficiaries, reducing risk to an acceptable level, thus protecting the Charity.

The greatest risks the Charity currently faces are:

- the lack of suitable Volunteers to drive the Society's minibus which is putting a strain on paid Staff;
- a reliance on Bequests and Legacy Giving for funding services
- the limited level of fundraising income coming into the Society.

Pay policy for senior staff

The trustees consider the Chief Executive as the key management personnel of the charity, in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis.

The pay of the charity's chief executive is reviewed regularly and normally increased in accordance with average earnings. The remuneration is benchmarked with a limited number of local charities of a similar size and activity to ensure that the remuneration set is fair and not out of line with those generally paid for similar roles.

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C. Public Benefit

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity and acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the Charity has achieved this are provided earlier in this report, under the heading "Review of Activities".

The Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011 before deciding what activities the Charity should undertake. They do not consider that any of the charity's activities cause any significant detriment or harm and believe that any private benefit arising from the activities is incidental.

D. Custodian Trusteeship

No assets were held as custodian trustee during the reporting period.

E. Objectives

The objective for which the company was established is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Following the merge of Local Government from three local councils to one, it was agreed to update the Objectives clause of the Society, by Special Resolution, on 3 June 2019.

The Charity's newly adopted objects ("the Objects") are:-

- (a) to assist and benefit, but not with direct financial assistance, people with a visual impairment and/or hearing impairment living within the Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole area.
- (b) to promote public awareness of sight and/or hearing loss.

F. Achievements and Performance

Reports on the achievements and activities of the Bournemouth Blind Society for the year to 31 March 2025 are contained on pages 1 to 4 of this report.

The Investment Portfolio has a progressive risk and balanced investment objective. The total return on all investments, net of fees, was +4.42%. This compares with the Arc Sterling Growth benchmark of +2.85% for the same period

G. Financial Review

The 2024/25 Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for Bournemouth Blind Society and the Balance Sheet at 31 March 2025, together with associated explanatory notes, are given on pages 12 to 26.

The Society's income for 2024/25 was £141,288, a 4.8% increase on that raised in 2023/24 (£134,834). The income for 2024/25 includes £33 received as legacies (2023/24 £512).

Expenditure totalled £203,013 and was about 6.5% higher to that incurred in 2022/23 (£190,731).

Despite continuing financial management and cost control, the overall performance in 2023/24 was an operating deficit of £61,725 (a deficit of £55,897 in 2023/24). The lack of legacy income seriously impacted income and the net operating situation. The Chief Executive, Staff, and all concerned with the running of the Society are aware of their responsibilities and fully acknowledge the need to control expenditure and increase income into the Society.

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Investment Policy

The Directors have previously agreed that, in times of any surplus, the monies would be retained in an investment portfolio to maximise investment income. In times of overspend, however, equivalent funds may have to be withdrawn. The Investment Policy aims to not let the value of investments fall below a figure commensurate with twelve months total expenditure of the charity. The Investments are managed externally in a progressive risk balanced portfolio and the Trustees receive a performance report from the Fund Manager on an annual basis.

H. Reserves

The reserves of the Society fall into three different categories: Unrestricted Funds; Designated Funds; Restricted Funds.

Unrestricted Funds represent those balances that can be used for any purpose that allows the Charity to achieve its stated objectives. The income is received with no restrictions placed by the giver as to how it may be used.

Designated Funds are determined by the Trustees and are amounts set aside from Unrestricted Incomes for specific purposes. The Trustees continue to carefully manage the Designated Funds:

- The Society is fortunate to own, freehold, the buildings from which it operates. The valuation of this is held in a designated Capital Fund thereby ensuring that the Unrestricted Reserves are the unencumbered ones.
- The aim of the Directors/Trustees is to ensure that the charity could survive through any period of unexpected expenditure or serious reduction in income and, consistent with that goal, previously established a Continuity Reserve Fund. The level of reserves retained within that Fund equates to approximately half of the market valuation of investments at 31 March 2025.
- The Building Maintenance Fund records the net book value of items purchased under this heading in previous financial years, together with the balance of transfers made in anticipation of probable work needed on the building over the next 2 - 3 years.
- The Society owns a minibus used to transport Members to and from various activities. The Vehicle Replacement Fund records the net book value of the minibus, together with sums set aside to purchase a replacement within the next 3 - 4 years.
- An essential service provided by the Society is the Resource Room, used to demonstrate the equipment and devices available to help those with sight and/or hearing loss lead meaningful and independent lives. The Resource Centre Equipment Fund records the balance remaining of the initial transfer after the purchase of demonstration equipment and will be used over the next 12 – 24 months.
- The Equipment Fund records the net book value of items purchased under this heading in the year, together with the balance of any transfers made. The fund is to provide for replacement office and catering equipment over the next 12 – 24 months.

For movements on these funds, see note 17.2.

Restricted Funds shows income given to the Society for specific purposes, stated by the giver, as listed in the Notes to the Accounts 2.4b. Movement on restricted funds is recorded in note 17.3.

The Trustees believe the reserves are more than adequate to maintain the Society through any further period of shutdown for any reason. They are keeping the situation under review and will act to implement any changes that become necessary to ensure the continuation of the Charity.

Total reserves at the end of the year were £840,082 (2024: £885,648), split between the funds as: Unrestricted Fund £223,646; Designated Fund £609,267; Restricted Fund £7,169. The level of Reserves held as tangible assets are £216,967 (2024: £225,527).

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2025

I. Plans for Future Periods

All of the services provided by the Society are fully open to any blind or partially sighted person, together with those with a hearing loss. The largest part of future planning revolves around attracting more members for the Social Groups, clients for the support services offered, Volunteers to help run those groups and services and funding to help financially support the Charity.

The Society will continue to focus on the provision of services to the blind and partially sighted community, with an emphasis on reaching out to more people. RNIB have estimated that by 2030 there will be in excess of 17,500 visually impaired people living within the BCP Council area. Connecting with more of this group, providing services and activities that support and enable them is essential for the growth of the charity.

Being aware of local needs and provisions are an essential part of the development of the charity and a full review of service provision against perceived and known need is taking place in 2025/26.

The BCP Adult Social Care team working with the sensory impaired now covers Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and it is anticipated that the Community Support service will have to grow to cover the entire area. The number of referrals from this source is currently very limited as the BCP team is trying hard to recruit further ROVI's (Rehabilitation Officer for the Visually Impaired) to cover the larger area (at present there are only 2 ROVI's for the whole area compared to 6 before the amalgamation of local Councils).

Promoting the Resource Centre and Befriending Service will include communications with local optometrists/opticians, social prescribers, surgeries and care organisations as well as to the general public will follow.

The Trustees will work closely with the Chief Executive to determine what the future provision of services will look like following the review and all scenarios that allow the Charity's objectives to be met will be explored.

J. Trustees' Responsibilities in the Preparation of Financial Statements

Company law requires the directors of the charity (namely the Trustees) to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus/deficit of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

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

K. Accountants

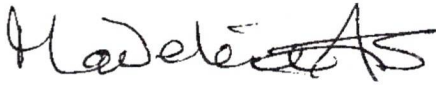
For the year under review, the Trustees have chosen to apply the statutory requirement for an Independent Examination. TC Group has been appointed as Independent Examiners for the year to 31 March 2025.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2025

L. Method of Preparation of Accounts

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

This report was approved by the Board on 23rd June 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Madeleine Avis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Madeleine Avis
Chair of Trustees

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Bournemouth Blind Society

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 12 to 27.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also directors of Bournemouth Blind Society for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter except that referred to in the previous paragraph has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

TC Group

Dean Pullen FCCA
For and on behalf of

TC Group

4/7/25
.....
10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

Dated:

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025
SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024/25 £	Total 2023/24 £
Income and endowments from:	2.1/3					
Donations and legacies		16,015	0	0	16,015	13,904
Charitable activities		21,523	0	25,946	47,469	47,275
Other trading activities		60,640	0	0	60,640	57,319
Investments		17,164	0	0	17,164	16,336
Total		115,342	0	25,946	141,288	134,834
Expenditure on:	2.2/6					
Raising Funds		5,220	0	0	5,220	4,819
Charitable Activities		112,059	10,286	62,970	185,315	173,485
Other		6,233	3,551	2,694	12,478	12,427
Total		123,512	13,837	65,664	203,013	190,731
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains/ (losses) on investment assets		(8,170)	(13,837)	(39,718)	(61,725)	(55,897)
Net gains/(losses) on investment assets	11	8,080	8,079	0	16,159	35,895
Net income/(expenditure)		(90)	(5,758)	(39,718)	(45,566)	(20,002)
Transfers between funds	17.4	(58,642)	16,974	41,668	0	0
Other recognised gains/(loses)		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement In Funds for the year		(58,732)	11,216	1,950	(45,566)	(20,002)
Reconciliation Of Funds						
Total Funds brought forward at 1 April 2024		282,378	598,051	5,219	885,648	905,650
Total Funds carried forward at 31 March 2025		223,646	609,267	7,169	840,082	885,648

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 14 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2025

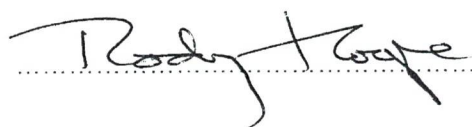
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024/25 £	Total 2023/24 £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Assets	10	0	216,967	0	216,967	225,527
Investments	11	204,165	365,233	0	569,398	544,521
		<u>204,165</u>	<u>582,200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>786,365</u>	<u>770,048</u>
Current Assets						
Stocks	12	155	0	6,446	6,601	6,528
Debtors	13	7,382	0	2,895	10,277	5,640
Cash at Bank and in Hand	15	16,583	27,067	0	43,650	109,364
		<u>24,120</u>	<u>27,067</u>	<u>9,341</u>	<u>60,528</u>	<u>121,532</u>
Current Liabilities						
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	14	4,639	0	2,172	6,811	5,932
		<u>19,481</u>	<u>27,067</u>	<u>7,169</u>	<u>53,717</u>	<u>115,600</u>
Net Current Assets						
		<u>223,646</u>	<u>609,267</u>	<u>7,169</u>	<u>840,082</u>	<u>885,648</u>
Total assets less current liabilities						
		<u>223,646</u>	<u>609,267</u>	<u>7,169</u>	<u>840,082</u>	<u>885,648</u>
Total net assets or liabilities						
		<u>223,646</u>	<u>609,267</u>	<u>7,169</u>	<u>840,082</u>	<u>885,648</u>
Funds of the Charity						
Unrestricted Funds	17.1	223,646	0	0	223,646	282,378
Designated Funds	17.2	0	609,267	0	609,267	598,051
Restricted Funds	17.3	0	0	7,169	7,169	5,219
Total Funds		<u>223,646</u>	<u>609,267</u>	<u>7,169</u>	<u>840,082</u>	<u>885,648</u>

The directors are satisfied that that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Approved by the Directors on 23rd June 2025 and signed on their behalf by
Dr. Rodney Cooper,
Director



BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

1.1 Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, as modified by the revaluation of investments, and include the results of the charity's operations which are described in the Directors' and Trustees' reports and all of which are continuing. All amounts are shown in pounds sterling. The charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Companies Act 2006;
- the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), issued on 16 July 2014;
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) as applied from 1 April 2015;
- the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast any significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. Given the current level of reserves the Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity has sufficient resources and as such the financial statements have been prepared under the going concern basis.

1.3 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

1.4 Material prior year errors

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 Income

a.) Recognition of income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the charity becomes legally entitled to the resources;
- the Directors have sufficient certainty they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be quantified with reasonable accuracy

b.) Offsetting

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross. Further, there has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities

c.) Grants and donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

d.) Legacies

Legacies are included in Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is probable, that is: when there has been grant of probate; the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

e.) Government grants

The charity has received a local government grant during the year. See note 4.

f.) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

g.) Contractual income and performance related grants

This is only included once the charity has provided the related goods, or services have been delivered.

h.) Donated goods

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries are measured at fair value at the time of receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stock at distribution.

i.) Donated Services and Facilities

Donated services and facilities are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended when the service or facility is consumed immediately) where the benefit to the charity can be measured reliably. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

j.) Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in note 5 to the accounts.

k.) Income from interest and dividends

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

l.) Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised and unrealised gains and losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

2.2 Expenditure and Liabilities

a.) Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs 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.

b.) Governance and support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

c.) Redundancy cost

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

d.) Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

e.) Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

f) Value added tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.3 Assets

a.) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

The Trustees believe that a more accurate picture of assets used is gained by depreciating assets over a given number of years. Rates and methods used are disclosed in note 10

b.) Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. Cumulative unrealised gains on investments are taken to revaluation reserves.

c.) Stock

Stock consists of goods for resale in order to raise funds to further the Charity's objectives and is measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.

d.) Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

e.) 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 of value.

2.4 Other Accounting Policies

a) Taxation

Bournemouth Blind Society is not liable for corporation tax by reason of its charitable objects and status.

b.) Restricted Funds

The restricted funds represent monies given for specific purposes. The Trustees have identified the following services as being in receipt of restricted funds:

- Sight and Hearing Resource Centre – supported by a grant from BCP Council and sales in the Resource Centre.
- Community Support Service – supported by a grant from BCP Council.
- Emotional Support Services – donations given by clients specifically toward the cost of the service.
- Befriending Services – donations given by clients specifically toward the cost of the service.

Movements on Restricted Funds are shown in note 17.3.

c.) Unrestricted and Designated Funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity represent the accumulated reserves of the charity which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further the objects of the charity.

The designated funds are unrestricted funds and represent monies set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes. Movements on the Designated Funds are shown in note 17.2.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

3. Analysis of Income and Endowments

3.1 Income and Endowments 2024/25

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024/25 £
a.) Donations and Legacies				
Donations and Gifts	13,375	0	0	13,375
Gift Aid	1,745	0	0	1,745
Legacies	33	0	0	33
Friends of the Society	862	0	0	862
	<u>16,015</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,015</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Befriending Services	0	0	150	150
Canteen Sales	12,649	0	0	12,649
Emotional Support Services	0	0	470	470
Leisure Activities & Events	2,797	0	0	2,797
Local Government Grant	0	0	23,000	23,000
Sensory Loss Resource Centre Sales	0	0	2,326	2,326
Transport	6,077	0	0	6,077
	<u>21,523</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,946</u>	<u>47,469</u>
c.) Other Trading Activities				
Fund Raising	12,895	0	0	12,895
Room Hire	47,745	0	0	47,745
	<u>60,640</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>60,640</u>
d.) Investment Income				
Interest Income	1,450	0	0	1,450
Dividend Income	15,714	0	0	15,714
	<u>17,164</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>17,164</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

3.2. Income and Endowments 2023/24

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023/24 £
a.) Donations and Legacies				
Donations and Gifts	11,634	0	0	11,634
Gift Aid	846	0	0	846
Legacies	512	0	0	512
Friends of the Society	912	0	0	912
	<u>13,904</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>13,904</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Befriending Services	0	0	160	160
Canteen Sales	11,144	0	0	11,144
Emotional Support Services	0	0	345	345
Leisure Activities & Events	2,391	0	0	2,391
Local Government Grant	0	0	23,000	23,000
Sensory Loss Resource Centre Sales	0	0	3,585	3,585
Transport	6,650	0	0	6,650
	<u>20,185</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>27,090</u>	<u>47,275</u>
c.) Other Trading Activities				
Fund Raising	11,649	0	0	11,649
Room Hire	45,670	0	0	45,670
	<u>57,319</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>57,319</u>
d.) Investment Income				
Interest Income	2,052	0	0	2,052
Dividend Income	14,284	0	0	14,284
	<u>16,336</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,336</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

4. Analysis of Receipts of Government Grants

The charity received a single local government grant from BCP Council for the provision of a Sight and Hearing Resource Centre and a Community Support service under a Service Level Agreement.

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Provision of Sight & Hearing Resource Centre and Community Support Service	23,000	23,000
Total	<u>23,000</u>	<u>23,000</u>

5. Donated Goods, Facilities and Services

The accounting policies for the recognition and valuation of donated goods, facilities and services are set out in notes 2.1h and 2.1i.

No seconded staff or property was provided to the charity. No other donated goods or services were received during the year (2023/24 £0).

Bournemouth Blind Society also benefits from the hours given each week by unpaid volunteers. Volunteers' roles include befrienders, activity assistants, guiders, Resource Centre assistants and fundraisers.

During the year to 31 March 2025 the time given by volunteers averaged at 88 (2024: 88) hours per week. Evaluated at the National Living Wage rate for the year under review, the total time given by the volunteers equates to £50,015 (2024: £45,556). The contribution of unpaid volunteers has not been recognised in the accounts.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

6. Analysis of Expenditure

6.1 Expenditure 2024/25

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024/25 £
a.) Raising Funds				
Fund Raising Costs	5,220	0	0	5,220
	<u>5,220</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,220</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Canteen Costs	10,117	0	0	10,117
Cleaning Costs	1,124	0	60	1,184
Emotional Support Services	0	0	342	342
Depreciation Expense	0	10,286	0	10,286
Leisure Activities	1,208	0	0	1,208
Minibus Costs	2,993	0	0	2,993
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,189	0	1,189	2,378
Property Maintenance	822	0	822	1,644
Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	2,471	0	2,471	4,942
Salaries & Staff Costs	83,433	0	52,174	135,607
Sensory Loss Resource Centre	0	0	1,410	1,410
Subscriptions	222	0	94	316
Telephone Costs	1,002	0	1,002	2,004
Travel Costs	132	0	630	762
Utility Costs	7,346	0	2,776	10,122
	<u>112,059</u>	<u>10,286</u>	<u>62,970</u>	<u>185,315</u>
c.) Other				
Bank Charges	185	0	185	370
Independent Examination Fees	960	0	960	1,920
Insurance Costs	1,445	0	1,445	2,890
Investment Management Charges	3,551	3,551	0	7,102
Legal & Professional Fees	92	0	104	196
	<u>6,233</u>	<u>3,551</u>	<u>2,694</u>	<u>12,478</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

6.2. Expenditure 2023/24

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023/24 £
a.) Raising Funds				
Fund Raising Costs	4,819	0	0	4,819
	<u>4,819</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,819</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Canteen Costs	9,238	0	0	9,238
Cleaning Costs	1,064	0	50	1,114
Emotional Support Services	0	0	444	444
Depreciation Expense	0	9,763	0	9,763
Leisure Activities	1,106	0	0	1,106
Minibus Costs	2,997	0	0	2,997
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,488	0	1,160	2,648
Property Maintenance	400	1,619	394	2,413
Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	3,332	0	3,332	6,664
Salaries & Staff Costs	75,075	0	49,373	124,448
Sensory Loss Resource Centre	0	232	1,546	1,778
Subscriptions	166	0	62	228
Telephone Costs	1,007	0	1,007	2,014
Travel Costs	109	0	848	957
Utility Costs	5,681	0	1,992	7,673
	<u>101,663</u>	<u>11,614</u>	<u>60,208</u>	<u>173,485</u>
c.) Other				
Bank Charges	207	0	207	414
Independent Examination Fees	930	0	930	1,860
Insurance Costs	1,565	0	1,565	3,130
Investment Management Charges	3,389	3,389	0	6,778
Legal & Professional Fees	98	0	147	245
	<u>6,189</u>	<u>3,389</u>	<u>2,849</u>	<u>12,427</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

7. Fees for the Examination of the Accounts

The surplus of income over expenditure is stated after providing for the following fees:

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Independent examiner's Fees	1,920	1,860
Total	<u>1,920</u>	<u>1,860</u>

8. Paid Employees

8.1 Staff Costs

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Salaries and wages	129,062	119,592
Social security costs	4,233	2,799
Pension costs (defined contribution plan)	2,312	2,057
Other employee benefits	0	0
Total	<u>135,607</u>	<u>124,448</u>

No employees received employee benefits (including employer pension costs) for the year of more than £60,000.

Key management personnel received employee benefits of £46,507 (2024: £42,227) during the year.

The holiday year is aligned with the financial year. At 31 March 2025 there were no holiday pay accruals to carry forward (2024 £0).

There were no redundancy or ex-gratia payments made during the year (2024: £0)

8.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work	2024/25 Number	2023/24 Number
Fundraising	1	1
Charitable Activities	4	3
Governance	1	1
Other	1	2
Total	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

9. Defined Contribution Pension Scheme

The charity started a stakeholder pension scheme with NEST, which is a defined contribution pension scheme, on 1 January 2017 and is Pension Compliant.

An amount of £2,312 (2024:£2,057) is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as the charity's contribution to the scheme. The Society made the minimum contribution of 3% throughout the year.

The contribution is allocated between restricted and unrestricted funds according to the main role of the employee concerned. The contributions made for the employee who is primarily employed under the banner of Governance is shared equally between restricted and unrestricted funds.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

10.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost at 01 April 2024	206,376	35,923	92,221	334,520
Additions	0	0	1,726	1,726
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Cost at 31 March 2025	<u>206,376</u>	<u>35,923</u>	<u>93,947</u>	<u>336,246</u>

10.2 Depreciation

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	Total
	Straight Line	Straight Line	Straight Line	
Basis	0%	20%	25%	
Rate	£	£	£	£
Depreciation at 01 April 2024	0	35,923	73,070	108,993
Charge	0	0	10,286	10,286
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Depreciation at 31 March 2025	<u>0</u>	<u>35,923</u>	<u>83,356</u>	<u>119,279</u>

A zero rate of depreciation is charged to freehold property as the property is maintained to such a standard that the estimated residual value is not less than cost.

10.3 Net book value

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
<i>Net Book Value at 01 April 2024</i>	<u>206,376</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19,151</u>	<u>225,527</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2025	<u>206,376</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,591</u>	<u>216,967</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

11. Investment Assets

	Treasury Stock £	Shares & Cash £	Investment Trusts £	Total £
Market Value at 01 April 2024	34,883	54,501	455,137	544,521
Additions at cost	0	0	48,903	48,903
Disposal proceeds	34,961	5,224	0	40,185
Gains/(Losses)	78	4,636	11,445	16,159
Market Value at 31 March 2025	0	53,913	515,485	569,398

12. Stocks

	Stock for resale £	Fundraising Activities - Bar Stock:	Stock for resale £
Charitable Activities - Resource Centre:			
Opening Stock at 01 April 2024	6,350		178
Added in period	1,506		464
Expensed in period	1,410		487
Impaired	0		0
Closing Stock at 31 March 2025	6,446		155

13. Debtors and Prepayments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 25 £	Total 31 Mar 24 £
Trade debtors	270	0	0	270	0
Prepayments and accrued income	7,112	0	2,895	10,007	5,640
	7,382	0	2,895	10,277	5,640

14. Creditors and Accruals

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 25 £	Total 31 Mar 24 £
Trade creditors	67	0	67	134	31
Accruals	3,484	0	1,318	4,802	4,226
Taxation and social security	1,088	0	787	1,875	1,675
	4,639	0	2,172	6,811	5,932

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

15. Cash at Bank and in Hand

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 31 Mar 25	Total 31 Mar 24
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at Bank	16,043	27,067	0	43,110	108,824
Petty Cash	540	0	0	540	540
	<u>16,583</u>	<u>27,067</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>43,650</u>	<u>109,364</u>

16. Events After the End of the Reporting Period

There were no events after the reporting period that require adjustment of the accounts.

17. Charity Funds

17.1 General Funds

General Funds include a Revaluation Reserve amounting to £26,270 (2023/24: £35,845).

17.2. Designated Funds

The designated funds are unrestricted funds and represent monies set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes.

	Balance 31 Mar 24	Gains/ (Losses)	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 25
	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Fund	206,376	0	0	0	206,376
Continuity Reserve Fund	264,968	8,079	3,551	15,203	284,699
Building Maintenance Fund	69,312	0	9,389	0	59,923
Vehicle Replacement Fund	50,000	0	0	0	50,000
Resource Centre Equipment Fund	4,769	0	0	0	4,769
Equipment Fund	2,626	0	897	1,771	3,500
	<u>598,051</u>	<u>8,079</u>	<u>13,837</u>	<u>16,974</u>	<u>609,267</u>

The balance on the Capital Fund is the book value of the Freehold Property, as explained in the Director's report (section H).

The Continuity Reserve Fund, which includes a Revaluation Reserve amounting to £26,270 (2023/24: £35,845), is approximately half the value of the Investments held at year end.

The balance in the Building Maintenance Fund represents the net book value of items bought under this heading, plus sums set aside for anticipated property upkeep over the next 2 - 3 years. £30,534 is held as investments, £20,000 held as cash and £9,389 in assets.

The balance in the Vehicle Replacement Fund is the net book value of the minibus (£0), plus £50,000, held as investments, toward a replacement vehicle within the next 3 - 4 years.

The balance in the Resource Centre Equipment Fund is the balance of sums set aside to update and upgrade the demonstration equipment held in the Resource Centre over the next 2 years. This fund is held in cash

The balance in the Equipment Fund represents the net book value of items bought under this heading, plus sums set aside for anticipated replacement office and/or catering equipment over the next 1 - 2 years. This fund is held as cash plus assets

17.3. Restricted Funds

The Trustees have identified four services as being in receipt of restricted funds. The services provide:

Resource Centre - This is an on-site centre for individuals to visit and view/try out gadgets and technology to enhance the life of those with a visual and/or hearing impairment.

Community Support - Designed to help people with a visual impairment adapt their living styles

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to remain independent in their own home. This may be as simple as requesting large print utility bills through to organising simple home adaptations. Most referrals come from BCP Council Adult Social Care.

Emotional Support - Many who lose their sight find it difficult to come to terms with the resulting emotional changes in their life. This service is provided by a qualified counsellor who helps the individual on their journey to acceptance. This is a free service to any person with sight loss, but donations are invited.

Befriending - A service offered to any visually impaired person who lives alone, with little human interaction. Many service users are housebound and simply need company for an hour or so each week. The service is provided by volunteers and income is made up of donations.

Movements on the individual restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance 31 Mar 24	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 25
	£	£	£	£	£
Resource Centre	5,219	13,826	32,912	20,210	6,343
Community Support	0	11,500	18,069	6,963	394
Emotional Support Services	0	470	13,622	13,584	432
Befriending Service	0	150	1,061	911	0
	<u>5,219</u>	<u>25,946</u>	<u>65,664</u>	<u>41,668</u>	<u>7,169</u>

The balance in the restricted funds represents current assets (cash, stock and debtors) held as a result of transactions outstanding at the end of the financial year, less the liabilities incurred by the same funds outstanding at year end.

Expenses are split between unrestricted and restricted funds as follows:

Specific costs	100% to relevant department
Staff Costs	Allocated by main work department and 50:50 for senior manager
Utilities	75:25
Other costs	50:50

17.4 Transfers between funds

2025	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £
Transfers between Funds were made as follows:			
Unrestricted to Restricted deficit for the year	(41,668)		41,668
Unrestricted to Designated additions/disposals of investments	(15,203)	15,203	
Unrestricted to Designated provisions amended in year	(1,771)	1,771	
	<u>(58,642)</u>	<u>16,974</u>	<u>41,668</u>
2024	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £
Transfers between Funds were made as follows:			
Unrestricted to Restricted deficit for the year	(36,986)		36,986
Unrestricted to Designated additions/disposals of investments	(3,661)	3,661	
Unrestricted to Designated provisions amended in year	(10,000)	10,000	
	<u>(50,647)</u>	<u>13,661</u>	<u>36,986</u>

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18. Transactions with Trustees and Related Parties

18.1. Trustee remuneration and benefits

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity.

18.2 Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred.

18.3. Transactions with Related Parties

No Trustee received any direct or indirect financial benefit from any transactions undertaken by the Charity.

During the year £nil (2024: £nil) was donated to the charity by Trustees.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1114570

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2024

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1114570

COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 05792657

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The Board of Trustees has pleasure in presenting their Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Chairman's Report

This year we are pleased to have seen a gradual increase in the numbers of long standing Members attending the Centre as well as welcoming several new sight impaired people who have joined the Society. Whilst we had hoped the attendees at our Social Groups would return to pre-covid levels we realise that whilst some of our Members are happy and indeed eager to maintain contact with the Society by telephone their life patterns have changed and they will not venture back to group activities. Our Newsletters continue to prove a very popular means of retaining a link with our Members, Supporters and Volunteers.

We have re-instated the vast majority of activities for the Members and fund raising events for Members, Supporters and Friends. The quarterly Quiz Nights are the most popular by far. The Trustees are most grateful to the Chief Executive who devises the quiz together with the Staff who give up their time to help organise, attend these events and make them such a success. Fund raising continues to be challenging in a difficult economic climate as does the recruitment of suitable Volunteers and Trustees.

This year we have also had the uncertainty of local government funding issues and the possible impact on the Charity. The Trustees are thankful we have their continued support for the forthcoming year.

The Trustees are extremely aware that our Chief Executive and Staff are pivotal to the smooth and efficient day to day running of the Society and therefore The Board are constantly reviewing the best management of our financial reserves so that the aims and objectives of the Society are maintained for the benefit of our members.

Review of Activities

Bournemouth Blind Society exists "to assist and benefit, but not with direct financial assistance, people with a visual impairment and/or hearing impairment living within the Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole area and to promote public awareness of sight and/or hearing loss." Alternative ways of delivering the assistance and benefit mentioned were introduced as a result of the 2020 Covid pandemic, many of which are still in use.

As ever, our activities are designed, where possible, to:

- reduce isolation;
- retain or improve skills;
- give a sense of well-being and belonging;
- maintain independence.

We aim to deliver all our services in a cheerful, purposeful way. Many of the Members refer to our Centre in Moordown as their "second home" and the people they meet there as their "extended family". A number also deem the Centre to be their "happy place".

Many of our Members are older and a number live in their own home, often alone as their life partners have predeceased them. A number are still uneasy about allowing people into their

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homes. The need to re-build the trust that existed pre-Covid is still on-going and is taking time and commitment, but gradually bridges are being re-built.

The loss of sight often results in a highly emotional time, which was exacerbated during lockdown. A number of Members are still experiencing an emotional impact as a result of lockdown. Spirits which appear high during a one-hour phone call can often mask the reality of not coping very well. As an organisation, we continue to try and encourage those Members who are still emotionally insecure to take part in activities, even if only an occasional phone call.

Social Activities

The Social Groups run each Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. The groups are approximately half the size of the pre-Covid groups as a number of previous Members have either passed away; are now too ill to attend; or have decided to remain in relative isolation. The hours spent at the Centre each day are gradually increasing and all groups take place in Rooper Hall to allow for greater distancing and air circulation.

On Mondays and Thursdays, a two-course lunch is served, followed by some form of engagement with the Members. In the year under review this has all been provided by the Staff and Volunteers and has included quizzes, word games, music appreciation, story time and memory boxes.

The Tuesday Group remains as a breakfast club and attracts a number of more active Members who are only seen in this group. They all feel very much 'at home' among the group and this is often the opportunity to discuss problems they are each facing or the opportunity for interaction with the specialist services provided by the Society.

During the year, the monthly Walking Group resumed during the dryer, warmer months. This included walks by the sea, around Christchurch, in the New Forest and in Poole Park. Through the summer months, the Charity provided a driver, together with a sighted escort, and the use of its minibus for the Dorset Visually Impaired Cricket Team during their trips to away fixtures.

Practical Support in the Community

Face to face interventions are available for all support services provided by the Society. Uptake for home visits has been sketchy and limited as many clients still struggle with the thought of a visitor bringing Covid or other germs into their home. However, the staff are persevering trying to restore a friendly face to each service.

The Society received a grant from BCP Council toward providing a Resource Centre for both sight impairment and hearing impairment, together with a Community Support service. The relationship between the staff of BCP's Adult Social Care Sight & Hearing Team and the Society's staff remains favourable and as strong as ever.

The Service Level Agreement for the Sight and Hearing Resource Centre is to open for 8 hours each week. The Trustees have made the decision to increase this by opening the Resource Centre from Monday to Friday, 10am to 1pm (15 hours per week). The number of visitors to the Centre has increased during 2023/24, but still not to the pre-Covid levels. Callers (whether over the phone or face to face) have wanted information and advice about products to help them live independently. Any callers who needed help that the Society was unable to provide were signposted to relevant alternative organisations. During the year a total of 182 (2023 170) people visited the Resource Centre, with 121 (2023 117) phone calls. Visits took an average of 31 (2023 31) minutes each, with phone calls averaging 14 (2023 11) minutes each. Numbers are still considerably below pre-Covid figures, partly due to a greater reliance by potential callers asking their family to search for advice/equipment via the internet.

During the current year, the number of face-to-face befriending visits has increased, but almost 75% of Befriending is still over the telephone, especially those contacted by paid staff, who have other roles within the Society. The Befriending Service currently has 22 registered befriendees (2022/23: 25), but it is known that a number of Volunteers continue to phone Members who are not registered with the service. Finding suitable befriendees is proving

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difficult, as a long-term commitment is required.

The Emotional Support Service continued to provide a valuable resource to anyone of any age group who is experiencing emotional, psychological or relationship difficulties arising from sight loss. As with all other services, face to face sessions are offered, but a number still want to receive the support either by telephone or via video conferencing, all in line with the recommendations made by BACP (The British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy). The Emotional Support given is much in demand and this service has continued to be provided free of charge, with clients asked to consider donating where possible. During the year, 42 clients (2022/23: 37) have received support from this service. At the year end, the case load is 21 cases (2022/23: 19), with a further 2 referrals waiting for their initial assessment.

The Assistive Technology suite has been available most Tuesdays throughout the year, plus support has continued over telephone and video links. A total of 22 clients (2022/23: 15) have received help/tuition in Assistive Technology.

Awareness

The Society is keen to work with local people, groups and businesses to help them understand the needs of the visually impaired. A sight awareness session was delivered to the passenger Special Assistance team at Bournemouth Airport. Talks on both sight and hearing awareness, together with equipment demonstrations have been given to the Kinson Ladies Friendly Group; Stour Power Women's Institute; the 21st Bournemouth Cub Scouts; Ferndown Library Blind Support Group. A presentation on The Society's history was delivered to the Southern Archaeological Society and the Winton Forum.

The bi-monthly newsletter was published 6 times in the year. The newsletter is available in many formats including large print, e-mail and audio on CD or USB stick. It provides useful information to the Members, together with details of the services available at Bournemouth Blind Society and its fundraising events. An e-newsletter is also produced; aimed primarily at supporters it advertises fundraising opportunities, invites potential Volunteers and informs supporters of the ongoing work of the Society.

Fundraising

The number of face-to-face Fundraising Events held during the year has been limited to our ever-popular quarterly Quiz Nights and both a Summer Concert and a Christmas Concert provided by Wessex Chorus, together with an evening at Druitt Hall, Christchurch as part of the CLAC (Christchurch Living Advent Calendar).

Hiring out of the Rooper Hall for private parties at weekends continues and the hall has been in use many weekends of the year, along with regular lets on Wednesdays to the NHS Diabetic education programme and other weekday evenings to various groups. The Training School hires rooms in the main building using them during the daytime, in the evenings and occasional weekends.

Funds have been raised through pink elephant collection pots placed in local shops, although the sums raised are being reduced as people stop using cash for transactions.

Bournemouth Blind Society received donations from various sources including "Friends" of the Society; Bournemouth Rotary Club; Christchurch Rotary Club; Creekmoor Travel Club; St Martin's Trust and the Holdenhurst Charity. Donations received in Memory of deceased Members was £762 (2022/23 £2,100).

Further donations were received from numerous other generous supporters, both organisations and individuals.

A number of supporters also provided the Society with their time and services free of charge. Where significant, these have been identified in the accounts. The energy and time provided by Volunteers must not go unnoticed. The majority of the Society's volunteers have been with the organisation for many years and their services are still given freely, willingly and with a

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smile.

Buildings

The Society owns the land and buildings it operates from, due to the foresight of supporters many years ago. The building was purpose built as a residential block but has since been converted into an Activity and Social Centre. The building fabric is maintained to a high standard but being almost 100 years old need constant attention. The Senior Management endeavour to only divert funds to maintenance when absolutely essential.

Trustees

Like so many charities, the Society relies heavily upon the generous donation of time by its Trustees. Their role is referred to elsewhere in this annual report. The work of the Trustees is often behind the scenes and goes on unseen by the majority of those who interact with the Society in whatever guise that may be.

Recruitment of suitable people to work as Trustees is slow and the search for new Trustees continues.

Staff

With a mixture of work patterns to suit operational needs, it is rare for all staff to be on site at the same time. Regular team sharing times and social events keep the team spirit high and means that all staff are aware of what is happening with the Society and its Members. The number of hours worked each week ranges from 15 to 34 hours. All staff are paid at least the Living Wage Foundation minimum wage, with rates reviewed to commence on 1st April each year.

The staff regularly go 'over and above' to support the Members and frequently attend out-of-hours functions to support the Society, at no cost to the Society. Bournemouth Blind Society is blessed with a dedicated, long-serving workforce who are committed to providing the best services possible to the blind and partially sighted people they come across.

The Trustees/Directors wish to record their sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to the benefit of the Society, whether Staff, Volunteer, or Supporter. They are all essential parts of the organisation.

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A. Reference and Administrative Information

The Bournemouth Blind Society was incorporated in England and Wales on 24 April 2006 as Bournemouth Society for the Visually Impaired. The change of name to Bournemouth Blind Society was recorded by Companies House on 6 March 2015. The company number is 05792657. Bournemouth Blind Society is also registered with the Charity Commission, number 1114570.

The Society operates from its registered address, 5 Victoria Park Road, Bournemouth, BH9 2RB.

Trustees

During the year and up to the date of this report the following have served as Trustees, who are also Directors of the Company:

Mrs Madeleine Avis	Chair Board of Trustees
Dr Rodney Frederick Cooper	Chair Finance Committee
Mrs Ann Elizabeth Copland	Co-opted 6 th June 2023
Mr Martin Simon Goldman	
Mrs Barbara Lauraine Russell	
Mrs Margaret Joyce Vousden	Deputy Chair Board of Trustees

The Trustees/Directors are also the Members of the company.

The Trustees/Directors due to retire by rotation at the AGM in June 2024 are Mrs Ann Elizabeth Copland and Mrs Margaret Joyce Vousden both of whom offer themselves for re-election.

The Company Secretary and Chief Executive of the charity is Mr Philip Tarrant.

On 31 March 2024 there were one hundred and ninety four (2023: 209) registered blind and partially sighted users on the society's register, which only records those for whom a signed GDPR consent form is on file. A number of visually impaired users who access services, choose not to be included on the register. It is estimated the total pool of users is in the region of four hundred and fifty people.

Principal Advisers

BANKERS

Barclays Bank plc
Leicester, LE87 2BB

INVESTMENT MANAGERS

Redmayne Bentley
139 Commercial Rd, Poole BH14 0JD

ACCOUNTANTS

TC Group
10 Bridge Street, Christchurch, BH23 1EF

B. Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Bournemouth Blind Society is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the company being wound up each voting Member is required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. There were six voting Members at the balance sheet date. The operations of Bournemouth Blind Society are governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which were agreed on 24 April 2006, amended by Special Resolution on 22 October 2009, amended by Special Resolution on 11 July 2013, amended by Special Resolution to change the name on 1 September 2014, amended by Special Resolution to update the Objectives on 3 June 2019 and amended by Special Resolution on 4 October 2021.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Board of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association one third of the members of the Board of Trustees must retire each year with those being longest in office retiring at the next

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Annual General Meeting. A retiring member of the Board will be eligible to seek for re-election. The Board has the authority to co-opt members to its number to fill any vacancy left open at any time. Members of the Board are elected at Annual General Meeting by a show of hands.

Trustee Induction and Training

Trustees are sought to bring a spread of skills, knowledge and Diversity to the Society.

All new trustees receive a pack containing:

- 1 Memorandum and Articles of Association
- 2 The Charity Commission's guide "The Essential Trustee"
- 3 Latest financial statements
- 4 Literature outlining the work of the Charity
- 5 The Charity's policies handbook

Organisational Structure

The Bournemouth Blind Society Board of Trustees may number between three and twelve members. At present there are six trustees. Responsibility for the day to day running of the Society is delegated to the Bournemouth Blind Society Chief Executive and through him to the paid Staff and Volunteers. Budgetary control rests with the delegated Finance Committee.

The Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee each meet four times a year, or as often as is necessary. Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings are submitted to the Board of Trustees.

Risk Management

The Trustees actively encourage the senior management to review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated and retaining sufficient restricted funds combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have implemented a Risk Management system which determines a pattern of regular reviews to reduce risk to a minimal level.

The Policies of the Society are written, reviewed by the Trustees, and published with a view to protecting the beneficiaries of the charity, as well as the Volunteers, Trustees and paid Staff. The policies lay down the principles for the interaction between paid Staff, Volunteers and Beneficiaries, reducing risk to an acceptable level, thus protecting the Charity.

The greatest risks the Charity currently faces are:

- the lack of suitable Volunteers to drive the Society's minibus which is putting a strain on paid Staff;
- the need to recruit more Trustees to keep the Board quorate;
- the limited level of fundraising income coming into the Society.

Pay policy for senior staff

The trustees consider the Chief Executive as the key management personnel of the charity, in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis.

The pay of the charity's chief executive is reviewed regularly and normally increased in accordance with average earnings. The remuneration is bench-marked with a limited number of local charities of a similar size and activity to ensure that the remuneration set is fair and not out of line with that generally paid for similar roles.

C. Public Benefit

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity and acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the Charity has achieved this are provided earlier in this report, under the heading "Review of

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Activities”.

The Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission’s published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011 before deciding what activities the Charity should undertake. They do not consider that any of the charity’s activities cause any significant detriment or harm and believe that any private benefit arising from the activities is incidental.

D. Custodian Trusteeship

No assets were held as custodian trustee during the reporting period.

E. Objectives

The objective for which the company was established is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Following the merge of Local Government from three local councils to one, it was agreed to update the Objectives clause of the Society, by Special Resolution, on 3 June 2019.

The Charity’s newly adopted objects (“the Objects”) are:-

- (a) to assist and benefit, but not with direct financial assistance, people with a visual impairment and/or hearing impairment living within the Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole area.
- (b) to promote public awareness of sight and/or hearing loss.

F. Achievements and Performance

Reports on the achievements and activities of the Bournemouth Blind Society for the year to 31 March 2024 are contained on pages 1 to 4 of this report.

The Investment Portfolio has a progressive risk and balanced investment objective. The total return on all investments, net of fees, was +8.44%. This compares with the Arc Sterling Growth benchmark of +9.00% for the same period

G. Financial Review

The 2023/24 Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for Bournemouth Blind Society and the Balance Sheet at 31 March 2024, together with associated explanatory notes, are given on pages 12 to 26.

The Society’s income for 2023/24 was £134,834, a 39% reduction on that raised in 2022/23 (£219,893). The income for 2023/24 includes £512 received as legacies (2022/23 £112,601).

Expenditure totalled £190,731 and was about 1.5% higher to that incurred in 2022/23 (£188,114).

Despite continuing financial management and cost control, the overall performance in 2023/24 was an operating deficit of £55,897 (a surplus of £31,779 in 2022/23). The lack of legacy income seriously impacted income and the net operating situation. The Chief Executive, Staff, and all concerned with the running of the Society are aware of their responsibilities and fully acknowledge the need to control expenditure and increase income into the Society.

Investment Policy

The Directors have previously agreed that, in times of any surplus, the monies would be retained in an investment portfolio to maximise investment income. In times of overspend, however, equivalent funds may have to be withdrawn. The Investment Policy aims to not let the value of investments fall below a figure commensurate with twelve months total expenditure

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of the charity. The Investments are managed externally in a progressive risk balanced portfolio and the Trustees receive a performance report from the Fund Manager on an annual basis.

H. Reserves

The reserves of the Society fall into three different categories: Unrestricted Funds; Designated Funds; Restricted Funds.

Unrestricted Funds represent those balances that can be used for any purpose that allows the Charity to achieve its stated objectives. The income is received with no restrictions placed by the giver as to how it may be used.

Designated Funds are determined by the Trustees and are amounts set aside from Unrestricted Incomes for specific purposes. The Trustees continue to carefully manage the Designated Funds:

- The Society is fortunate to own, freehold, the buildings from which it operates. The valuation of this is held in a designated Capital Fund thereby ensuring that the Unrestricted Reserves are the unencumbered ones.
- The aim of the Directors/Trustees is to ensure that the charity could survive through any period of unexpected expenditure or serious reduction in income and, consistent with that goal, previously established a Continuity Reserve Fund. The level of reserves retained within that Fund equates to approximately half of the market valuation of investments at 31 March 2024.
- The Building Maintenance Fund records the net book value of items purchased under this heading in previous financial years, together with the balance of transfers made in anticipation of probable work needed on the building over the next 2 - 3 years.
- The Society owns a minibus used to transport Members to and from various activities. The Vehicle Replacement Fund records the net book value of the minibus, together with sums set aside to purchase a replacement. During the year a further sum of £10,000 was transferred to this fund toward a replacement minibus within the next 3 - 4 years.
- An essential service provided by the Society is the Resource Room, used to demonstrate the equipment and devices available to help those with sight and/or hearing loss lead meaningful and independent lives. The Resource Centre Equipment Fund records the balance remaining of the initial transfer after the purchase of demonstration equipment and will be used over the next 12 – 24 months.
- The Equipment Fund records the net book value of items purchased under this heading in the year, together with the balance of any transfers made. The fund is to provide for replacement office and catering equipment over the next 12 – 24 months.

For movements on these funds, see note 17.2.

Restricted Funds shows income given to the Society for specific purposes, stated by the giver, as listed in the Notes to the Accounts 2.4b. Movement on restricted funds is recorded in note 17.3.

The Trustees believe the reserves are more than adequate to maintain the Society through any further period of shutdown for any reason. They are keeping the situation under review and will act to implement any changes that become necessary to ensure the continuation of the Charity.

Total reserves at the end of the year were £885,648 (2023: £905,650), split between the funds as: Unrestricted Fund £282,378; Designated Fund £598,051; Restricted Fund £5,219. The level of Reserves held as tangible assets are £225,527 (2023: £235,289).

I. Plans for Future Periods

All of the services provided by the Society are fully open to any blind or partially sighted person, together with those with a hearing loss. However, there is still a large degree of hesitancy amongst the target group of potential members following various Covid and Flu outbreaks. The

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largest part of future planning revolves around attracting more members for the Social Groups, clients for the support services offered, Volunteers to help run those groups and services and funding to help financially support the Charity.

The Society will continue to focus on the provision of services to the blind and partially sighted community, with an emphasis on reaching out to more people. RNIB have estimated that by 2025 there will be in excess of 16,000 visually impaired people living within the BCP Council area. Connecting with more of this group, providing services and activities that support and enable them is essential for the growth of the charity.

Being aware of local needs and provisions are an essential part of the development of the charity and a full review of service provision against perceived and known need is taking place in 2024/25.

The BCP Adult Social Care team working with the sensory impaired now covers Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and it is anticipated that the Community Support service will have to grow to cover the entire area. The number of referrals from this source is currently very limited as the BCP team is trying hard to recruit further ROVI's (Rehabilitation Officer for the Visually Impaired) to cover the larger area (at present there are only 2 ROVI's for the whole area compared to 6 before the amalgamation of local Councils).

Actively promoting the Resource Centre and Befriending Service will initially take place through communications with local optometrists/opticians and social prescribers. Promotions to the general public will follow.

The Trustees will work closely with the Chief Executive to determine what the future provision of services will look like following the review and all scenarios that allow the Charity's objectives to be met will be explored.

J. Trustees' Responsibilities in the Preparation of Financial Statements

Company law requires the directors of the charity (namely the Trustees) to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus/deficit of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

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

K. Accountants

For the year under review, the Trustees have chosen to apply the statutory requirement for an Independent Examination. TC Group has been appointed as Independent Examiners for the year to 31 March 2024.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2024

L. Method of Preparation of Accounts

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

This report was approved by the Board on 10th June 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Madeleine Avis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Madeleine Avis
Chair of Trustees

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Bournemouth Blind Society

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 12 to 26.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also directors of Bournemouth Blind Society for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter except that referred to in the previous paragraph has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Dean Pullen FCCA
For and on behalf of

TC Group

TC Group

.....
10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

Dated: 20/8/24

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2024
SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023/24 £	Total 2022/23 £
Income and endowments from:	2.1/3					
Donations and legacies		13,904	0	0	13,904	128,797
Charitable activities		20,185	0	27,090	47,275	38,345
Other trading activities		57,319	0	0	57,319	38,022
Investments		16,336	0	0	16,336	14,729
Total		107,744	0	27,090	134,834	219,893
Expenditure on:	2.2/6					
Raising Funds		4,819	0	0	4,819	3,648
Charitable Activities		101,663	11,614	60,208	173,485	171,609
Other		6,189	3,389	2,849	12,427	12,857
Total		112,671	15,003	63,057	190,731	188,114
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains/ (losses) on investment assets		(4,927)	(15,003)	(35,967)	(55,897)	31,779
Net gains/(losses) on investment assets	11	17,948	17,947	0	35,895	(43,829)
Net income/(expenditure)		13,021	2,944	(35,967)	(20,002)	(12,050)
Transfers between funds	17.4	(50,647)	13,661	36,986	0	0
Other recognised gains/(loses)		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement In Funds for the year		(37,626)	16,605	1,019	(20,002)	(12,050)
Reconciliation Of Funds						
Total Funds brought forward at 1 April 2023		320,004	581,446	4,200	905,650	917,700
Total Funds carried forward at 31 March 2024		282,378	598,051	5,219	885,648	905,650

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 14 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2024

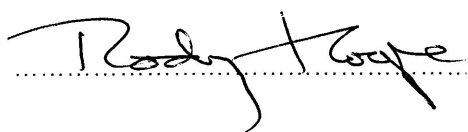
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023/24 £	Total 2022/23 £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Assets	10	0	225,527	0	225,527	235,289
Investments	11	212,400	332,121	0	544,521	501,304
		212,400	557,648	0	770,048	736,593
Current Assets						
Stocks	12	178	0	6,350	6,528	4,886
Debtors	13	4,864	0	776	5,640	7,920
Cash at Bank and in Hand	15	68,961	40,403	0	109,364	162,376
		74,003	40,403	7,126	121,532	175,182
Current Liabilities						
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	14	4,025	0	1,907	5,932	6,125
Net Current Assets		69,978	40,403	5,219	115,600	169,057
Total assets less current liabilities		282,378	598,051	5,219	885,648	905,650
Total net assets or liabilities		282,378	598,051	5,219	885,648	905,650
Funds of the Charity						
Unrestricted Funds	17.1	282,378	0	0	282,378	320,004
Designated Funds	17.2	0	598,051	0	598,051	581,446
Restricted Funds	17.3	0	0	5,219	5,219	4,200
Total Funds		282,378	598,051	5,219	885,648	905,650

The directors are satisfied that that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Approved by the Directors on 10th June 2024 and signed on their behalf by
Dr. Rodney Cooper,
Director



BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

1.1 Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, as modified by the revaluation of investments, and include the results of the charity's operations which are described in the Directors' and Trustees' reports and all of which are continuing. All amounts are shown in pounds sterling. The charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Companies Act 2006;
- the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), issued on 16 July 2014;
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) as applied from 1 April 2015;
- the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast any significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. Given the current level of reserves the Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity has significant resources and as such the financial statements have been prepared under the going concern basis.

1.3 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

1.4 Material prior year errors

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 Income

a.) Recognition of income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the charity becomes legally entitled to the resources;
- the Directors have sufficient certainty they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be quantified with reasonable accuracy

b.) Offsetting

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross. Further, there has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities

c.) Grants and donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

d.) Legacies

Legacies are included in Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is probable, that is: when there has been grant of probate; the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

e.) Government grants

The charity has received a local government grant during the year. See note 4.

f.) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

g.) Contractual income and performance related grants

This is only included once the charity has provided the related goods, or services have been delivered.

h.) Donated goods

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries are measured at fair value at the time of receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stock at distribution.

i.) Donated Services and Facilities

Donated services and facilities are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended when the service or facility is consumed immediately) where the benefit to the charity can be measured reliably. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

j.) Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in note 5 to the accounts.

k.) Income from interest and dividends

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

l.) Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised and unrealised gains and losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

2.2 Expenditure and Liabilities

a.) Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs 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.

b.) Governance and support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

c.) Redundancy cost

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

d.) Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

e.) Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

f) Value added tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.3 Assets

a.) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

The Trustees believe that a more accurate picture of assets used is gained by depreciating assets over a given number of years. Rates and methods used are disclosed in note 10

b.) Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. Cumulative unrealised gains on investments are taken to revaluation reserves.

c.) Stock

Stock consists of goods for resale in order to raise funds to further the Charity's objectives and is measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.

d.) Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

e.) 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 of value.

2.4 Other Accounting Policies

a) Taxation

Bournemouth Blind Society is not liable for corporation tax by reason of its charitable objects and status.

b.) Restricted Funds

The restricted funds represent monies given for specific purposes. The Trustees have identified the following services as being in receipt of restricted funds:

- Sight and Hearing Resource Centre – supported by a grant from BCP Council and sales in the Resource Centre.
- Community Support Service – supported by a grant from BCP Council.
- Emotional Support Services – donations given by clients specifically toward the cost of the service.
- Befriending Services – donations given by clients specifically toward the cost of the service.

Movements on Restricted Funds are shown in note 17.3.

c.) Unrestricted and Designated Funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity represent the accumulated reserves of the charity which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further the objects of the charity.

The designated funds are unrestricted funds and represent monies set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes. Movements on the Designated Funds are shown in note 17.2.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

3. Analysis of Income and Endowments

3.1 Income and Endowments 2023/24

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023/24 £
a.) Donations and Legacies				
Donations and Gifts	11,634	0	0	11,634
Gift Aid	846	0	0	846
Legacies	512	0	0	512
Friends of the Society	912	0	0	912
	<u>13,904</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>13,904</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Befriending Services	0	0	160	160
Canteen Sales	11,144	0	0	11,144
Emotional Support Services	0	0	345	345
Leisure Activities & Events	2,391	0	0	2,391
Local Government Grant	0	0	23,000	23,000
Sensory Loss Resource Centre Sales	0	0	3,585	3,585
Transport	6,650	0	0	6,650
	<u>20,185</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>27,090</u>	<u>47,275</u>
c.) Other Trading Activities				
Fund Raising	11,649	0	0	11,649
Room Hire	45,670	0	0	45,670
	<u>57,319</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>57,319</u>
d.) Investment Income				
Interest Income	2,052	0	0	2,052
Dividend Income	14,284	0	0	14,284
	<u>16,336</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,336</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

3.2. Income and Endowments 2022/23

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022/23 £
a.) Donations and Legacies				
Donations and Gifts	14,204	0	0	14,204
Gift Aid	1,110	0	0	1,110
Legacies	112,601	0	0	112,601
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	0	0	0	0
Friends of the Society	882	0	0	882
	<u>128,797</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>128,797</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Befriending Services	0	0	150	150
Canteen Sales	6,574	0	0	6,574
Emotional Support Services	0	0	485	485
Leisure Activities & Events	1,403	0	0	1,403
Local Government Grant	0	0	23,000	23,000
Sensory Loss Resource Centre Sales	0	0	2,040	2,040
Transport	4,693	0	0	4,693
	<u>12,670</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,675</u>	<u>38,345</u>
c.) Other Trading Activities				
Fund Raising	9,336	0	0	9,336
Room Hire	28,686	0	0	28,686
	<u>38,022</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>38,022</u>
d.) Investment Income				
Interest Income	707	0	0	707
Dividend Income	14,022	0	0	14,022
	<u>14,729</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,729</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

4. Analysis of Receipts of Government Grants

The charity received a single local government grant from BCP Council for the provision of a Sight and Hearing Resource Centre and a Community Support service under a Service Level Agreement.

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Provision of Sight & Hearing Resource Centre and Community Support Service	23,000	23,000
Total	<u>23,000</u>	<u>23,000</u>

5. Donated Goods, Facilities and Services

The accounting policies for the recognition and valuation of donated goods, facilities and services are set out in notes 2.1h and 2.1i.

No seconded staff or property was provided to the charity. No other donated goods or services were received during the year (2022/23 £0).

Bournemouth Blind Society also benefits from the hours given each week by unpaid volunteers. Volunteers' roles include befrienders, activity assistants, guiders, Resource Centre assistants and fundraisers.

During the year to 31 March 2024 the time given by volunteers averaged at 88 (2023: 120) hours per week. Evaluated at the National Living Wage rate for the year under review, the total time given by the volunteers equates to £45,556 (2023 £65,000). The contribution of unpaid volunteers has not been recognised in the accounts.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

6. Analysis of Expenditure

6.1 Expenditure 2023/24

	Unrestrict ed Funds £	Designate d Funds £	Restrict ed Funds £	Total 2023/24 £
a.) Raising Funds				
Advertising & Publicity	0	0	0	0
Fund Raising Costs	4,819	0	0	4,819
	<u>4,819</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,819</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Canteen Costs	9,238	0	0	9,238
Cleaning Costs	1,064	0	50	1,114
Emotional Support Services	0	0	444	444
Depreciation Expense	0	9,763	0	9,763
Equipment Costs	0	0	0	0
Leisure Activities	1,106	0	0	1,106
Minibus Costs	2,997	0	0	2,997
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,488	0	1,160	2,648
Property Maintenance	400	1,619	394	2,413
Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	3,332	0	3,332	6,664
Salaries & Staff Costs	75,075	0	49,373	124,448
Sensory Loss Resource Centre	0	232	1,546	1,778
Subscriptions	166	0	62	228
Telephone Costs	1,007	0	1,007	2,014
Travel Costs	109	0	848	957
Utility Costs	5,681	0	1,992	7,673
	<u>101,663</u>	<u>11,614</u>	<u>60,208</u>	<u>173,485</u>
c.) Other				
Bank Charges	207	0	207	414
Independent Examination Fees	930	0	930	1,860
Insurance Costs	1,565	0	1,565	3,130
Investment Management Charges	3,389	3,389	0	6,778
Legal & Professional Fees	98	0	147	245
	<u>6,189</u>	<u>3,389</u>	<u>2,849</u>	<u>12,427</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

6.2. Expenditure 2022/23

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022/23 £
a.) Raising Funds				
Advertising & Publicity	0	0	0	0
Fund Raising Costs	3,648	0	0	3,648
	<u>3,648</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,648</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Canteen Costs	6,940	0	0	6,940
Cleaning Costs	829	0	38	867
Emotional Support Services	0	0	444	444
Depreciation Expense	0	17,337	0	17,337
Equipment Costs	22	0	22	44
Leisure Activities	1,683	0	0	1,683
Minibus Costs	3,554	0	0	3,554
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,349	0	1,027	2,376
Property Maintenance	1,948	0	2,091	4,039
Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	4,773	0	4,774	9,547
Salaries & Staff Costs	67,580	0	44,389	111,969
Sensory Loss Resource Centre	0	510	1,954	2,464
Subscriptions	173	0	72	245
Telephone Costs	957	0	957	1,914
Travel Costs	96	0	834	930
Utility Costs	5,351	0	1,905	7,256
	<u>95,255</u>	<u>17,847</u>	<u>58,507</u>	<u>171,609</u>
c.) Other				
Bank Charges	161	0	161	322
Independent Examination Fees	855	0	855	1,710
Insurance Costs	1,395	0	1,395	2,790
Investment Management Charges	3,903	3,903	0	7,806
Legal & Professional Fees	102	0	127	229
	<u>6,416</u>	<u>3,903</u>	<u>2,538</u>	<u>12,857</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

7. Fees for the Examination of the Accounts

The surplus of income over expenditure is stated after providing for the following fees:

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Independent examiner's Fees	1,860	1,710
Total	<u>1,860</u>	<u>1,710</u>

8. Paid Employees

8.1 Staff Costs

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Salaries and wages	119,592	108,352
Social security costs	2,799	1,807
Pension costs (defined contribution plan)	2,057	1,810
Other employee benefits	0	0
Total	<u>124,448</u>	<u>111,969</u>

No employees received employee benefits (including employer pension costs) for the year of more than £60,000.

Key management personnel received employee benefits of £42,227 (2023: £38,328) during the year.

The holiday year is aligned with the financial year. At 31 March 2024 there were no holiday pay accruals to carry forward (2023 £0).

There were no redundancy or ex-gratia payments made during the year (2023: £0)

8.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work	2023/24 Number	2022/23 Number
Fundraising	1	1
Charitable Activities	4	3
Governance	1	1
Other	1	2
Total	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

9. Defined Contribution Pension Scheme

The charity started a stakeholder pension scheme with NEST, which is a defined contribution pension scheme, on 1 January 2017 and is Pension Compliant.

An amount of £2,057 (2023:£1,810) is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as the charity's contribution to the scheme. The Society made the minimum contribution of 3% throughout the year.

The contribution is allocated between restricted and unrestricted funds according to the main role of the employee concerned. The contributions made for the employee who is primarily employed under the banner of Governance is shared equally between restricted and unrestricted funds.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

10.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost at 01 April 2023	206,376	35,923	92,221	334,520
Additions	0	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Cost at 31 March 2024	<u>206,376</u>	<u>35,923</u>	<u>92,221</u>	<u>334,520</u>

10.2 Depreciation

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
Basis	Straight Line	Straight Line	Straight Line	
Rate	0%	20%	25%	
	£	£	£	£
Depreciation at 01 April 2023	0	35,923	63,308	99,231
Charge	0	0	9,762	9,762
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Depreciation at 31 March 2024	<u>0</u>	<u>35,923</u>	<u>73,070</u>	<u>108,993</u>

A zero rate of depreciation is charged to freehold property as the property is maintained to such a standard that the estimated residual value is not less than cost.

10.3 Net book value

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
<i>Net Book Value at 01 April 2023</i>	<u>206,376</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28,913</u>	<u>235,289</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2024	<u>206,376</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19,151</u>	<u>225,527</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

11. Investment Assets

	Treasury Stock £	Shares & Cash £	Investment Trusts £	Total £
Market Value at 01 April 2023	33,942	51,364	415,998	501,304
Additions at cost	0	8,964	0	8,964
Disposal proceeds	0	(1,642)	0	(1,642)
Gains/(Losses)	941	(4,185)	39,139	35,895
Market Value at 31 March 2024	<u>34,883</u>	<u>54,501</u>	<u>455,137</u>	<u>544,521</u>

12. Stocks

	Stock for resale £	Fundraising Activities - Bar Stock:	Stock for resale £
Charitable Activities - Resource Centre:			
Opening Stock at 01 April 2023	4,761		125
Added in period	1,778		436
Expensed in period	189		383
Impaired	0		0
Closing Stock at 31 March 2024	<u>6,350</u>		<u>178</u>

13. Debtors and Prepayments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 24 £	Total 31 Mar 23 £
Trade debtors	0	0	0	0	787
Prepayments and accrued income	4,864	0	776	5,640	7,133
	<u>4,864</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>776</u>	<u>5,640</u>	<u>7,920</u>

14. Creditors and Accruals

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 24 £	Total 31 Mar 23 £
Trade creditors	16	0	15	31	21
Accruals	3,032	0	1,194	4,226	4,683
Taxation and social security	977	0	698	1,675	1,421
	<u>4,025</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,907</u>	<u>5,932</u>	<u>6,125</u>

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15. Cash at Bank and in Hand

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 31 Mar 24	Total 31 Mar 23
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at Bank	68,421	40,403	0	108,824	161,836
Petty Cash	540	0	0	540	540
	<u>68,961</u>	<u>40,403</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>109,364</u>	<u>162,376</u>

16. Events After the End of the Reporting Period

There were no events after the reporting period that require adjustment of the accounts.

17. Charity Funds

17.1 General Funds

General Funds include a Revaluation Reserve amounting to £35,845 (2022/23: £18,998).

17.2. Designated Funds

	Balance 31 Mar 23	Gains/ (Losses)	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 24
	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Fund	206,376	0	0	0	206,376
Continuity Reserve Fund	246,749	17,947	3,389	3,661	264,968
Building Maintenance Fund	80,320	0	11,008	0	69,312
Vehicle Replacement Fund	40,000	0	0	10,000	50,000
Resource Centre Equipment Fund	5,001	0	232	0	4,769
Equipment Fund	3,000	0	374	0	2,626
	<u>581,446</u>	<u>17,947</u>	<u>15,003</u>	<u>13,661</u>	<u>598,051</u>

The balance on the Capital Fund is the book value of the Freehold Property, as explained in the Director's report (section H).

The Continuity Reserve Fund, which includes a Revaluation Reserve amounting to £35,845 (2022/23: £18,998), is approximately half the value of the Investments held at year end.

The balance in the Building Maintenance Fund represents the net book value of items bought under this heading, plus sums set aside for anticipated property upkeep over the next 2 - 3 years. £17,153 is held as investments, £33,381 held as cash and £18,778 in assets.

The balance in the Vehicle Replacement Fund is the net book value of the minibus (£0), plus £50,000, held as investments, toward a replacement vehicle within the next 3 - 4 years.

The balance in the Resource Centre Equipment Fund is the balance of sums set aside to update and upgrade the demonstration equipment held in the Resource Centre over the next 2 years.

This fund is held in cash

The balance in the Equipment Fund represents the net book value of items bought under this heading, plus sums set aside for anticipated replacement office and/or catering equipment over the next 1 - 2 years. This fund is held as cash plus assets

17.3. Restricted Funds

The balance in the restricted funds represents current assets (cash, stock and debtors) held as a result of transactions outstanding at the end of the financial year, less the liabilities incurred by the same funds outstanding at year end.

Expenses are split between unrestricted and restricted funds as follows:

Specific costs	100% to relevant department
Staff Costs	Allocated by main work department and 50:50 for senior manager
Utilities	75:25
Other costs	50:50

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Movements on the individual restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance 31 Mar 23	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 24
	£	£	£	£	£
Resource Centre	4,200	15,085	16,155	2,089	5,219
Community Support	0	11,500	21,217	9,717	0
Emotional Support Services	0	345	22,153	21,808	0
Befriending Service	0	160	3,532	3,372	0
	<u>4,200</u>	<u>27,090</u>	<u>63,057</u>	<u>36,986</u>	<u>5,219</u>

17.4 Transfers between funds

2024	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £
Transfers between Funds were made as follows:			
Unrestricted to Restricted deficit for the year	(36,986)		36,986
Unrestricted to Designated additions/disposals of investments	(3,661)	3,661	
Unrestricted to Designated provisions amended in year	(10,000)	10,000	
	<u>(50,647)</u>	<u>13,661</u>	<u>36,986</u>

2023	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £
Transfers between Funds were made as follows:			
Unrestricted to Restricted deficit for the year	(34,525)		34,525
Unrestricted to Designated additions/disposals of investments	(3,268)	3,268	
Unrestricted to Designated provisions amended in year	(367)	367	
	<u>(38,160)</u>	<u>3,635</u>	<u>34,525</u>

18. Transactions with Trustees and Related Parties

18.1. Trustee remuneration and benefits

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity.

18.2 Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred.

18.3. Transactions with Related Parties

No Trustee received any direct or indirect financial benefit from any transactions undertaken by the Charity.

During the year £nil (2023: £nil) was donated to the charity by Trustees.

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED
31 MARCH 2023

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1114570

COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 05792657

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2023



The Board of Trustees has pleasure in presenting their Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Chairman's Report

We had hoped that this year would be the year of full recovery from the effects of Covid but alas it would seem the vulnerable have not regained their confidence to take up their pre-Covid activities and some are now in a pattern of semi-isolation.

The numbers attending our "Drop In" cafe and regular weekly activities have failed to return to pre -Covid levels and as soon as we gain new members our exiting long standing members move or are restricted by illness. Naturally several of our elderly members pass away each year and they are missed. Every effort is made to keep in contact with all our membership by newsletter, video link and telephone.

Our fundraising activities are gradually being re-instated and the Quiz Nights remain as popular though again with restricted numbers as we are still aware of Social Distancing. We are ever hopeful that as the weather improves our members will be encouraged to return and participate in all we have to offer.

We are extremely fortunate to have received a number of legacies this year which have gone a long way to keep our accounts healthier than they might otherwise have been and we are eternally grateful to those who choose to remember us in their Wills no matter how small or large that legacy might be.

The trustees are keen to use the funds available for the benefit of the members and the members are asked regularly if they can give suggestions as to how the Board can improve the facilities, activities and resources provided.

The Board of Trustees is fortunate to have a dedicated CEO, staff and band of Volunteers who give their time and attention within and outside their normal working hours to the care of the partially sighted, blind and hard of hearing in the BCP area.

Review of Activities

Bournemouth Blind Society exists "to assist and benefit, but not with direct financial assistance, people with a visual impairment and/or hearing impairment living within the Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole area and to promote public awareness of sight and/or hearing loss." Alternative ways of delivering the assistance and benefit mentioned were introduced as a result of the Covid pandemic, many of which are still in use.

As ever, our activities are designed, where possible, to:

- reduce isolation;
- retain or improve skills;
- give a sense of well-being and belonging;
- maintain independence.

We aim to deliver all our services in a cheerful, purposeful way. Many of the Members refer to our Centre in Moordown as their "second home" and the people they meet there as their

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“extended family”. A number also deem the Centre to be their “happy place”.

Before reviewing the activities of the Society in depth, it is worth considering the impact the Covid pandemic is still having on some of the Society’s visually impaired and/or hard of hearing Members.

Many of our Members are older and a number live in their own home, often alone as their life partners have predeceased them. A number are still uneasy about allowing people into their homes. The need to re-build the trust that existed pre-Covid takes time and commitment, but gradually bridges are being re-built.

The loss of sight often results in a highly emotional time, which was exacerbated during lockdown. A number of Members are still experiencing an emotional impact as a result of lockdown. Spirits which appear high during a one-hour phone call can often mask the reality of not coping very well. As an organisation, we continue to try and encourage those Members who are still emotionally insecure to take part in activities, even if only an occasional phone call.

Social Activities

The Social Groups were re-introduced in August 2021 and have run each Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. The groups are approximately half the size of the pre-Covid groups as a number of previous Members have either passed away; are now too ill to attend; or have decided to remain in relative isolation. The hours spent at the Centre each day are gradually increasing and all groups take place in Rooper Hall to allow for greater distancing and air circulation.

On Mondays and Thursdays, a two-course lunch is served, followed by some form of engagement with the Members. In the months under review this has all been provided by the Staff and Volunteers and has included quizzes, word games, music appreciation, story time and memory boxes.

The Tuesday Group remains as a breakfast club and attracts a number of more active Members who are only seen in this group. They all feel very much ‘at home’ among the group and this is often the opportunity to discuss problems they are each facing or the opportunity for interaction with the specialist services provided by the Society.

During the year, the monthly Walking Group resumed during the dryer, warmer months. This included walks by the sea, around Christchurch, in the New Forest and in Poole Park. Through the summer months, the Charity provided a driver, together with a sighted escort, and the use of its minibus for the Dorset Dolphins VI Cricket Team during their trips to away fixtures.

Practical Support in the Community

Face to face interventions have been recommended for all support services provided by the Society. Uptake for home visits has been sketchy and limited as many clients still struggle with the thought of a visitor bringing Covid other germs into their home. However, the staff are persevering trying to restore a friendly face to each service.

The Society received a grant from BCP Council toward providing a Resource Centre for both sight impairment and hearing impairment, together with a Community Support service. The relationship between the staff of BCP’s Adult Social Care Sight & Hearing Team and the Society’s staff remains favourable and as strong as ever.

The Service Level Agreement for the Sight and Hearing Resource Centre is to open for 8 hours each week. The Trustees have made the decision to increase this by opening the Resource Centre from Monday to Friday, 10am to 1pm (15 hours per week). Much of the provision of this service has continued by telephone and email, even though the number of visitors to the Centre is increasing. Callers (whether over the phone or face to face) have wanted information and advice about products to help them live independently. Any callers who needed help that the Society was unable to provide were signposted to relevant alternative organisations. During the year a total of 170 (2022 162) people visited the Resource Centre, with 117 (2022 151) phone calls. Visits took an average of 31 (2022 20) minutes each, with phone calls averaging

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11 (2022 10) minutes each. Numbers are still considerably below pre-Covid figures, partly due to a greater reliance by potential callers asking their family to search for advice/equipment via the internet.

The Community Support Service is designed to support people to live independent lives within the community. This may include helping clients apply for large print utility bills, introducing them to local groups and guiding them to learn set routes to local shops or the Post Office. During the year under review, a total of 42 clients (26 in 2021/22) engaged with the Community Support team. At year end the case load is 15 clients (14 at 31 March 2022), with two cases on a waiting list, as a result of the client's health issues.

During 2020/21 the Bournemouth Blind Society Befriending Service was changed to a telephone only service. During the current year, a number of face-to-face visits have started, but almost 75% of Befriending is still over the telephone, especially those contacted by paid staff, who have other roles within the Society. The Befriending Service currently has 25 registered befriendees, but it is known that a number of Volunteers continue to phone Members who are not registered with the service. Finding suitable befriendees is proving difficult, as a long-term commitment is required. In the final week of the financial year, two new befriendees were appointed and hopefully this will help reduce the waiting list of ten potential clients.

The Emotional Support Service continued to provide a valuable resource to anyone of any age group who is experiencing emotional, psychological or relationship difficulties arising from sight loss. As with all other services, face to face sessions are offered, but a number still want to receive the support either by telephone or via video conferencing, all in line with the recommendations made by BACP (The British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy). The Emotional Support given is much in demand and this service has continued to be provided free of charge, with clients asked to consider making a donation where possible. During the year, 37 clients have received support from this service. At the year end, the case load is 19 cases, with a further 4 referrals waiting for their initial assessment.

The Assistive Technology suite has been available most Tuesdays throughout the year, plus support has continued over telephone and video links. A total of 15 clients have received help/tuition in Assistive Technology.

Awareness

The Society is keen to work with local people, groups and businesses to help them understand the needs of the visually impaired. A sight awareness session was delivered by video link to first year Occupational Students at Bournemouth University. Talks on both sight and hearing awareness, together with equipment demonstrations have been given to: the Winton Friendship Club; Christchurch Macular Society; Bournemouth East Cliff Rotary Club; Bournemouth Airport.

The bi-monthly newsletter was published 6 times in the year. The newsletter is available in many formats including large print, e-mail and audio on CD or USB stick. It provides useful information to the Members, together with details of the services available at Bournemouth Blind Society and its fundraising events. An e-newsletter is also produced; aimed primarily at supporters it advertises fundraising opportunities, invites potential Volunteers and informs supporters of the ongoing work of the Society.

Fundraising

The number of face-to-face Fundraising Events held during the year has been limited to our ever-popular Quiz Nights and the Christmas Concert provided by Wessex Chorus, together with an evening at Christchurch Library as part of the CLAC (Christchurch Living Advent Calendar).

Hiring out of the Rooper Hall for private parties at weekends continues and the hall has been in use many weekends of the year, along with regular lets on weekday evenings. The Training School that hires rooms in the main building is gradually building up its needs, both during the daytime and in the evening, toward pre-Covid levels.

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Funds have been raised through pink elephant collection pots placed in local shops, although the sums raised are being reduced as people stop using cash for transactions.

Bournemouth Blind Society received donations from various sources including "Friends" of the Society, Bournemouth Rotary Club, Bournemouth North Rotary Club, Holdenhurst Charity, the Wood Barn and Come Prima wind orchestra. £650 was received as a distribution of cash balances on the closure of the charity Concern With Hearing. Monies received In Memory Of deceased Members was £2,100 in the year.

Of special note are two sponsored events. Martyn Highmore, one of our volunteer minibus drivers walked the 650 miles of the South West Coastal Path in the summer months. He raised in excess of £3,000. Member Stephen James is to run the London Marathon in April 2023 and over £1,200 sponsorship monies have already been received at the year end.

Further donations were received from numerous other generous supporters, both organisations and individuals.

A number of supporters also provided the Society with their time and services free of charge. Where significant, these have been identified in the accounts. The energy and time provided by Volunteers must not go unnoticed. The majority of the Society's volunteers have been with the organisation for many years and their services are still given freely, willingly and with a smile.

Buildings

During the year, the windows in the main building all had new double-glazed units fitted, at a cost of £37,556. The Building Maintenance designated reserve fund had sufficient funds to settle this amount. The investment will save the fabric of the building from serious water ingress for many years. The cost of the windows has been capitalised in the Fixtures and Fitting column and will be depreciated over 4 years, in accordance with previously agreed practice.

Trustees

Like so many charities, the Society relies heavily upon the generous donation of time by its Trustees. Their role is referred to elsewhere in this annual report. The work of the Trustees is often behind the scenes and goes on unseen by the majority of those who interact with the Society in whatever guise that may be.

During the year, Mr Terence Wood retired through continuing ill health as Trustee after 23 years' service, including a number of years as Chair of Trustees. The Board sent their thanks to Terry for all his hard work over the years and wished him well in the future. Recruitment of suitable people to work as Trustees is slow, but a potential new Trustee is to be introduced to the Board at their June 2023 Meeting.

Staff

At the last year end, Geraldine Bradley retired after 14 years' service. She is greatly missed for her dedication to the Community Support team. With a mixture of work patterns to suit operational needs, it is rare for all staff to be on site at the same time. Regular team sharing times and social events keep the team spirit high and means that all staff are aware of what is happening with the Society and its Members. The number of hours worked each week ranges from 15 to 34 hours. All staff are paid at least the Living Wage as a minimum.

The staff regularly go 'over and above' to support the Members and frequently attend out-of-hours functions to support the Society, at no cost to the Society. Bournemouth Blind Society is blessed with a dedicated, long-serving workforce who are committed to providing the best services possible to the blind and partially sighted people they come across.

The Trustees/Directors wish to record their sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to the benefit of the Society, whether staff, volunteer, or supporter. They are all essential parts of the organisation.

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A. Reference and Administrative Information

The Bournemouth Blind Society was incorporated in England and Wales on 24 April 2006 as Bournemouth Society for the Visually Impaired. The change of name to Bournemouth Blind Society was recorded by Companies House on 6 March 2015. The company number is 05792657. Bournemouth Blind Society is also registered with the Charity Commission, number 1114570.

The Society operates from its registered address, 5 Victoria Park Road, Bournemouth, BH9 2RB.

Trustees

During the year and up to the date of this report the following have served as Trustees, who are also Directors of the Company:

Mrs Madeleine Avis	Chair Board of Trustees
Dr Rodney Frederick Cooper	Chair Finance Committee
Mr Martin Simon Goldman	
Mrs Barbara Lauraine Russell	
Mrs Margaret Joyce Vousden	Deputy Chair Board of Trustees
Mr Terence John Wood	Retired 12.07.2022

The Trustees/Directors are also the Members of the company.

The Trustees/Directors due to retire by rotation at the AGM in June 2023 are Mrs Madeleine Avis and Mrs Barbara Lauraine Russell both of whom offer themselves for re-election.

The Company Secretary and Chief Executive of the charity is Mr Philip Tarrant.

On 31 March 2023 there were two hundred and nine (2022: 204) registered blind and partially sighted users on the society's register, which only records those for whom a signed GDPR consent form is on file. A number of visually impaired users who access services, choose not to be included on the register. It is estimated the total pool of users is in the region of four hundred people.

Principal Advisers

BANKERS

Barclays Bank plc
Leicester, LE87 2BB

INVESTMENT MANAGERS

Redmayne Bentley
139 Commercial Rd, Poole BH14 0JD

ACCOUNTANTS

TC Group
10 Bridge Street, Christchurch, BH23 1EF

B. Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Bournemouth Blind Society is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the company being wound up each voting Member is required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. There were five voting Members at the balance sheet date. The operations of Bournemouth Blind Society are governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which were agreed on 24 April 2006, amended by Special Resolution on 22 October 2009, amended by Special Resolution on 11 July 2013, amended by Special Resolution to change the name on 1 September 2014, amended by Special Resolution to update the Objectives on 3 June 2019 and amended by Special Resolution on 4 October 2021.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Board of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association one third of the members of the Board of Trustees must retire each year with those being longest in office retiring at the next

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Annual General Meeting. A retiring member of the Board will be eligible to seek for re-election. The Board has the authority to co-opt members to its number to fill any vacancy left open at any time. Members of the Board are elected at Annual General Meeting by a show of hands.

Trustee Induction and Training

Trustees are sought to bring a spread of skills, knowledge and Diversity to the Society.

All new trustees receive a pack containing:

- 1 Memorandum and Articles of Association
- 2 The Charity Commission's guide "The Essential Trustee"
- 3 Latest financial statements
- 4 Literature outlining the work of the Charity
- 5 The Charity's policies handbook

Organisational Structure

The Bournemouth Blind Society Board of Trustees may number between three and twelve members. At present there are five trustees. Responsibility for the day to day running of the Society is delegated to the Bournemouth Blind Society Chief Executive and through him to the paid staff and volunteers. Budgetary control rests with the delegated Finance Committee.

The Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee each meet four times a year, or as often as is necessary. Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings are submitted to the Board of Trustees.

Risk Management

The Trustees actively encourage the senior management to review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated and retaining sufficient restricted funds combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have implemented a Risk Management system which determines a pattern of regular reviews to reduce risk to a minimal level.

The Policies of the Society are written, reviewed by the Trustees, and published with a view to protecting the beneficiaries of the charity, as well as the Volunteers, Trustees and paid Staff. The policies lay down the principles for the interaction between paid Staff, Volunteers and Beneficiaries, reducing risk to an acceptable level, thus protecting the Charity.

The greatest risks the Charity currently faces are:

- the lack of suitable Volunteers to drive the Society's minibus which is putting a strain on paid Staff;
- the need to recruit more Trustees to keep the Board quorate.

Pay policy for senior staff

The trustees consider the Chief Executive as the key management personnel of the charity, in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

The pay of the charity's chief executive is reviewed regularly and normally increased in accordance with average earnings. The remuneration is bench-marked with a limited number of local charities of a similar size and activity to ensure that the remuneration set is fair and not out of line with that generally paid for similar roles.

C. Public Benefit

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity and acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the Charity has achieved this are provided earlier in this report, under the heading "Review of Activities".

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The Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011 before deciding what activities the Charity should undertake. They do not consider that any of the charity's activities cause any significant detriment or harm and believe that any private benefit arising from the activities is incidental.

D. Custodian Trusteeship

No assets were held as custodian trustee during the reporting period.

E. Objectives

The objective for which the company was established is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Following the merge of Local Government from three local councils to one, it was agreed to update the Objectives clause of the Society, by Special Resolution, on 3 June 2019.

The Charity's newly adopted objects ("the Objects") are:-

- (a) to assist and benefit, but not with direct financial assistance, people with a visual impairment and/or hearing impairment living within the Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole area.
- (b) to promote public awareness of sight and/or hearing loss.

F. Achievements and Performance

Reports on the achievements and activities of the Bournemouth Blind Society for the year to 31 March 2023 are contained on pages 1 to 4 of this report.

Worldwide Stock Markets have remained volatile during the year, with events in Ukraine causing concern in the financial markets. The Investment Portfolio has a progressive risk and balanced investment objective. The total return on all investments, net of fees, was -6.92%. This compares with the Arc Sterling Growth benchmark of -4.60% for the same period

G. Financial Review

The 2022/23 Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for Bournemouth Blind Society and the Balance Sheet at 31 March 2023, together with associated explanatory notes, are given on pages 12 to 26.

The Society's income for 2022/23 was £219,893, a 22% increase on that raised in 2021/22 (£180,366). The income for 2022/23 includes £112,601 received as legacies (2021/22 £77,772).

Expenditure totalled £188,114 and was about 15% higher to that incurred in 2021/22 (£164,225).

Thanks to continuing financial management and cost control, the overall performance in 2022/23 was an operating surplus of £31,779 (a surplus of £16,141 in 2021/22). The Chief Executive, Staff, and all concerned with the running of the Society are aware of their responsibilities and fully acknowledge the need to control expenditure and increase income into the Society.

Investment Policy

The Directors have previously agreed that, in times of any surplus, the monies would be retained in an investment portfolio to maximise investment income. In times of overspend, however, equivalent funds may have to be withdrawn. The Investment Policy aims to not let the

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value of investments fall below a figure commensurate with twelve months total expenditure of the charity. The Investments are managed externally in a progressive risk balanced portfolio and the Trustees receive a performance report from the Fund manager on an annual basis.

H. Reserves

The reserves of the Society fall into three different categories: Unrestricted Funds; Designated Funds; Restricted Funds.

Unrestricted Funds represent those balances that can be used for any purpose that allows the Charity to achieve its stated objectives. The income is received with no restrictions placed by the giver as to how it may be used.

Designated Funds are determined by the Trustees and are amounts set aside from Unrestricted Incomes for specific purposes. The Trustees continue to carefully manage the Designated Funds:

- The Society is fortunate to own, freehold, the buildings from which it operates. The valuation of this is now held in a designated Capital Fund thereby ensuring that the Unrestricted Reserves are the unencumbered ones.
- The aim of the Directors/Trustees is to ensure that the charity could survive through any period of unexpected expenditure or serious reduction in income and, consistent with that goal, previously established a Continuity Reserve Fund. The level of reserves retained within that Fund equates to half of the market valuation of investments at 31 March 2023.
- The Building Maintenance Fund records the net book value of items purchased under this heading in previous financial years, together with the balance of transfers made in anticipation of probable work needed on the building over the next 2 - 3 years.
- The Furniture Replacement fund records the net book value of furniture purchased in previous financial years.
- The Society owns a minibus used to transport Members to and from various activities. The Vehicle Replacement Fund records the net book value of the minibus, together with sums set aside to purchase a replacement. During the year a further sum of £20,000 was transferred to this fund toward a replacement minibus within the next 3 - 4 years.
- An essential service provided by the Society is the Resource Room, used to demonstrate the equipment and devices available to help those with sight and/or hearing loss lead meaningful and independent lives. The Resource Centre Equipment Fund records the balance remaining of the initial transfer after the purchase of demonstration equipment and will be used over the next 12 – 24 months.
- The Equipment Fund records the net book value of items purchased under this heading in the year, together with the balance of any transfers made. The fund is to provide for replacement office and catering equipment over the next 12 – 24 months.

For movements on these funds, see note 17.2.

Restricted Funds shows income given to the Society for specific purposes, stated by the giver, as listed in the Notes to the Accounts 2.4b. Movement on restricted funds is recorded in note 17.3.

The Trustees believe the reserves are more than adequate to maintain the Society through any further period of shutdown for any reason. They are keeping the situation under review and will act to implement any changes that become necessary to ensure the continuation of the Charity.

Total reserves at the end of the year were £905,650 (2022: £917,700), split between the funds as: Unrestricted Fund £320,005; Designated Fund £581,446; Restricted Fund £4,200. The level of Reserves held as tangible assets are £235,289 (2022: £215,070).

I. Plans for Future Periods

As reported earlier, all of the services provided by the Society are now fully open once more to

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the blind and partially sighted, together with those with a hearing loss. However, there is still a large degree of hesitancy amongst the target group of potential members following the Covid and Flu pandemics. The largest part of future planning revolves around attracting more members for the Social Groups, clients for the support services offered, Volunteers to help run those groups and services and funding to help financially support the Charity.

The Society will continue to focus on the provision of services to the blind and partially sighted community, with an emphasis on reaching out to more people. RNIB have estimated that by 2025 there will be in excess of 16,000 visually impaired people living within the BCP Council area. Connecting with more of this group, providing services and activities that support and enable them is essential for the growth of the charity.

Being aware of local needs and provisions are an essential part of the development of the charity and a full review of service provision against perceived and known need is taking place in the second quarter of 2023/24.

The BCP Adult Social Care team working with the sensory impaired now covers Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and it is anticipated that the Community Support service will have to grow to cover the entire area. The number of referrals from this source is currently very limited as the BCP team is trying hard to recruit further ROVI's (Rehabilitation Officer for the Visually Impaired) to cover the larger area (at present there are only 2 ROVI's for the whole area compared to 6 before the amalgamation of local Councils).

Actively promoting the Resource Centre and Befriending Service will initially take place through communications with local optometrists/opticians and social prescribers. Promotions to the general public will follow.

The Trustees will work closely with the Chief Executive to determine what the future provision of services will look like following the review and all scenarios that allow the Charity's objectives to be met will be explored.

J. Trustees' Responsibilities in the Preparation of Financial Statements

Company law requires the directors of the charity (namely the Trustees) to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus/deficit of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

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

K. Accountants

For the year under review, the Trustees have chosen to apply the statutory requirement for an Independent Examination. TC Group has been appointed as Independent Examiners for the year to 31 March 2023.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2023

L. Method of Preparation of Accounts

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

This report was approved by the Board on 5th June 2023.



Madeleine Avis
Chair of Trustees

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Bournemouth Blind Society

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 12 to 26.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also directors of Bournemouth Blind Society for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter except that referred to in the previous paragraph has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Zoë Mowlem FCA
For and on behalf of

TC Group

TC Group

.....
10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

Dated: 31/07/2023

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2023
SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022/23 £	Total 2021/22 £
Income and endowments from:	2.1/3					
Donations and legacies		128,797	0	0	128,797	114,809
Charitable activities		12,670	0	25,675	38,345	33,530
Other trading activities		38,022	0	0	38,022	18,266
Investments		14,729	0	0	14,729	13,761
Total		194,218	0	25,675	219,893	180,366
Expenditure on:	2.2/6					
Raising Funds		3,648	0	0	3,648	1,057
Charitable Activities		95,255	17,847	58,507	171,609	149,967
Other		6,416	3,903	2,538	12,857	12,454
Total		105,319	21,750	61,045	188,114	163,478
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains/ (losses) on investment assets		88,899	(21,750)	(35,370)	31,779	16,888
Net gains/(losses) on investment assets	11	(21,915)	(21,914)	0	(43,829)	23,000
Net income/(expenditure)		66,984	(43,664)	(35,370)	(12,050)	39,888
Transfers between funds	17.4	(38,160)	3,635	34,525	0	0
Other recognised gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement In Funds for the year		28,824	(40,029)	(845)	(12,050)	39,888
Reconciliation Of Funds						
Total Funds brought forward at 1 April 2021		291,180	621,475	5,045	917,700	877,812
Total Funds carried forward at 31 March 2022		320,004	581,446	4,200	905,650	917,700

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 14 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022/23 £	Total 2021/22 £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Assets	10	0	235,289	0	235,289	215,070
Investments	11	237,723	263,581	0	501,304	538,597
		237,723	498,870	0	736,593	753,667
Current Assets						
Stocks	12	125	0	4,761	4,886	4,446
Debtors	13	6,658	0	1,262	7,920	8,353
Cash at Bank and in Hand	15	79,800	82,576	0	162,376	156,265
		86,583	82,576	6,023	175,182	169,064
Current Liabilities						
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	14	4,302	0	1,823	6,125	5,031
Net Current Assets		82,281	82,576	4,200	169,057	164,033
Total assets less current liabilities		320,004	581,446	4,200	905,650	917,700
Total net assets or liabilities		320,004	581,446	4,200	905,650	917,700
Funds of the Charity						
Unrestricted Funds	17.1	320,004	0	0	320,004	291,180
Designated Funds	17.2	0	581,446	0	581,446	621,475
Restricted Funds	17.3	0	0	4,200	4,200	5,045
Total Funds		320,004	581,446	4,200	905,650	917,700

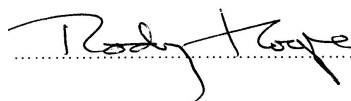
The directors are satisfied that that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Approved by the Directors on 5th June 2023 and

Signed on their behalf by



Dr. Rodney Cooper, Director

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

1.1 Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, as modified by the revaluation of investments, and include the results of the charity's operations which are described in the Directors' and Trustees' reports and all of which are continuing. All amounts are shown in pounds sterling. The charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Companies Act 2006;
- the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), issued on 16 July 2014;
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) as applied from 1 April 2015;
- the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast any significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.3 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

1.4 Material prior year errors

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 Income

a.) Recognition of income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the charity becomes legally entitled to the resources;
- the Directors have sufficient certainty they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be quantified with reasonable accuracy

b.) Offsetting

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross. Further, there has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities

c.) Grants and donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

d.) Legacies

Legacies are included in Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is probable, that is: when there has been grant of probate; the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

e.) Government grants

The charity has received a local government grant during the year. See note 4.

f.) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

have specified otherwise.

g.) Contractual income and performance related grants

This is only included once the charity has provided the related goods or services have been delivered.

h.) Donated goods

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries are measured at fair value at the time of receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stock at distribution.

i.) Donated Services and Facilities

Donated services and facilities are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended when the service or facility is consumed immediately) where the benefit to the charity can be measured reliably. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

j.) Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in note 5 to the accounts.

k.) Income from interest and dividends

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

l.) Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised and unrealised gains and losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

2.2 Expenditure and Liabilities

a.) Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs 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.

b.) Governance and support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

c.) Redundancy cost

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

d.) Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

e.) Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

f) Value added tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity and as such is included in the relevant costs in

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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.3 Assets

a.) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

The Trustees believe that a more accurate picture of assets used is gained by depreciating assets over a given number of years. Rates and methods used are disclosed in note 10

b.) Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. Cumulative unrealised gains on investments are taken to revaluation reserves.

c.) Stock

Stock consists of goods for resale in order to raise funds to further the Charity's objectives and is measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.

d.) Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

e.) 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 of value.

2.4 Other Accounting Policies

a) Taxation

Bournemouth Blind Society is not liable for corporation tax by reason of its charitable objects and status.

b.) Restricted Funds

The restricted funds represent monies given for specific purposes. The Trustees have identified the following services as being in receipt of restricted funds:

- Sight and Hearing Resource Centre – supported by a grant from BCP Council and sales in the Resource Centre.
- Community Support Service – supported by a grant from BCP Council.
- Emotional Support Services – donations given by clients specifically toward the cost of the service.
- Befriending Services – donations given by clients specifically toward the cost of the service.
- Sensory Garden Fund – amount granted to the Society for the creation and upkeep of a sensory garden at the Centre.

Movements on Restricted Funds are shown in note 17.3.

c.) Unrestricted and Designated Funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity represent the accumulated reserves of the charity which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further the objects of the charity.

The designated funds are unrestricted funds and represent monies set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes. Movements on the Designated Funds are shown in note 17.2.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

3. Analysis of Income and Endowments

3.1 Income and Endowments 2022/23

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022/23 £
a.) Donations and Legacies				
Donations and Gifts	14,204	0	0	14,204
Gift Aid	1,110	0	0	1,110
Legacies	112,601	0	0	112,601
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	0	0	0	0
Friends of the Society	882	0	0	882
	<u>128,797</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>128,797</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Befriending Services	0	0	150	150
Canteen Sales	6,574	0	0	6,574
Emotional Support Services	0	0	485	485
Leisure Activities & Events	1,403	0	0	1,403
Local Government Grant	0	0	23,000	23,000
Sensory Loss Resource Centre Sales	0	0	2,040	2,040
Transport	4,693	0	0	4,693
	<u>12,670</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,675</u>	<u>38,345</u>
c.) Other Trading Activities				
Fund Raising	9,336	0	0	9,336
Room Hire	28,686	0	0	28,686
	<u>38,022</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>38,022</u>
d.) Investment Income				
Interest Income	707	0	0	707
Dividend Income	14,022	0	0	14,022
	<u>14,729</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,729</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

3.2. Income and Endowments 2021/22

	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Designated Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total 2021/22 £</i>
a.) Donations and Legacies				
Donations and Gifts	16,784	0	0	16,784
Gift Aid	1,550	0	0	1,550
Legacies	77,772	0	0	77,772
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	10,289	0	7,544	17,833
Friends of the Society	870	0	0	870
	<u>107,265</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,544</u>	<u>114,809</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Befriending Services	0	0	100	100
Canteen Sales	4,323	0	0	4,323
Emotional Support Services	0	0	250	250
Leisure Activities & Events	1,231	0	0	1,231
Local Government Grant	0	0	23,000	23,000
Sensory Loss Resource Centre Sales	0	0	1,691	1,691
Transport	2,935	0	0	2,935
	<u>8,489</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,041</u>	<u>33,530</u>
c.) Other Trading Activities				
Fund Raising	7,091	0	0	7,091
Room Hire	11,175	0	0	11,175
	<u>18,266</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>18,266</u>
d.) Investment Income				
Interest Income	104	0	0	104
Dividend Income	13,657	0	0	13,657
	<u>13,761</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>13,761</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

4. Analysis of Receipts of Government Grants

The charity received a single local government grant from BCP Council for the provision of a Sight and Hearing Resource Centre and a Community Support service under a Service Level Agreement.

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Provision of Sight & Hearing Resource Centre and Community Support Service	23,000	23,000
Total	<u>23,000</u>	<u>23,000</u>

As part of Central Government's economic support to businesses during the Covid-19 outbreak, the Society has received monthly grants under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) for workers furloughed, both full time and part time.

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
CJRS	0	17,833
Total	<u>0</u>	<u>17,833</u>

The amounts received have been split between Unrestricted and Restricted income in accordance with the posts put on furlough and follows the same basis for all staff and related costs.

5. Donated Goods, Facilities and Services

The accounting policies for the recognition and valuation of donated goods, facilities and services are set out in notes 2.1h and 2.1i.

No seconded staff or property was provided to the charity. Other donated goods and services are as follows:

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Fundraising Equipment	0	0
Total	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Bournemouth Blind Society also benefits from the hours given each week by unpaid volunteers. Volunteers' roles include befrienders, activity assistants, guiders, Resource Centre assistants and fundraisers.

During the year to 31 March 2023 the time given by volunteers averaged at 120 (2022: 69) hours per week. Evaluated at the 2023 National Living Wage rate, the total time given by the volunteers equates to £65,000 (2022 £32,775). The contribution of unpaid volunteers has not been recognised in the accounts.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

6. Analysis of Expenditure

6.1 Expenditure 2022/23

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022/23 £
a.) Raising Funds				
Advertising & Publicity	0	0	0	0
Fund Raising Costs	3,648	0	0	3,648
	<u>3,648</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,648</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Canteen Costs	6,940	0	0	6,940
Cleaning Costs	829	0	38	867
Emotional Support Services	0	0	444	444
Depreciation Expense	0	17,337	0	17,337
Equipment Costs	22	0	22	44
Leisure Activities	1,683	0	0	1,683
Minibus Costs	3,554	0	0	3,554
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,349	0	1,027	2,376
Property Maintenance	1,948	0	2,091	4,039
Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	4,773	0	4,774	9,547
Salaries & Staff Costs	67,580	0	44,389	111,969
Sensory Loss Resource Centre	0	510	1,954	2,464
Subscriptions	173	0	72	245
Telephone Costs	957	0	957	1,914
Travel Costs	96	0	834	930
Utility Costs	5,351	0	1,905	7,256
	<u>95,255</u>	<u>17,847</u>	<u>58,507</u>	<u>171,609</u>
c.) Other				
Bank Charges	161	0	161	322
Independent Examination Fees	855	0	855	1,710
Insurance Costs	1,395	0	1,395	2,790
Investment Management Charges	3,903	3,903	0	7,806
Legal & Professional Fees	102	0	127	229
	<u>6,416</u>	<u>3,903</u>	<u>2,538</u>	<u>12,857</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

6.2. Expenditure 2021/22

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Designated Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total 2021/22</i>
	£	£	£	£
a.) Raising Funds				
Advertising & Publicity	69	0	69	138
Fund Raising Costs	919	0	0	919
	<u>988</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>1,057</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Canteen Costs	3,783	0	0	3,783
Cleaning Costs	643	0	37	680
Emotional Support Services	0	0	407	407
Depreciation Expense	0	9,745	0	9,745
Equipment Costs	168	0	167	335
Leisure Activities	480	0	0	480
Minibus Costs	2,110	0	0	2,110
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,587	0	1,585	3,172
Property Maintenance	866	0	945	1,811
Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	1,756	384	1,531	3,671
Salaries & Staff Costs	59,034	0	54,188	113,222
Sensory Loss Resource Centre	0	1,015	1,139	2,154
Subscriptions	185	0	65	250
Telephone Costs	1,050	0	1,052	2,102
Travel Costs	14	0	468	482
Utility Costs	4,120	0	1,443	5,563
	<u>75,796</u>	<u>11,144</u>	<u>63,027</u>	<u>149,967</u>
c.) Other				
Bank Charges	147	0	147	294
Independent Examination Fees	810	0	810	1,620
Insurance Costs	1,288	0	1,288	2,576
Investment Management Charges	3,808	3,808	0	7,616
Legal & Professional Fees	202	0	146	348
	<u>6,255</u>	<u>3,808</u>	<u>2,391</u>	<u>12,454</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

7. Fees for the Examination of the Accounts

The surplus of income over expenditure is stated after providing for the following fees:

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Independent examiner's Fees	1,710	1,620
Total	<u>1,710</u>	<u>1,620</u>

8. Paid Employees

8.1 Staff Costs

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Salaries and wages	108,352	109,557
Social security costs	1,807	2,129
Pension costs (defined contribution plan)	1,810	1,536
Other employee benefits	0	0
Total	<u>111,969</u>	<u>113,222</u>

No employees received employee benefits (including employer pension costs) for the year of more than £60,000.

Key management personnel received employee benefits of £38,328 (2022: £36,774) during the year.

The holiday year is aligned with the financial year. At 31 March 2023 there were no holiday pay accruals to carry forward (2022 £0).

There were no redundancy or ex-gratia payments made during the year (2022: £0)

8.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work	2022/23 Number	2021/22 Number
Fundraising	1	1
Charitable Activities	3	4
Governance	1	1
Other	2	2
Total	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>

9. Defined Contribution Pension Scheme

The charity started a stakeholder pension scheme with NEST, which is a defined contribution pension scheme, on 1 January 2017 and is Pension Compliant.

An amount of £1,810 (2022:£1,536) is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as the charity's contribution to the scheme. The Society made the minimum contribution of 3% throughout the year.

The contribution is allocated between restricted and unrestricted funds according to the main role of the employee concerned. The contributions made for the employee who is primarily employed under the banner of Governance is shared equally between restricted and unrestricted funds.

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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

10.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost at 01 April 2022	206,376	35,923	54,665	296,964
Additions	0	0	37,556	37,556
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Cost at 31 March 2023	<u>206,376</u>	<u>35,923</u>	<u>92,221</u>	<u>334,520</u>

10.2 Depreciation

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	Straight Line	Straight Line	Straight Line	
Basis Rate	0%	20%	25%	
	£	£	£	£
Depreciation at 01 April 2022	0	30,535	51,359	81,894
Charge	0	5,388	11,949	17,337
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Depreciation at 31 March 2023	<u>0</u>	<u>35,923</u>	<u>63,308</u>	<u>99,231</u>

A zero rate of depreciation is charged to freehold property as the property is maintained to such a standard that the estimated residual value is not less than cost.

10.3 Net book value

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
<i>Net Book Value at 01 April 2022</i>	<u>206,376</u>	<u>5,388</u>	<u>3,306</u>	<u>215,070</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2023	<u>206,376</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28,913</u>	<u>235,289</u>

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11. Investment Assets

	Treasury Stock £	Shares & Cash £	Investment Trusts £	Total £
Market Value at 01 April 2022	33,757	64,722	440,118	538,597
Additions at cost	0	0	33,311	33,311
Disposal proceeds	0	14,943	11,832	26,775
Gains/(Losses)	185	1,585	(45,599)	(43,829)
Market Value at 31 March 2023	<u>33,942</u>	<u>51,364</u>	<u>415,998</u>	<u>501,304</u>

12. Stocks

	Stock for resale £	Fundraising Activities - Bar Stock:	Stock for resale £
Charitable Activities - Resource Centre:			
Opening Stock at 01 April 2022	4,324		122
Added in period	2,464		344
Expensed in period	2,027		341
Impaired	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
Closing Stock at 31 March 2023	<u>4,761</u>		<u>125</u>

13. Debtors and Prepayments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 23 £	Total 31 Mar 22 £
Trade debtors	787	0	0	787	0
Prepayments and accrued income	5,871	0	1,262	7,133	8,353
	<u>6,658</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,262</u>	<u>7,920</u>	<u>8,353</u>

14. Creditors and Accruals

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 23 £	Total 31 Mar 22 £
Trade creditors	11	0	10	21	192
Accruals	3,440	0	1,243	4,683	3,519
Taxation and social security	851	0	570	1,421	1,320
	<u>4,302</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,823</u>	<u>6,125</u>	<u>5,031</u>

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15. Cash at Bank and in Hand

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 31 Mar 23	Total 31 Mar 22
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at Bank	79,260	82,576	0	161,836	155,725
Petty Cash	540	0	0	540	540
	<u>79,800</u>	<u>82,576</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>162,376</u>	<u>156,265</u>

16. Events After the End of the Reporting Period

There were no events after the reporting period that require adjustment of the accounts.

17. Charity Funds

17.1 General Funds

General Funds include a Revaluation Reserve amounting to £18,998 (2021/22: £37,052).

17.2. Designated Funds

	Balance 31 Mar 22	Gains/ (Losses)	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 23
	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Fund	206,376	0	0	0	206,376
Continuity Reserve Fund	269,298	(21,914)	3,903	3,268	246,749
Building Maintenance Fund	101,898	0	11,609	(9,969)	80,320
Furniture Replacement Fund	127	0	127	0	0
Vehicle Replacement Fund	25,388	0	5,388	20,000	40,000
Resource Centre Equipment Fund	8,985	0	510	(3,474)	5,001
Equipment Fund	4,403	0	213	(1,190)	3,000
Covid Refresh Fund	5,000	0	0	(5,000)	0
	<u>621,475</u>	<u>(21,914)</u>	<u>21,750</u>	<u>3,635</u>	<u>581,446</u>

The balance on the Capital Fund is the book value of the Freehold Property, as explained in the Director's report (section H).

The Continuity Reserve Fund, which includes a Revaluation Reserve amounting to £18,998 (2021/22: £37,052), is half the value of the Investments held at year end.

The balance in the Building Maintenance Fund represents the net book value of items bought under this heading, plus sums set aside for anticipated property upkeep over the next 2 - 3 years. £16,832 is held as investments, £35,000 held as cash and £28,488 in assets.

The balance in the Vehicle Replacement Fund is the net book value of the minibus (£0), plus £40,000, held as cash, toward a replacement vehicle within the next 3 - 4 years.

The balance in the Resource Centre Equipment Fund is the balance of sums set aside to update and upgrade the demonstration equipment held in the Resource Centre over the next 2 years. This fund is held in cash

The balance in the Equipment Fund represents the net book value of items bought under this heading, plus sums set aside for anticipated replacement office and/or catering equipment over the next 1 - 2 years. This fund is held as cash plus assets

17.3. Restricted Funds

The balance in the restricted funds represents current assets (cash, stock and debtors) held as a result of transactions outstanding at the end of the financial year, less the liabilities incurred by the same funds outstanding at year end.

Movements on the individual restricted funds during the year were:

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	Balance 31 Mar 22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 23
	£	£	£	£	£
Resource Centre	4,544	13,540	21,382	7,498	4,200
Community Support	190	11,500	18,334	6,644	0
Emotional Support Services	169	485	19,791	19,137	0
Befriending Service	0	150	1,396	1,246	0
Sensory Garden Fund	142	0	142	0	0
	<u>5,045</u>	<u>25,675</u>	<u>61,045</u>	<u>34,525</u>	<u>4,200</u>

17.4 Transfers between funds

2023	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £
Transfers between Funds were made as follows:			
Unrestricted to Restricted deficit for the year	(34,525)		34,525
Unrestricted to Designated additions/disposals of investments	(3,268)	3,268	
Unrestricted to Designated provisions amended in year	(367)	367	
	<u>(38,160)</u>	<u>3,635</u>	<u>34,525</u>

2022	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £
Transfers between Funds were made as follows:			
Unrestricted to Restricted deficit for the year	(33,124)		33,124
Unrestricted to Designated additions/disposals of investments	(16,227)	16,227	
Unrestricted to Designated additional provisions made in year	(10,000)	10,000	
	<u>(59,351)</u>	<u>26,227</u>	<u>33,124</u>

18. Transactions with Trustees and Related Parties

18.1. Trustee remuneration and benefits

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity.

18.2 Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred.

18.3. Transactions with Related Parties

No Trustee received any direct or indirect financial benefit from any transactions undertaken by the Charity.

During the year £nil (2022: £nil) was donated to the charity by Trustees.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1114570

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED
31 MARCH 2022

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1114570

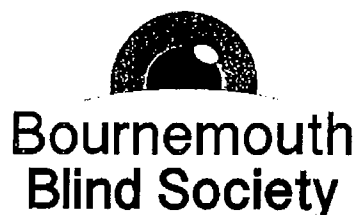
COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 05792657

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2022



The Board of Trustees has pleasure in presenting their Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Chairman's Report

Just as we thought we might be returning to some form of normality along comes the Omicron Covid variant, making the position of the Members, Staff and Trustees of Bournemouth Blind Society just as difficult as the previous year of lockdowns.

Due to some health difficulties our year opened with a change of Chair. The Deputy Chair stepped in and is extremely grateful to our previous Chair for her continued advice and support.

The work of the Society, from the point of view of Counselling, Support and Befriending has largely carried on albeit by telephone and zoom. Our Staff have been diligent in keeping in contact with as many of our Members as possible with weekly telephone conversations. Sadly, several long-standing Members have passed away during the past year and our thoughts are with their families. We are extremely grateful for the donations received in their memories.

We re-opened the Centre in August with much reduced numbers having had to overcome difficulties with transportation, cleaning and social distancing. Naturally some Members have been reluctant to face the world again preferring to continue to keep in telephone contact only.

We have taken things very cautiously but are gradually planning more in respect of activities and face to face fundraising which has been non-existent over the past year with the hope of replenishing our much-depleted coffers.

The Trustees are extremely grateful for the steadfastness and resourcefulness of the Chief Executive and his team of paid Staff and Volunteers, who have kept the Bournemouth Blind Society operating during the past year and more.

Review of Activities

Bournemouth Blind Society exists "to assist and benefit, but not with direct financial assistance, people with a visual impairment and/or hearing impairment living within the Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole area and to promote public awareness of sight and/or hearing loss." Alternative ways of delivering the assistance and benefit mentioned have been used by all the staff and volunteers who have worked during the year 2021/22.

As ever, our activities are designed, where possible, to: reduce isolation; retain or improve skills; give a sense of well-being and belonging and maintain independence. We aim to deliver all our services in a cheerful, purposeful way. Many of the Members have told us how much they have appreciated the way the Society has responded to the pandemic and looked forward to being able to attend the Centre again, which is often referred to as their "second home" and the people they meet there as their "extended family". The doors of the Centre were re-opened to Members at the beginning of August 2021. The acute awareness of the dangers of spreading the Covid virus meant that stringent cleaning protocols were adhered to and Members encouraged to retain face coverings whilst on site as much as practical.

Before reviewing the activities of the Society in depth, it is worth considering the impact of the

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pandemic on the Society's visually impaired and/or hard of hearing Members.

- Many of our Members are older and a number live in their own home, often alone as their life partners have predeceased them. Some are fortunate to live in sheltered or assisted accommodation, whilst others live with an adult child and their family. In each case, their impairment accentuates their isolation from much that is happening around them and the UK wide lockdown had further increased how isolated they felt.
- Those who do live on their own are often reliant on close family, friends or neighbours visiting on a regular basis to provide assistance. Since the early days of total lockdown, many have resisted allowing others into their homes for fear of catching Covid, thus increasing the feelings of total isolation.
- The loss of sight often results in a highly emotional time, which has often been exacerbated during lockdown. The full extent of the emotional impact of lockdown is difficult to measure, especially as spirits which appear high during a one hour phone call can often mask the reality of not coping very well. The true impact of the continuing isolation experienced during the total lockdown of 2020 is only gradually now beginning to be truly understood.

During the first five months of the Financial Year, a mixture of paid staff and volunteers made phone calls to Members at least once a month, many on a weekly basis. The calls have been a means of making sure the Members are keeping safe and well; that they have the food and medications they require; and to provide some extra social interaction.

In early August 2020, the first group of Members returned to the Centre for the Monday Social group. Since then Social Groups have run each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. The groups are approximately half the size of the pre-Covid groups as a number of previous Members have either passed away; are now too ill to attend; or have decided to remain in relative isolation. The hours spent at the Centre each day have been reduced and all groups take place in Rooper Hall to allow for greater distancing and air circulation.

On Mondays and Thursdays a two course lunch is served, followed by some form of engagement with the Members. In the months under review this has all been provided by the Staff and Volunteers and has included quizzes, word games, music appreciation, story time and memory boxes.

The Tuesday Group remains as a breakfast club and attracts a number of more active Members who are only seen at this group. They all feel very much 'at home' among the group and this is often the opportunity to discuss problems they are each facing or the opportunity for interaction with the specialist services provided by the Society.

During the year, due to the continuing Covid concerns, the Society has not run the VI Archery Group, or the Walking Group, or worked with the Dorset Dolphins VI Cricket Team.

Practical Support in the Community

Until late August, all face to face interventions have been in abeyance throughout the year, except in cases of emergency. The uptake for home visits has been sketchy and limited as many clients still struggle with the thought of a visitor bringing Covid into their home.

The Society received a grant from BCP Council toward providing a Resource Centre for both sight impairment and hearing impairment, together with a Community Support service. Throughout the pandemic the relationship between the staff of BCP's Adult Social Care Sight & Hearing Team and the Society's staff has remained favourable and remains as strong as ever.

The agreement for the Sight and Hearing Resource Centre is to open for 8 hours each week. The Trustees have made the decision to increase this to opening the Resource Centre Monday to Friday from 10am to 1pm (15 hours per week). Despite having the door open since early April, much of the provision of this service has been by telephone and email, rather than visitors to the Centre. Callers (whether over the phone or face to face) have wanted information and advice about products to help them live independently. Any callers who needed help that the

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Society was unable to provide were signposted to relevant alternative organisations. During the year a total of 162 people visited the Resource Centre, with 151 phone calls. Visits took an average of 20 minutes each with phone calls averaging 10 minutes each. Pre Covid the number of callers was 685 in the year to March 2020, with 249 phone calls.

The Community Support Service is designed to support people to live independent lives within the community. This may include helping clients apply for large print utility bills, introducing them to local groups and guiding them to learn set routes to local shops or the Post Office. The pandemic has meant that much of this work in the early part of the year has not been possible in the normal way, but was provided over the telephone, supporting clients as best as it can in the circumstances. Since September 2021 face to face home visits have started once more and a number of cases that had been on hold have now been dealt with. During the year under review, a total of 26 clients (21 in 2020/21) engaged with the Community Support team. At year end the case load is 14 clients (16 at 31 March 2021), with two cases started the first week of April 2022.

During 2020/21 the Bournemouth Blind Society Befriending Service was changed to a telephone only service and was expanded to include as many Members as possible. This continued for the first 5 months of 2021/22, when in excess of 100 Members were phoned each week on a rotation basis. Once the Social Groups restarted, a number of phone calls were stopped as we were seeing the people face to face at the Centre. The Befriending Service currently has 24 registered befriendees, but it is known that a number of Volunteers continue to phone Members who are not registered with the service. During the year, a number of our long term Befrienders retired and we wish them well after their devoted support and service for the Society. Finding suitable replacements is proving difficult, especially as a number of clients are now thinking about face to face sessions.

The Emotional Support Service continued to provide a valuable resource to anyone of any age group who is experiencing emotional, psychological or relationship difficulties arising from sight loss. As with all other services, this has been provided remotely during the first part of the year, either by telephone, or via a video link. Since September 2021 a number of face to face sessions have been given, all in line with the recommendations made by BACP (The British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy). No clients under the age of 18 were unable to continue with their support as schools were shut to outside visitors and these students can only be seen on school premises due to safeguarding issues. The Emotional Support given is much in demand and this service has continued to be provided free of charge, although clients were asked to consider making a donation where possible.

The Assistive Technology suite has not been available throughout the year, although some support has continued over telephone and video links.

Awareness

The Society is keen to work with local people, groups and businesses helping them understand the needs of the visually impaired. Due to Covid uncertainties, little face to face awareness has been delivered. However, a sight awareness session was delivered by video link to first year Occupational Students at Bournemouth University, together with talks to two local Rotary Clubs.

The bi-monthly newsletter was published 6 times in the year. The newsletter is available in many formats including large print, e-mail and audio on CD or USB stick. It provides useful information to the members and supporters, together with details of the services available at Bournemouth Blind Society and its fundraising events. An e-newsletter is also produced; aimed primarily at supporters it advertises fundraising opportunities and informs supporters of the ongoing work of the Society.

Fundraising

Many of the previous methods of fundraising have not been available for much of the year. All face to face events were suspended and will recommence in the summer of 2022. Hiring out of the Rooper Hall for private parties at weekends started again in September 2021 and the hall

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has been in use many weekends of the second six months of the year, along with regular lets on weekday evenings. The Training School who pre-Covid rented a large suite of rooms is still only paying a retainer as they had not started classes again during the year.

A limited amount of funds has been raised through online quiz nights and the pink elephant collection pots placed in local shops. The sums received from the likes of Amazon Smile and PayPal, generated by online shoppers, has remained at a higher level than pre-Covid during the year.

Bournemouth Blind Society received donations from various sources including "Friends" of the Society, Bournemouth Rotary Club, Bournemouth East Cliff Rotary Club, and Holdenhurst Charity. In excess of £5,400 was received as a distribution of cash balances on the closure of the Beckenham Social Club for the Blind. Monies received in Memory Of deceased Members exceeded £4,200 in the year. Further donations were received from numerous other generous supporters, both organisations and individuals.

A number of supporters also provided the Society with their time and services free of charge. Where significant, these have been identified in the accounts. The energy and time provided by Volunteers must not go unnoticed. The majority of the Society's volunteers have been with the organisation for many years and their services are still given freely, willingly and with a smile.

Trustees

Like so many charities, the Society relies heavily upon the generous donation of time by its Trustees. Their role is referred to elsewhere in this annual report. The work of the Trustees is often behind the scenes and goes on unseen by the majority of those who interact with the Society in whatever guise that may be.

Recruitment of suitable people to work as Trustees is not easy and two of the current Trustees have been with the Society for at least twenty two years. One would like to retire, but is waiting to ensure a replacement is in place before stepping down.

Staff

Until September 2021 HM Government offered furlough to any unable to work due to the Covid pandemic. During that period, all staff worked a mixture of full furlough, part furlough or full hours. Furlough has been claimed, where practical, while services continued in the revised formats described above. Since October 2021 all staff have returned to full hours, despite there being reduced workloads at times.

During the year, a new Member of staff was recruited to work with the returning Members in their on-site Social Groups. Gemma Cooper is working a term-time only, part-time contract.

At the end of the year, Geraldine Bradley retired after fifteen years with the Society. Everyone connected with the Society wishes her well in the future and she will be very welcome to come and visit whenever she is passing.

The Trustees wish to record their sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed for the benefit of the Society, whether staff, volunteer or supporter. They are all essential parts of the organisation.

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A. Reference and Administrative Information

The Bournemouth Blind Society was incorporated in England and Wales on 24 April 2006 as Bournemouth Society for the Visually Impaired. The change of name to Bournemouth Blind Society was recorded by Companies House on 6 March 2015. The company number is 05792657. Bournemouth Blind Society is also registered with the Charity Commission, number 1114570.

The Society operates from its registered address, 5 Victoria Park Road, Bournemouth, BH9 2RB.

Trustees

During the year and up to the date of this report the following have served as Trustees, who are also Directors of the Company:

Mrs Madeleine Avis	Deputy Chair Board of Trustees
Dr Rodney Frederick Cooper	
Mr Martin Simon Goldman	
Mrs Barbara Lauraine Russell	
Mrs Margaret Joyce Vousden	Chair Board of Trustees
Mr Terence John Wood	

The Trustees/Directors are also the Members of the company.

The Trustees/Directors due to retire by rotation at the AGM in July 2022 are Dr Rodney Frederick Cooper, Mr Martin Simon Goldman and Mrs Margaret Joyce Vousden all of whom offer themselves for re-election.

The Company Secretary and Chief Executive of the charity is Mr Philip Tarrant.

As at 31 March 2022 there were two hundred and four (2021: 202) registered blind and partially sighted users on the society's register, which only records those for whom a signed GDPR consent form is on file. A number of visually impaired users access services, but choose not to be included on the register. It is estimated this pool of users is in the region of four hundred people.

Principal Advisers

BANKERS

Barclays Bank plc
Leicester, LE87 2BB

INVESTMENT MANAGERS

Redmayne Bentley
139 Commercial Rd, Poole BH14 0JD

ACCOUNTANTS

TC Group
26-32 Oxford Road, Bournemouth, BH8 8EZ

B. Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Bournemouth Blind Society is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the company being wound up each voting Member is required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. There were six voting Members at the balance sheet date. The operations of Bournemouth Blind Society are governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which were agreed on 24 April 2006, amended by Special Resolution on 22 October 2009, amended by Special Resolution on 11 July 2013, amended by Special Resolution to change the name on 1 September 2014, amended by Special Resolution to update the Objectives on 3rd June 2019 and amended by Special Resolution on 4th October 2021.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Board of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. Under

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the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association one third of the members of the Board of Trustees must retire each year with those being longest in office retiring at the next Annual General Meeting. A retiring member of the Board will be eligible to seek for re-election. The Board has the authority to co-opt members to its number to fill any vacancy left open at any time. Members of the Board are elected at Annual General Meeting by a show of hands.

Trustee Induction and Training

Trustees are sought to bring a spread of skills, knowledge and Diversity to the Society.

All new trustees receive a pack containing:

- 1 Memorandum and Articles of Association
- 2 The Charity Commission's guide "The Essential Trustee"
- 3 Latest financial statements
- 4 Literature outlining the work of the Charity
- 5 The Charity's policies handbook

Organisational Structure

The Bournemouth Blind Society Board of Trustees may number between three and twelve members. At present there are six trustees. Responsibility for the day to day running of the Society is delegated to the Bournemouth Blind Society Chief Executive and through him to the paid staff and volunteers. Budgetary control rests with the delegated Finance Committee.

The Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee each meet four times a year, or as often as is necessary. Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings are submitted to the Board of Trustees.

Risk Management

The Trustees actively encourage the senior management to review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated and retaining sufficient restricted funds combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have implemented a Risk Management system which determines a pattern of regular reviews to reduce risk to a minimal level.

The Policies of the Society are written, reviewed by the Trustees, and published with a view to protecting the beneficiaries of the charity, as well as the volunteers, trustees and paid staff. The policies lay down the principles for the interaction between paid staff, volunteers and beneficiaries, reducing risk to an acceptable level, thus protecting the Charity.

The greatest risk the Charity currently faces is the lack of suitable volunteers to drive the Society's minibus which is putting a strain on paid staff following the retirement of two drivers during the Covid pandemic.

Pay policy for senior staff

The trustees consider the Chief Executive as the key management personnel of the charity, in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

The pay of the charity's chief executive is reviewed regularly and normally increased in accordance with average earnings. The remuneration is bench-marked with a limited number of local charities of a similar size and activity to ensure that the remuneration set is fair and not out of line with that generally paid for similar roles.

C. Public Benefit

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity and acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the Charity has achieved this are provided earlier in this report, under the heading "Review of

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Activities”.

The Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011 before deciding what activities the Charity should undertake. They do not consider that any of the charity's activities cause any significant detriment or harm and believe that any private benefit arising from the activities is incidental.

D. Custodian Trusteeship

No assets were held as custodian trustee during the reporting period.

E. Objectives

The objective for which the company was established is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Following the merge of Local Government from three local councils to one, it was agreed to update the Objectives clause of the Society, by Special Resolution, on 3rd June 2019.

The Charity's newly adopted objects ("the Objects") are:-

- (a) to assist and benefit, but not with direct financial assistance, people with a visual impairment and/or hearing impairment living within the Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole area.
- (b) to promote public awareness of sight and/or hearing loss.

F. Achievements and Performance

Reports on the achievements and activities of the Bournemouth Blind Society for the year to 31 March 2022 are contained on pages 1 to 4 of this report.

Despite the serious fall in worldwide Stock Markets in March 2020 due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the value of investments held at 31st March 2022 has regained and mainly surpassed its pre-outbreak value. The Investment Portfolio has a progressive risk and balanced investment objective. The total return on all investments, net of fees, was +5.41%. This compares with the Arc Sterling Growth benchmark of +5.13% for the same period.

G. Financial Review

The 2021/22 Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for Bournemouth Blind Society and the Balance Sheet at 31 March 2022, together with associated explanatory notes, are given on pages 12 to 26.

The Society's income for 2021/22 was £180,366, which is similar to that raised in 2020/21 (£176,052). This sum is still around 20% lower than pre-Covid levels, with restrictions and precautions preventing Members attending the Society's activities and the Society being unable to face to face fundraise for the early part of the year. The income for 2021/22 includes £77,772 received as legacies (2020/21 £27,922)

Expenditure totalled £164,225 and was about equal to that incurred in 2020/21 (£163,554).

Thanks to continuing financial management and cost control, the overall performance in 2021/22 was an operating surplus of £16,141 (a surplus of £12,498 in 2020/21). The Chief Executive, staff, and all concerned with the running of the Society are aware of their responsibilities and fully acknowledge the need to control expenditure and increase income into the Society.

Investment Policy

The Directors have previously agreed that, in times of any surplus, the monies would be

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2022

retained in an investment portfolio to maximise investment income. In times of overspend, however, equivalent funds may have to be withdrawn. The Investment Policy aims to not let the value of investments fall below a figure commensurate with twelve months total expenditure of the charity. The Investments are managed externally in a progressive risk balanced portfolio and the Trustees receive a performance report from the Fund manager on an annual basis.

H. Reserves

The reserves of the Society fall into three different categories: Unrestricted Funds; Designated Funds; Restricted Funds.

Unrestricted Funds represent those balances that can be used for any purpose that allows the Charity to achieve its stated objectives. The income is received with no restrictions placed by the giver as to how it may be used.

Designated Funds are determined by the Trustees and are amounts set aside from Unrestricted Incomes for specific purposes. The Trustees continue to carefully manage the Designated Funds:

- The Society is fortunate to own, freehold, the buildings from which it operates. The valuation of this is now held in a designated Capital Fund thereby ensuring that the Unrestricted Reserves are the unencumbered ones.
- The Directors aim is to ensure that the charity could survive through any period of unexpected expenditure or serious reduction in income and, consistent with that goal, previously established a Continuity Reserve Fund. The level of reserves retained within that Fund equates to half of the market valuation of investments at 31 March 2022.
- The Building Maintenance Fund records the net book value of items purchased under this heading in previous financial years, together with the balance of transfers made in anticipation of probable work needed on the building (primarily replacing all the double glazing units and replacement of the flat roof) over the next 2 - 3 years.
- The Furniture Replacement fund records the net book value of furniture purchased in previous financial years.
- The Society owns a minibus used to transport Members to and from various activities. The Vehicle Replacement Fund records the net book value of the minibus. During the year a further sum of £10,000 was transferred to this fund toward a replacement minibus within the next 3 - 4 years.
- An essential service provided by the Society is the Resource Room, used to demonstrate the equipment and devices available to help those with sight and/or hearing loss lead meaningful and independent lives. The Resource Centre Equipment Fund records the balance remaining of the initial transfer after the purchase of demonstration equipment and will be used over the next 12 – 24 months.
- The Equipment Fund records the net book value of items purchased under this heading in the year, together with the balance of transfers made in 2020/21. The fund is to provide for replacement office and catering equipment over the next 12 – 24 months.
- The Covid Refresh Fund was set up to cover any excess expenditure on publicity and advertising telling the local population that the Society is up and running again. Nothing was spent from this fund during the year, but the expectancy is that it will only be needed for a 12 month period.

For movements on these funds, see note 17.2.

Restricted Funds shows income given to the Society for specific purposes, stated by the giver, as listed in the Notes to the Accounts 2.4b. Movement on restricted funds is recorded in note 17.3.

The Trustees believe the reserves are more than adequate to maintain the Society through any further period of shutdown due to any further pandemic. They are keeping the situation under review and will act to implement any changes that become necessary to ensure the

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continuation of the Charity.

Total reserves at the end of the year were £916,953 (2021: £877,812), split between the funds as: Unrestricted Fund £291,181; Designated Fund £621,474; Restricted Fund £4,298. The level of Reserves held as tangible assets are £215,070 (2021: £223,321).

I. Plans for Future Periods

As reported earlier, all of the services provided by the Society are now open once more to the blind and partially sighted, together with those with a hearing loss. However, there is still a lot of hesitancy amongst the target group of potential members following the Covid pandemic. The largest part of future planning revolves around attracting more members for the Social Groups, clients for the support services offered, Volunteers to help run those groups and services and funding to help financially support the Charity.

The Society will continue to focus on the provision of services to the blind and partially sighted community, with an emphasis on reaching out to more people. RNIB have estimated that by 2025 there will be in excess of 16,000 visually impaired people living within the BCP Council area. Connecting with more of this group, providing services and activities that support and enable them is essential for the growth of the charity.

Being aware of local needs and provisions are an essential part of the development of the charity and a full review of service provision against perceived and known need is taking place in the first quarter of 2022/23.

The BCP Adult Social Care team working with the sensory impaired now covers Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and it is anticipated that the Community Support service will have to grow to cover the entire area. The number of referrals from this source is currently very limited as the BCP team is trying hard to recruit further ROVI's (Rehabilitation Officer for the Visually Impaired) to cover the larger area (at present there are only 2 ROVI's for the whole area).

Actively promoting the Resource Centre and Befriending Service will initially take place through communications with local optometrists/opticians and social prescribers. Promotions to the general public will follow, together with a revamped website.

The Trustees will work closely with the Chief Executive to determine what the future provision of services will look like as things return to near normal and all scenarios that allows the Charity's objectives to be met will be explored.

J. Trustees' Responsibilities in the Preparation of Financial Statements

Company law requires the directors of the charity (namely the Trustees) to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus/deficit of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

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

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2022

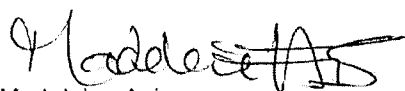
K. Auditors

For the year under review, the Trustees have chosen to apply the statutory requirement for an Independent Examination. TC Group has been appointed as Independent Examiners for the year to 31 March 2022.

L. Method of Preparation of Accounts

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

This report was approved by the Board on 13th June 2022.



Madeleine Avis
Chair of Trustees

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Bournemouth Blind Society

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 12 to 26.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also directors of Bournemouth Blind Society for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter except that referred to in the previous paragraph has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Zoë Mowlem FCA
For and on behalf of

TC Group



26-32 Oxford Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH8 8EZ

Dated: 9/9/2022

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2022
SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021/22 £	Total 2020/21 £
Income and endowments from:	2.1/3					
Donations and legacies		107,265	0	7,544	114,809	103,818
Charitable activities		8,489	0	25,041	33,530	23,899
Other trading activities		18,266	0	0	18,266	38,574
Investments		13,761	0	0	13,761	9,761
Total		147,781	0	32,585	180,366	176,052
Expenditure on:	2.2/6					
Raising Funds		988	0	69	1,057	2,037
Charitable Activities		75,796	11,144	63,027	149,967	152,733
Other		6,255	3,808	2,391	12,454	8,784
Total		83,039	14,952	65,487	163,478	163,554
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains/ (losses) on investment assets		64,742	(14,952)	(32,902)	16,888	12,498
Net gains/(losses) on investment assets	11	11,500	11,500	0	23,000	61,792
Net income/(expenditure)		76,242	(3,452)	(32,902)	39,888	74,290
Transfers between funds	17.4	(59,351)	26,227	33,124	0	0
Other recognised gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement In Funds for the year		16,891	22,775	222	39,888	74,290
Reconciliation Of Funds						
Total Funds brought forward at 1 April 2021		274,289	598,700	4,823	877,812	803,522
Total Funds carried forward at 31 March 2022		291,180	621,475	5,045	917,700	877,812

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 14 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2022

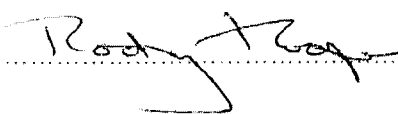
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021/22 £	Total 2020/21 £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Assets	10	0	215,070	0	215,070	223,321
Investments	11	209,299	329,298	0	538,597	490,758
		<u>209,299</u>	<u>544,368</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>753,667</u>	<u>714,079</u>
Current Assets						
Stocks	12	122	0	4,324	4,446	4,149
Debtors	13	6,087	0	2,266	8,353	7,969
Cash at Bank and in Hand	15	79,016	77,107	142	156,265	156,153
		<u>85,225</u>	<u>77,107</u>	<u>6,732</u>	<u>169,064</u>	<u>168,271</u>
Current Liabilities						
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	14	3,344	0	1,687	5,031	4,538
		<u>81,881</u>	<u>77,107</u>	<u>5,045</u>	<u>164,033</u>	<u>163,733</u>
Net Current Assets						
		<u>81,881</u>	<u>77,107</u>	<u>5,045</u>	<u>164,033</u>	<u>163,733</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>291,180</u>	<u>621,475</u>	<u>5,045</u>	<u>917,700</u>	<u>877,812</u>
Total net assets or liabilities		<u>291,180</u>	<u>621,475</u>	<u>5,045</u>	<u>917,700</u>	<u>877,812</u>
Funds of the Charity						
Unrestricted Funds	17.1	291,180	0	0	291,180	274,289
Designated Funds	17.2	0	621,475	0	621,475	598,700
Restricted Funds	17.3	0	0	5,045	5,045	4,823
Total Funds		<u>291,180</u>	<u>621,475</u>	<u>5,045</u>	<u>917,700</u>	<u>877,812</u>

The directors are satisfied that that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Approved by the Directors on 13th June 2022 and

Signed on their behalf by  Dr. Rodney Cooper, Director

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

1.1 Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, as modified by the revaluation of investments, and include the results of the charity's operations which are described in the Directors' and Trustees' reports and all of which are continuing. All amounts are shown in pounds sterling. The charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Companies Act 2006;
- the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), issued on 16 July 2014;
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) as applied from 1 April 2015;
- the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast any significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.3 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

1.4 Material prior year errors

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 Income

a.) Recognition of income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the charity becomes legally entitled to the resources;
- the Directors have sufficient certainty they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be quantified with reasonable accuracy

b.) Offsetting

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross. Further, there has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities

c.) Grants and donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

d.) Legacies

Legacies are included in Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is probable, that is: when there has been grant of probate; the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

e.) Government grants

The charity has received a local government grant during the year. See note 4.

f.) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

have specified otherwise.

g.) Contractual income and performance related grants

This is only included once the charity has provided the related goods or services have been delivered.

h.) Donated goods

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries are measured at fair value at the time of receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stock at distribution.

i.) Donated Services and Facilities

Donated services and facilities are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended when the service or facility is consumed immediately) where the benefit to the charity can be measured reliably. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

j.) Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in note 5 to the accounts.

k.) Income from interest and dividends

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

l.) Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised and unrealised gains and losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

2.2 Expenditure and Liabilities

a.) Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs 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.

b.) Governance and support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

c.) Redundancy cost

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

d.) Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

e.) Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

f) Value added tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity and as such is included in the relevant costs in

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.3 Assets

a.) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

The Trustees believe that a more accurate picture of assets used is gained by depreciating assets over a given number of years. Rates and methods used are disclosed in note 10

b.) Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. Cumulative unrealised gains on investments are taken to revaluation reserves.

c.) Stock

Stock consists of goods for resale in order to raise funds to further the Charity's objectives and is measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.

d.) Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

e.) 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 of value.

2.4 Other Accounting Policies

a) Taxation

Bournemouth Blind Society is not liable for corporation tax by reason of its charitable objects and status.

b.) Restricted Funds

The restricted funds represent monies given for specific purposes. The Trustees have identified the following services as being in receipt of restricted funds:

- Sight and Hearing Resource Centre – supported by a grant from BCP Council and sales in the Resource Centre.
- Community Support Service – supported by a grant from BCP Council.
- Emotional Support Services – donations given by clients specifically toward the cost of the service.
- Befriending Services – donations given by clients specifically toward the cost of the service.
- Sensory Garden Fund – amount granted to the Society for the creation and upkeep of a sensory garden at the Centre.

Movements on Restricted Funds are shown in note 17.3.

c.) Unrestricted and Designated Funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity represent the accumulated reserves of the charity which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further the objects of the charity.

The designated funds are unrestricted funds and represent monies set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes. Movements on the Designated Funds are shown in note 17.2.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

3. Analysis of Income and Endowments
3.1 Income and Endowments 2021/22

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021/22 £
a.) Donations and Legacies				
Donations and Gifts	16,784	0	0	16,784
Gift Aid	1,550	0	0	1,550
Legacies	77,772	0	0	77,772
Grants	0	0	0	0
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	10,289	0	7,544	17,833
Friends of the Society	870	0	0	870
Donated goods and services	0	0	0	0
	<u>107,265</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,544</u>	<u>114,809</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Befriending Services	0	0	100	100
Canteen Sales	4,323	0	0	4,323
Emotional Support Services	0	0	250	250
Leisure Activities & Events	1,231	0	0	1,231
Local Government Grant	0	0	23,000	23,000
Sensory Loss Resource Centre Sales	0	0	1,691	1,691
Transport	2,935	0	0	2,935
	<u>8,489</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,041</u>	<u>33,530</u>
c.) Other Trading Activities				
Fund Raising	7,091	0	0	7,091
Room Hire	11,175	0	0	11,175
	<u>18,266</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>18,266</u>
d.) Investment Income				
Interest Income	104	0	0	104
Dividend Income	13,657	0	0	13,657
	<u>13,761</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>13,761</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

3.2. Income and Endowments 2020/21

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020/21 £
a.) Donations and Legacies				
Donations and Gifts	17,066	0	0	17,066
Gift Aid	1,122	0	0	1,122
Legacies	27,922	0	0	27,922
Grants	0	0	8,500	8,500
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	32,425	0	15,909	48,334
Friends of the Society	874	0	0	874
Donated goods and services	0	0	0	0
	<u>79,409</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>24,409</u>	<u>103,818</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Befriending Services	0	0	0	0
Canteen Sales	0	0	0	0
Emotional Support Services	0	0	25	25
Leisure Activities & Events	0	0	0	0
Local Government Grant	0	0	23,000	23,000
Sensory Loss Resource Centre Sales	0	0	874	874
Transport	0	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>23,899</u>	<u>23,899</u>
c.) Other Trading Activities				
Fund Raising	4,752	0	0	4,752
Room Hire	33,822	0	0	33,822
	<u>38,574</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>38,574</u>
d.) Investment Income				
Interest Income	498	0	0	498
Dividend Income	9,263	0	0	9,263
	<u>9,761</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9,761</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

4. Analysis of Receipts of Government Grants

The charity received a single local government grant from BCP Council for the provision of a Sight and Hearing Resource Centre and a Community Support service under a Service Level Agreement.

	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£
Provision of Sight & Hearing Resource Centre and Community Support Service	23,000	23,000
Total	<u>23,000</u>	<u>23,000</u>

As part of Central Government's economic support to businesses during the Covid-19 outbreak, the Society has received monthly grants under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) for workers furloughed, both full time and part time.

	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£
CJRS	17,833	48,334
Total	<u>17,833</u>	<u>48,334</u>

The amounts received have been split between Unrestricted and Restricted income in accordance with the posts put on furlough and follows the same basis for all staff and related costs.

5. Donated Goods, Facilities and Services

The accounting policies for the recognition and valuation of donated goods, facilities and services are set out in notes 2.1h and 2.1i.

No seconded staff or property was provided to the charity. Other donated goods and services are as follows:

	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£
Fundraising Equipment	0	0
Total	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Bournemouth Blind Society also benefits from the hours given each week by unpaid volunteers. Volunteers' roles include: befrienders, activity assistants, guiders, Resource Centre assistants and fundraisers.

During the year to 31 March 2022 the time given by volunteers averaged at 69 (2021: 40) hours per week. Evaluated at the 2022 living wage rate, the total time given by the volunteers equates to £32,775 (2021 £21,783). The contribution of unpaid volunteers has not been recognised in the accounts.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

6. Analysis of Expenditure

6.1 Expenditure 2021/22

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021/22 £
a.) Raising Funds				
Advertising & Publicity	69	0	69	138
Fund Raising Costs	919	0	0	919
Room Hire Costs	0	0	0	0
	<u>988</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>1,057</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Canteen Costs	3,783	0	0	3,783
Cleaning Costs	643	0	37	680
Emotional Support Services	0	0	407	407
Depreciation Expense	0	9,745	0	9,745
Equipment Costs	168	0	167	335
Leisure Activities	480	0	0	480
Minibus Costs	2,110	0	0	2,110
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,587	0	1,585	3,172
Property Maintenance	866	0	945	1,811
Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	1,756	384	1,531	3,671
Salaries & Staff Costs	59,034	0	54,188	113,222
Sensory Loss Resource Centre	0	1,015	1,139	2,154
Subscriptions	185	0	65	250
Telephone Costs	1,050	0	1,052	2,102
Training Costs	0	0	0	0
Travel Costs	14	0	468	482
Utility Costs	4,120	0	1,443	5,563
	<u>75,796</u>	<u>11,144</u>	<u>63,027</u>	<u>149,967</u>
c.) Other				
Bank Charges	147	0	147	294
Independent Examination Fees	810	0	810	1,620
Insurance Costs	1,288	0	1,288	2,576
Investment Management Charges	3,808	3,808	0	7,616
Legal & Professional Fees	202	0	146	348
	<u>6,255</u>	<u>3,808</u>	<u>2,391</u>	<u>12,454</u>

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

6.2. Expenditure 2020/21

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020/21 £
a.) Raising Funds				
Advertising & Publicity	0	0	0	0
Fund Raising Costs	2,037	0	0	2,037
	<u>2,037</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,037</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Canteen Costs	0	0	0	0
Cleaning Costs	61	0	0	61
Emotional Support Services	0	0	444	444
Depreciation Expense	0	11,386	0	11,386
Equipment Costs	76	0	76	152
Leisure Activities	196	0	0	196
Minibus Costs	2,233	0	0	2,233
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,434	0	1,374	2,808
Property Maintenance	0	0	0	0
Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	1,913	0	1,689	3,602
Salaries & Staff Costs	63,453	0	63,112	126,565
Sensory Loss Resource Centre	0	0	686	686
Subscriptions	221	0	109	330
Telephone Costs	577	0	577	1,154
Training Costs	0	0	0	0
Travel Costs	0	0	47	47
Utility Costs	2,293	0	776	3,069
	<u>72,457</u>	<u>11,386</u>	<u>68,890</u>	<u>152,733</u>
c.) Other				
Bank Charges	135	0	135	270
Independent Examination Fees	780	0	780	1,560
Insurance Costs	1,243	0	1,243	2,486
Investment Management Charges	2,182	2,183	0	4,365
Legal & Professional Fees	40	0	63	103
	<u>4,380</u>	<u>2,183</u>	<u>2,221</u>	<u>8,784</u>

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7. Fees for the Examination of the Accounts

The surplus of income over expenditure is stated after providing for the following fees:

	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£
Independent examiner's Fees	1,620	1,560
Assurance services other than independent examination	0	0
Tax advisory fees	0	0
Other fees paid to the independent examiner	0	0
Total	1,620	1,560

8. Paid Employees

8.1 Staff Costs

	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£
Salaries and wages	109,557	121,898
Social security costs	2,129	3,037
Pension costs (defined contribution plan)	1,536	1,630
Other employee benefits	0	0
Total	113,222	126,565

No employees received employee benefits (including employer pension costs) for the year of more than £60,000.

Key management personnel received employee benefits of £36,774 (2021: £35,997) during the year.

The holiday year is aligned with the financial year. At 31 March 2022 there were no holiday pay accruals to carry forward (2021 £0).

There were no redundancy or ex-gratia payments made during the year (2020: £0)

8.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work	2021/22 Number	2020/21 Number
Fundraising	1	1
Charitable Activities	4	3
Governance	1	1
Other	2	2
Total	8	7

9. Defined Contribution Pension Scheme

The charity started a stakeholder pension scheme with NEST, which is a defined contribution pension scheme, on 1 January 2017 and is Pension Compliant.

An amount of £1,536 (2021: £1,630) is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as the charity's contribution to the scheme. The Society made the minimum contribution of 3% throughout the year.

The contribution is allocated between restricted and unrestricted funds according to the main role of the employee concerned. The contributions made for the employee who is primarily employed under the banner of Governance is shared equally between restricted and unrestricted funds.

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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

10.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost at 01 April 2021	206,376	35,923	53,171	295,470
Additions	0	0	1,494	1,494
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Cost at 31 March 2022	<u>206,376</u>	<u>35,923</u>	<u>54,665</u>	<u>296,964</u>

10.2 Depreciation

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	Straight Line	Straight Line	Straight Line	
Basis	0%	20%	25%	
Rate				
	£	£	£	£
Depreciation at 01 April 2021	0	23,350	48,799	72,149
Charge	0	7,185	2,560	9,745
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Depreciation at 31 March 2022	<u>0</u>	<u>30,535</u>	<u>51,359</u>	<u>81,894</u>

A zero rate of depreciation is charged to freehold property as the property is maintained to such a standard that the estimated residual value is not less than cost.

10.3 Net book value

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
<i>Net Book Value at 01 April 2021</i>	<u>206,376</u>	<u>12,573</u>	<u>4,372</u>	<u>223,321</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2022	<u>206,376</u>	<u>5,388</u>	<u>3,306</u>	<u>215,070</u>

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11. Investment Assets

	Treasury Stock £	Shares & Cash £	Investment Trusts £	Total £
Market Value at 01 April 2021	32,354	64,802	393,602	490,758
Additions at cost	0	0	50,982	50,982
Disposal proceeds	0	7,613	18,530	26,143
Gains/(Losses)	1,403	7,533	14,064	23,000
Market Value at 31 March 2022	<u>33,757</u>	<u>64,722</u>	<u>440,118</u>	<u>538,597</u>

12. Stocks

	Stock for resale £	Fundraising Activities - Bar Stock:	Stock for resale £
Charitable Activities - Resource Centre:			
Opening Stock at 01 April 2021	3,988		161
Added in period	2,155		0
Expensed in period	1,097		39
Impaired	722		0
Closing Stock at 31 March 2022	<u>4,324</u>		<u>122</u>

13. Debtors and Prepayments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 22 £	Total 31 Mar 21 £
Trade debtors	0	0	0	0	0
Prepayments and accrued income	6,087	0	2,266	8,353	7,969
	<u>6,087</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,266</u>	<u>8,353</u>	<u>7,969</u>

14. Creditors and Accruals

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 21 £	Total 31 Mar 20 £
Trade creditors	96	0	96	192	22
Accruals	2,521	0	998	3,519	2,967
Taxation and social security	727	0	593	1,320	1,549
Other creditors	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>3,344</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,687</u>	<u>5,031</u>	<u>4,538</u>

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15. Cash at Bank and in Hand

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 31 Mar 22	Total 31 Mar 21
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at Bank	78,476	77,107	142	155,725	155,573
Petty Cash	540	0	0	540	580
	<u>79,016</u>	<u>77,107</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>156,265</u>	<u>156,153</u>

16. Events After the End of the Reporting Period

There were no events after the reporting period that require adjustment of the accounts.

17. Charity Funds

17.1 General Funds

General Funds include a Revaluation Reserve amounting to £37,052 (2020/21: £25,777).

17.2. Designated Funds

	Balance 31 Mar 21	Income/ Gains	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 22
	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Fund	206,376	0	0	0	206,376
Continuity Reserve Fund	245,379	11,500	3,808	16,227	269,298
Building Maintenance Fund	104,118	0	2,220	0	101,898
Furniture Replacement Fund	254	0	127	0	127
Vehicle Replacement Fund	22,573	0	7,185	10,000	25,388
Resource Centre Equipment Fund	10,000	0	1,015	0	8,985
Equipment Fund	5,000	0	597	0	4,403
Covid Refresh Fund	5,000	0	0	0	5,000
	<u>598,700</u>	<u>11,500</u>	<u>14,952</u>	<u>26,227</u>	<u>621,475</u>

The balance on the Capital Fund is the book value of the Freehold Property, as explained in the Director's report (section H).

The Continuity Reserve Fund, which includes a Revaluation Reserve amounting to £37,052 (2020/21: £25,777), is half the value of the Investments held at year end.

The balance in the Building Maintenance Fund represents the net book value of items bought under this heading, plus sums set aside for anticipated property upkeep over the next 2 - 3 years. £50,000 is held as investments, the balance being held as cash and assets.

The balance in the Furniture Replacement Fund represents the net book value of chairs bought 2020.

The balance in the Vehicle Replacement Fund is the net book value of the minibus, plus £20,000, held as cash, toward a replacement vehicle within the next 3 - 4 years.

The balance in the Resource Centre Equipment Fund is the balance of sums set aside to update and upgrade the demonstration equipment held in the Resource Centre over the next 2 years. This fund is held in cash

The balance in the Equipment Fund represents the net book value of items bought under this heading, plus sums set aside for anticipated replacement office and/or catering equipment over the next 1 - 2 years. This fund is held as cash plus assets

The balance on the Covid Refresh Fund is £5,000, held as cash, toward the costs (including advertising and publicity) of re-establishing the charity following the national Covid-19 shutdown.

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17.3. Restricted Funds

The balance in the restricted funds represents current assets (cash, stock and debtors) held as a result of transactions outstanding at the end of the financial year, less the liabilities incurred by the same funds outstanding at year end.

Movements on the individual restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance 31 Mar 21	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 22
	£	£	£	£	£
Resource Centre	4,467	13,677	13,699	99	4,544
Community Support	10	16,622	30,224	13,782	190
Emotional Support Services	125	1,686	20,362	18,720	169
Befriending Service	0	600	1,123	523	0
Sensory Garden Fund	221	0	79	0	142
	<u>4,823</u>	<u>32,585</u>	<u>65,487</u>	<u>33,124</u>	<u>5,045</u>

17.4 Transfers between funds

2022	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £
Transfers between Funds were made as follows:			
Unrestricted to Restricted deficit for the year	(33,124)		33,124
Unrestricted to Designated additions/disposals of investments	(16,227)	16,227	
Unrestricted to Designated additional provisions made in year	(10,000)	10,000	
	<u>(59,351)</u>	<u>26,227</u>	<u>33,124</u>

2021	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £
Transfers between Funds were made as follows:			
Unrestricted to Restricted deficit for the year	(23,750)		23,750
Unrestricted to Designated additions/disposals of investments	(25,330)	25,330	
Designated to Unrestricted reduce provision made previous years	1,430	(1,430)	
Unrestricted to Designated additional provisions made in year	(130,000)	130,000	
	<u>(177,650)</u>	<u>153,900</u>	<u>23,750</u>

18. Transactions with Trustees and Related Parties

18.1. Trustee remuneration and benefits

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity.

18.2 Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred.

18.3. Transactions with Related Parties

Mr Terence Wood is a Trustee of the charity. A person connected to Mr Wood is an employee of the charity but Mr Wood was not involved in the recruitment of the employee or in setting levels of remuneration and management of the employee. Mr Wood received no direct or indirect financial benefit from this relationship.

During the year £nil (2021: £nil) was donated to the charity by Trustees.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1114570

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED
31 MARCH 2021

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1114570

COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 05792657

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2021

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2021



The Board of Trustees has pleasure in presenting their Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Chairman's Report

I expect 2020–2021 will figure significantly in history books and be recognised as one of the most difficult and challenging periods in our world history.

Throughout the pandemic support for the Members of the Society has been uppermost and Staff and Volunteers have maintained regular phone contact with them in order to assist in reducing feelings of isolation and to signpost to other services if required.

As restrictions curtailed all planned fund raising events it was necessary to explore alternative methods of, not only generating funds, but also maintaining awareness of the ongoing and extensive work of the Charity.

Thanks to the steadfastness and resourcefulness of Staff, Volunteers, Trustees and everyone involved the Bournemouth Blind Society continues to have a strong local influence and as soon as is possible will be fully operational once again.

Review of Activities

As with many other organisations within the UK, Bournemouth Blind Society has been subject to the restrictions imposed by Central Government in their efforts to stem the spread of Covid-19. The Society had to close the doors of its Centre in Moordown in mid-March 2020 and has not opened them again to visitors throughout the year under review. Regulations have virtually curtailed all face to face interventions during the year and, in line with the local Council, the Society has only made visits to Members' homes in cases of emergency.

However, the Bournemouth Blind Society exists "to assist and benefit, but not with direct financial assistance, people with a visual impairment and/or hearing impairment living within the Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole area and to promote public awareness of sight and/or hearing loss." Alternative ways of delivering the assistance and benefit mentioned have been used by all the staff and volunteers who have continued to work during the year 2020/21.

As ever, our activities are designed, where possible, to: reduce isolation; retain or improve skills; give a sense of well-being and belonging and maintain independence. We aim to deliver all our services in a cheerful, purposeful way. Many of the Members have told us how much they have appreciated the way the Society has responded to the pandemic and really look forward to being able to attend the Centre again, which is often referred to as their "second home" and the people they meet there as their "extended family".

Before reviewing the activities of the Society in depth, it is worth considering the impact of the pandemic on the Society's visually impaired and/or hard of hearing Members.

- Many of our Members are older and a number live in their own home, often alone as their life partners have predeceased them. Some are fortunate to live in sheltered or assisted accommodation, whilst others live with an adult child and their family. In each case, their impairment accentuates their isolation from much that is happening around them and the UK wide lockdown has further increased how isolated they can feel.

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- Those who do live on their own are often reliant on close family, friends or neighbours visiting on a regular basis to provide assistance. In the early days of lockdown, even that contact was discouraged, increasing the feelings of total isolation.
- The loss of sight often results in a highly emotional time, which will have been exacerbated during lockdown. The full extent of the emotional impact of lockdown is difficult to measure, especially as spirits which appear high during a one hour phone call can often mask the reality of not coping very well. It will only be once we are able to openly interact with the Members once again in the social groups that the true impact of the continuing isolation will become clear.

Much of April and May 2020 was spent helping Members to make arrangements with local supermarkets for home deliveries of food and other essentials. It came as no surprise that very few stores had considered the needs of the blind and partially sighted, insisting that orders had to be made online. Discussions with several store managers convinced them that there was a case for allowing telephone orders to be made and delivered. Some of the members who are more technology minded managed to use the supermarket online systems with telephone help from Society staff and volunteers.

Using a mixture of paid staff and volunteers many Members have been telephoned at least once a month, many on a weekly basis. The calls have been a means of making sure the Members are keeping safe and well; that they have the food and medications they require; and to provide some extra social interaction. During the latter part of the financial year, regular Zoom chats were held with a small number of Members who were able to log into the system.

A number of Members needed help arranging transport to their Covid vaccination appointments, much of which was provided free of charge by other providers. Volunteers and staff made the connection between Member and provider. Toward the end of the financial year, the National Census was conducted. Some Members living on their own asked for and received assistance from Society staff to complete the census forms online.

As already intimated above, no face to face social activities have taken place throughout the year. Despite the slight relaxation of restrictions during the summer months of 2020, the Centre did not re-open at that point as the Trustees and senior management were of the opinion that the possibility of passing the virus within the group was too large to take any risks. The Society has not run the VI Archery Group, or the Walking Group, or worked with the Dorset Dolphins VI Cricket Team.

Practical Support in the Community

As already outlined above, all face to face interventions have been in abeyance throughout the year, except in cases of emergency. The Society received a grant from BCP Council toward providing a Resource Centre for both sight impairment and hearing impairment, together with a Community Support service. Throughout the pandemic the relationship between the staff of BCP's Adult Social Care Sight & Hearing Team and the Society's staff has remained favourable and is possibly stronger now than before.

The agreement for the Resource Centre is to open for 8 hours each week. However, the provision of this service has been by telephone and email for the entire year. Callers have wanted information and advice about products to help them live independently. A limited postal clock/watch resetting and battery replacement service has been offered and used, especially at the time when BST started/ended. Many callers were put into direct contact with equipment suppliers, who sent items to the caller's home. Any callers who needed help that the Society was unable to provide were signposted to relevant alternative organisations. In previous years visitor numbers have been quoted, but there is little value in trying to compare last financial year's figures with this year's since the mode of operation has been totally different.

The Community Support Service is designed to support people to live independent lives within the community. This may include helping clients apply for large print utility bills, introducing them to local groups and guiding them to learn set routes to local shops or the Post Office. The

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pandemic has meant that much of this work has not been possible in the normal way, yet the work of the team has continued throughout lockdown over the telephone, supporting clients as best as it can in the circumstances. During the year under review, a total of 21 clients (23 in 2019/20) engaged with the Community Support team. At year end the case load is 16 clients (15 at 31 March 2020). A further 8 clients, who all need home visits, are on a waiting list and their intervention will start as soon as possible once restrictions are lifted.

The Bournemouth Blind Society Befriending Service was changed to a telephone only service and was expanded to include as many Members as possible. Throughout most of the year in excess of 100 Members were phoned each week on a rotation basis. Going forward this is a popular outreach service which will continue to be in great demand and is considered to be an important part of the work of the Society. However finding suitable volunteers is currently putting a great strain on the service as we try to build up capacity to cover the needs of the extended BCP area, including Christchurch and Poole. In recognition of the extra resources needed to expand and run this service, the Society received grants from Talbot Village Trust (£8,000) and the Tesco Bags of Help scheme (£500).

The Emotional Support Service continued to provide a valuable resource to anyone of any age group who is experiencing emotional, psychological or relationship difficulties arising from sight loss. As with all other services, this has been provided remotely during the year, either by telephone, or via a video link. All of the clients under the age of 18 mentioned in last year's report were unable to continue with their support as schools were shut to outside visitors and these students can only be seen on school premises due to safeguarding issues. The Emotional Support given is much in demand and this service has continued to be provided free of charge, although clients were asked to consider making a donation where possible.

The Assistive Technology suite has not been available throughout the year, although some support has continued over telephone and video links.

Awareness

The Society is keen to work with local people, groups and businesses helping them understand the needs of the visually impaired. Despite the restrictions, a sight awareness session was delivered by video link to first year Occupational Students at Bournemouth University, together with talks to a local Rotary Club.

The bi-monthly newsletter was published 6 times in the year, although with a reduced number of pages. The newsletter is available in many formats including large print, e-mail and audio on CD or USB stick. It provides useful information to the members and supporters, together with details of the services available at Bournemouth Blind Society and its fundraising events. An e-newsletter is also produced; aimed primarily at supporters it advertises fundraising opportunities and informs supporters of the ongoing work of the Society.

Fundraising

Many of normal methods of fundraising have not been available throughout the year. All face to face events were suspended, as was all hiring out of any accommodation in the Centre. Clearly this has had an adverse effect on income for the year.

A limited amount of funds has been raised through online quiz nights and the pink elephant collection pots placed in local shops. The sums received from the likes of Amazon Smile and PayPal, generated by online shoppers increased considerably during the year.

Bournemouth Blind Society received donations from various sources including "Friends" of the Society, Bournemouth Rotary Club, Bournemouth East Cliff Rotary Club, Inner Wheel Club of Boscombe and Southbourne, Holdenhurst Charity and numerous other generous supporters - organisations, groups and individuals.

A number of supporters also provided the Society with their time and services free of charge. Where significant, these have been identified in the accounts. The energy and time provided by Volunteers must not go unnoticed. The majority of the Society's volunteers have been with the

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organisation for many years and their services are still given freely, willingly and with a smile.

Trustees

Like so many charities, the Society relies heavily upon the generous donation of time by its Trustees. Their role is referred to elsewhere in this annual report. The work of the Trustees is often behind the scenes and goes on unseen by the majority of those who interact with the Society in whatever guise that may be.

Recruitment of suitable people to work as Trustees is not easy and it is sad when a Trustee deems it is time to retire from service. At the end of the Financial Year, Mike Dwyer resigned from the Board. His work with the Society over the past 12 years is recognised in this report.

Staff

Throughout the year the two staff members directly connected to the cleaning and maintenance of the building have been on full furlough. All other staff have been on a mix of full furlough, part furlough or full hours. As much as possible, furlough has been claimed, while services have continued in the revised formats described above.

During the year, Caroline Simmons decided to take retirement after 16 years with the Society. Everyone connected with the Society wish her well in the future and she will be very welcome to come and visit whenever she is passing.

The Trustees wish to record their sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed for the benefit of the Society, whether staff, volunteer or supporter. They are all essential parts of the organisation.

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A. Reference and Administrative Information

The Bournemouth Blind Society was incorporated in England and Wales on 24 April 2006 as Bournemouth Society for the Visually Impaired. The change of name to Bournemouth Blind Society was recorded by Companies House on 6 March 2015. The company number is 05792657. Bournemouth Blind Society is also registered with the Charity Commission, number 1114570.

The Society operates from its registered address, 5 Victoria Park Road, Bournemouth, BH9 2RB.

Trustees

During the year and up to the date of this report the following have served as Trustees, who are also Directors of the Company:

Mrs Madeleine Avis	Deputy Chair Board of Trustees
Dr Rodney Frederick Cooper	
Mr Michael Dwyer	Resigned 31.03.2021
Mr Martin Simon Goldman	
Mrs Barbara Lauraine Russell	
Mrs Margaret Joyce Vousden	Chair Board of Trustees
Mr Terence John Wood	

The Trustees/Directors are also the Members of the company.

The Trustees/Directors due to retire by rotation at the AGM in July 2021 are Mr Michael Dwyer and Mr Terence John Wood. However, following Mr Michael Dwyer's resignation, the only Trustee/Director offering themselves for re-election is Mr Terence John Wood, who is eligible for re-election.

The Company Secretary and Chief Executive of the charity is Mr Philip Tarrant.

As at 31 March 2021 there were two hundred and two (2020: 221) registered blind and partially sighted users on the society's register, which only records those for whom a signed GDPR consent form is on file. A number of visually impaired users access services, but choose not to be included on the register. It is estimated this pool of users is in the region of four hundred people.

Principal Advisers

BANKERS

Barclays Bank plc
Bournemouth Group, PO Box 44, Poole, BH15 1YA

INVESTMENT MANAGERS

To 19.02.2021

Charles Stanley & Co Ltd
Vadatech House, Hounsdown Business Park
Bulls Copse Road, Southampton, SO40 9LR

From 20.02.21

Redmayne Bentley
139 Commercial Rd, Poole BH14 0JD

ACCOUNTANTS

TC Group
26-32 Oxford Road, Bournemouth, BH8 8EZ

B. Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Bournemouth Blind Society is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the company being wound up each voting Member is required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. There were six voting Members at the balance sheet date. The operations of

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2021

Bournemouth Blind Society are governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which were agreed on 24 April 2006, amended by Special Resolution on 22 October 2009, amended by Special Resolution on 11 July 2013, amended by Special Resolution to change the name on 1 September 2014 and amended by Special Resolution to update the Objectives on 3rd June 2019.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Board of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association one third of the members of the Board of Trustees must retire each year with those being longest in office retiring at the next Annual General Meeting. A retiring member of the Board will be eligible to seek for re-election. The Board has the authority to co-opt members to its number to fill any vacancy left open at any time. Members of the Board are elected at Annual General Meeting by a show of hands.

Trustee Induction and Training

Trustees are sought to bring a spread of skills and knowledge to the Society.

All new trustees receive a pack containing:

- 1 Memorandum and Articles of Association
- 2 The Charity Commission's guide "The Essential Trustee"
- 3 Latest financial statements
- 4 Literature outlining the work of the Charity
- 5 The Charity's policies handbook

Organisational Structure

The Bournemouth Blind Society Board of Trustees may number between three and twelve members. At present there are six trustees. Responsibility for the day to day running of the Society is delegated to the Bournemouth Blind Society Chief Executive and through him to the paid staff and volunteers. Budgetary control rests with the delegated Finance Committee.

The Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee each meet four times a year, or as often as is necessary. Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings are submitted to the Board of Trustees.

Risk Management

The Trustees actively encourage the senior management to review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated and retaining sufficient restricted funds combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have implemented a Risk Management system which determines a pattern of regular reviews to reduce risk to a minimal level.

The Policies of the Society are written, reviewed by the Trustees, and published with a view to protecting the beneficiaries of the charity, as well as the volunteers, trustees and paid staff. The policies lay down the principles for the interaction between paid staff, volunteers and beneficiaries, reducing risk to an acceptable level, thus protecting the Charity.

The greatest risk the Charity currently faces is the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak. Being closed for an extended period of time has affected our Members and may reduce the number of new applicants in the year ahead as people will be cautious leaving their homes once it is deemed safe to be out and about once more. Not being able to raise funds from our normal activities and events will increase the need to rely on reserves and grants, but with careful planning should allow the Society to remain solvent.

A lack of suitable volunteers to drive the Society's minibus will put a strain on paid staff with the imminent retirement of current drivers and will soon become critical to the Society. Various contingency plans are being devised should recruitment continue to draw negative results.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2021

Pay policy for senior staff

The trustees consider the Chief Executive as the key management personnel of the charity, in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

The pay of the charity's chief executive is reviewed regularly and normally increased in accordance with average earnings. The remuneration is bench-marked with other charities of a similar size and activity to ensure that the remuneration set is fair and not out of line with that generally paid for similar roles.

C. Public Benefit

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity and acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the Charity has achieved this are provided earlier in this report, under the heading "Review of Activities".

The Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011 before deciding what activities the Charity should undertake. They do not consider that any of the charity's activities cause any significant detriment or harm and believe that any private benefit arising from the activities is incidental.

D. Custodian Trusteeship

No assets were held as custodian trustee during the reporting period.

E. Objectives

The objective for which the company was established is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Following the merge of Local Government from three local councils to one, it was agreed to update the Objectives clause of the Society, by Special Resolution, on 3rd June 2019.

The Charity's newly adopted objects ("the Objects") are:-

- (a) to assist and benefit, but not with direct financial assistance, people with a visual impairment and/or hearing impairment living within the Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole area.
- (b) to promote public awareness of sight and/or hearing loss.

F. Achievements and Performance

Reports on the achievements and activities of the Bournemouth Blind Society for the year to 31 March 2021 are contained on pages 1 to 4 of this report.

Despite the serious fall in worldwide Stock Markets in March 2020 due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the value of investments held at 31st March 2021 has regained some of its pre-outbreak value. During the year the management of the portfolio was transferred from Charles Stanley to Redmayne Bentley. It has a progressive risk and balanced investment objective. Since the transfer of management in February 2021, the total return on all investments, net of fees, was +1.65%. This compares with the Arc Sterling Growth benchmark of -0.17% for the same period.

G. Financial Review

The 2020/21 Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for Bournemouth Blind Society and the Balance Sheet at 31 March 2021, together with associated explanatory notes, are given on pages 12 to 26.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2021

The Society's income for 2020/21 was £176,052, which is almost 22% lower than that raised in 2019/20 (£223,967). This is largely due to the Covid-19 lockdown preventing Members attending the Society's activities and the Society being unable to fundraise.

Expenditure totalled £163,554 and was about £33,000 less than that incurred in 2019/20 (£196,959), primarily as a direct result of the impact of the Covid-19 lockdown on services provided by the Society.

Thanks to continuing financial management and cost control, the overall performance in 2020/21 was an operating surplus of £12,498 (a surplus of £27,008 in 2019/20). The Chief Executive, staff, and all concerned with the running of the Society are aware of their responsibilities and fully acknowledge the need to control expenditure and increase income into the Society.

Investment Policy

The Directors have previously agreed that, in times of any surplus, the monies would be retained in an investment portfolio to maximise investment income. In times of overspend, however, equivalent funds may have to be withdrawn. The Investment Policy aims to not let the value of investments fall below a figure commensurate with twelve months total expenditure of the charity. The Investments are managed externally in a progressive risk balanced portfolio and the Trustees receive a performance report from the Fund manager on an annual basis.

H. Reserves

The reserves of the Society fall into three different categories: Unrestricted Funds; Designated Funds; Restricted Funds.

Unrestricted Funds represent those balances that can be used for any purpose that allows the Charity to achieve its stated objectives. The income is received with no restrictions placed by the giver as to how it may be used.

Designated Funds are determined by the Trustees and are amounts set aside from Unrestricted Incomes for specific purposes. The Trustees continue to carefully manage the Designated Funds:

- The Society is fortunate to own, freehold, the buildings from which it operates. The valuation of this is now held in a designated Capital Fund thereby ensuring that the Unrestricted Reserves are the unencumbered ones.
- The Directors aim is to ensure that the charity could survive through any period of unexpected expenditure or serious reduction in income and, consistent with that goal, previously established a Continuity Reserve Fund. The level of reserves retained within that Fund equates to half of the market valuation of investments at 31 March 2021.
- A Building Maintenance Fund records the net book value of an air conditioning unit bought in 2019. During the year a transfer of £100,000 was made into this fund in anticipation of probable work needed on the building (primarily replacing all the double glazing units) over the next 2 - 3 years.
- The Furniture Replacement fund records the net book value of furniture purchased in the previous financial year.
- The Society owns a minibus used to transport Members to and from various activities. The Vehicle Replacement Fund records the net book value of the minibus. During the year a sum of £10,000 was transferred to this fund toward a replacement minibus within the next 3 - 4 years.
- An essential service provided by the Society is the Resource Room, used to demonstrate the equipment and devices available to help those with sight and/or hearing loss lead meaningful and independent lives. During the year a new designated fund was established to refresh and upgrade the demonstration equipment available over the next 12 – 24 months. A sum of £10,000 was transferred into the Resource Centre Equipment

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2021

Fund.

- An Equipment Fund has been established and the sum of £5,000 was transferred into this fund during the year. The fund is to provide for replacement office and catering equipment over the next 12 – 24 months.
- As a direct result of the Covid-19 lockdown, the Directors have agreed to set up a Covid Refresh Fund to cover any excess expenditure on publicity and advertising telling the local population that the Society is up and running again. During the year a sum of £5,000 was transferred into this fund, with the expectancy that it will only be needed for a 12 – 18 month period.

For movements on these funds, see note 17.2.

Restricted Funds shows income given to the Society for specific purposes, stated by the giver, as listed in the Notes to the Accounts 2.4b. Movement on restricted funds is recorded in note 17.3.

The Trustees believe the reserves are sufficient to maintain the Society through any further period of shutdown due to the Covid-19 outbreak. They are keeping the situation under review and will act to implement any changes that become necessary to ensure the continuation of the Charity.

Total reserves at the end of the year were £877,812 (2020: £803,522), split between the funds as: Unrestricted Fund £274,289; Designated Fund £598,700; Restricted Fund £4,823. The level of Reserves held as tangible assets are £223,321 (2020: £234,707).

I. Plans for Future Periods

As reported earlier under Review of Activities, the Centre and all face to face contact with our Members was stopped by Central Government intervention in mid-March 2020 due to the Covid-19 outbreak. The current Government advice suggests that some of the services provided by the Society (emotional support and community support, together with the resource centre) will be able to re-start with face to face contact from mid-May. It is currently planned for all restrictions on gatherings will be lifted by late June, when the Society will be able to re-start social activities in one form or another. There is still uncertainty as to when restrictions will be fully lifted and services will be able to return to near normality. Therefore, plans for the future will have to be fluid and adaptable to adhere to Central Government policy, in particular in relation to face coverings and social distancing.

The Society will continue to focus on the provision of services to the blind and partially sighted community, with an emphasis on reaching out to more people. RNIB have estimated that by 2025 there will be in excess of 16,000 visually impaired people living within the BCP Council area. Connecting with more of this group, providing services and activities that support and enable them is essential for the growth of the charity.

Being aware of local needs and provisions are an essential part of the development of the charity. The new BCP Adult Social Care team working with the sensory impaired started working as a single unit early in 2020 and the development of the Society's Community Support team provision was beginning to grow in the early part of 2020. However, in an attempt to reduce physical contact, the advice of Central Government was to practice social distancing and all face to face interventions were immediately stopped. When the restrictions are finally lifted, this service, together with an enhanced team of befrienders will increase their provision across the entire conurbation.

The Trustees will work closely with the Chief Executive to determine what the future provision of services will look like as things return to near normal and all scenarios that allows the Charity's objectives to be met will be explored.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2021

J. Trustees' Responsibilities in the Preparation of Financial Statements

Company law requires the directors of the charity (namely the Trustees) to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus/deficit of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

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

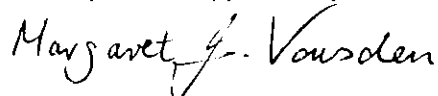
K. Auditors

For the year under review, the Trustees have chosen to apply the statutory requirement for an Independent Examination. TC Group have been appointed as Independent Examiners for the year to 31 March 2021.

L. Method of Preparation of Accounts

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

This report was approved by the Board on 14th June 2021.



Margaret Joyce Vousden
Chair of Trustees

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Bournemouth Blind Society

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 12 to 26.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also directors of Bournemouth Blind Society for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter except that referred to in the previous paragraph has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Zoë Mowlem FCA
For and on behalf of

TC Group



.....
26-32 Oxford Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH8 8EZ

Dated: 6/7/2021

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2021
SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020/21 £	Total 2019/20 £
Income and endowments from:	2.1/3					
Donations and legacies		79,409	0	24,409	103,818	67,686
Charitable activities		0	0	23,899	23,899	49,065
Other trading activities		38,574	0	0	38,574	92,430
Investments		9,761	0	0	9,761	14,786
Total		127,744	0	48,308	176,052	223,967
Expenditure on:	2.2/6					
Raising Funds		2,037	0	0	2,037	6,005
Charitable Activities		72,457	11,386	68,890	152,733	181,751
Other		4,380	2,183	2,221	8,784	9,203
Total		78,874	13,569	71,111	163,554	196,959
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains/ (losses) on investment assets		48,870	(13,569)	(22,803)	12,498	27,008
Net gains/(losses) on investment assets	11	30,896	30,896	0	61,792	(64,216)
Net income/(expenditure)		79,766	17,327	(22,803)	74,290	(37,208)
Transfers between funds	17.4	(177,650)	153,900	23,750	0	0
Other recognised gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement In Funds for the year		(97,884)	171,227	947	74,290	(37,208)
Reconciliation Of Funds						
Total Funds brought forward at 1 April 2020		372,173	427,473	3,876	803,522	840,730
Total Funds carried forward at 31 March 2021		274,289	598,700	4,823	877,812	803,522

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 14 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2021

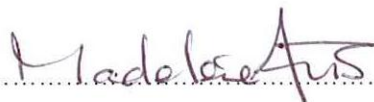
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020/21 £	Total 2019/20 £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Assets	10	0	223,321	0	223,321	234,707
Investments	11	195,379	295,379	0	490,758	382,671
		<u>195,379</u>	<u>518,700</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>714,079</u>	<u>617,378</u>
Current Assets						
Stocks	12	161	0	3,988	4,149	4,393
Debtors	13	5,548	0	2,421	7,969	34,384
Cash at Bank and in Hand	15	75,892	80,000	261	156,153	153,877
		<u>81,601</u>	<u>80,000</u>	<u>6,670</u>	<u>168,271</u>	<u>192,654</u>
Current Liabilities						
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	14	2,691	0	1,847	4,538	6,510
Net Current Assets		<u>78,910</u>	<u>80,000</u>	<u>4,823</u>	<u>163,733</u>	<u>186,144</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>274,289</u>	<u>598,700</u>	<u>4,823</u>	<u>877,812</u>	<u>803,522</u>
Total net assets or liabilities		<u>274,289</u>	<u>598,700</u>	<u>4,823</u>	<u>877,812</u>	<u>803,522</u>
Funds of the Charity						
Unrestricted Funds	17.1	274,289	0	0	274,289	372,173
Designated Funds	17.2	0	598,700	0	598,700	427,473
Restricted Funds	17.3	0	0	4,823	4,823	3,876
Total Funds		<u>274,289</u>	<u>598,700</u>	<u>4,823</u>	<u>877,812</u>	<u>803,522</u>

The directors are satisfied that that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Approved by the Directors on 14th June 2021 and

Signed on their behalf by  Madeleine Avis, Director

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

1.1 Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, as modified by the revaluation of investments, and include the results of the charity's operations which are described in the Directors' and Trustees' reports and all of which are continuing. All amounts are shown in pounds sterling. The charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Companies Act 2006;
- the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), issued on 16 July 2014;
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) as applied from 1 April 2015;
- the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast any significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.3 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

1.4 Material prior year errors

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 Income

a.) Recognition of income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the charity becomes legally entitled to the resources;
- the Directors have sufficient certainty they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be quantified with reasonable accuracy

b.) Offsetting

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross. Further, there has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities

c.) Grants and donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

d.) Legacies

Legacies are included in Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is probable, that is: when there has been grant of probate; the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

e.) Government grants

The charity has received a local government grant during the year. See note 4.

f.) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

have specified otherwise.

g.) Contractual income and performance related grants

This is only included once the charity has provided the related goods or services have been delivered.

h.) Donated goods

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries are measured at fair value at the time of receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stock at distribution.

i.) Donated Services and Facilities

Donated services and facilities are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended when the service or facility is consumed immediately) where the benefit to the charity can be measured reliably. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

j.) Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in note 5 to the accounts.

k.) Income from interest and dividends

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

l.) Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised and unrealised gains and losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

2.2 Expenditure and Liabilities

a.) Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs 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.

b.) Governance and support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

c.) Redundancy cost

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

d.) Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

e.) Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

f) Value added tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity and as such is included in the relevant costs in

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.3 Assets

a.) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

The Trustees believe that a more accurate picture of assets used is gained by depreciating assets over a given number of years. Rates and methods used are disclosed in note 10

b.) Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. Cumulative unrealised gains on investments are taken to revaluation reserves.

c.) Stock

Stock consists of goods for resale in order to raise funds to further the Charity's objectives and is measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.

d.) Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

e.) 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 of value.

2.4 Other Accounting Policies

a) Taxation

Bournemouth Blind Society is not liable for corporation tax by reason of its charitable objects and status.

b.) Restricted Funds

The restricted funds represent monies given for specific purposes. The Trustees have identified the following services as being in receipt of restricted funds:

- Sight and Hearing Resource Centre – supported by a grant from BCP Council and sales in the Resource Centre.
- Community Support Service – supported by a grant from BCP Council.
- Emotional Support Services – donations given by clients specifically toward the cost of the service.
- Befriending Services – donations given by clients specifically toward the cost of the service.
- Sensory Garden Fund – amount granted to the Society for the creation and upkeep of a sensory garden at the Centre.

Movements on Restricted Funds are shown in note 17.3.

c.) Unrestricted and Designated Funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity represent the accumulated reserves of the charity which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further the objects of the charity.

The designated funds are unrestricted funds and represent monies set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes. Movements on the Designated Funds are shown in note 17.2.

BOURNEMOUTH BLIND SOCIETY
Co. No. 05792657 (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

3. Analysis of Income and Endowments

3.1 Income and Endowments 2020/21

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020/21 £
a.) Donations and Legacies				
Donations and Gifts	17,066	0	0	17,066
Gift Aid	1,122	0	0	1,122
Legacies	27,922	0	0	27,922
Grants	0	0	8,500	8,500
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	32,425	0	15,909	48,334
Friends of the Society	874	0	0	874
Donated goods and services	0	0	0	0
	<u>79,409</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>24,409</u>	<u>103,818</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Befriending Services	0	0	0	0
Canteen Sales	0	0	0	0
Emotional Support Services	0	0	25	25
Leisure Activities & Events	0	0	0	0
Local Government Grant	0	0	23,000	23,000
Sensory Loss Resource Centre Sales	0	0	874	874
Transport	0	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>23,899</u>	<u>23,899</u>
c.) Other Trading Activities				
Fund Raising	4,752	0	0	4,752
Room Hire	33,822	0	0	33,822
	<u>38,574</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>38,574</u>
d.) Investment Income				
Interest Income	498	0	0	498
Dividend Income	9,263	0	0	9,263
	<u>9,761</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9,761</u>

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3.2. Income and Endowments 2019/20

	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Designated Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total 2019/20 £</i>
a.) Donations and Legacies				
Donations and Gifts	12,712	0	0	12,712
Gift Aid	873	0	0	873
Legacies	51,973	0	0	51,973
Grants	0	0	0	0
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	1,082	0	158	1,240
Friends of the Society	856	0	0	856
Donated goods and services	32	0	0	32
	<u>67,528</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>158</u>	<u>67,686</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Befriending Services	0	0	265	265
Canteen Sales	13,271	0	0	13,271
Emotional Support Services	0	0	433	433
Leisure Activities & Events	4,075	0	0	4,075
Local Government Grant	0	0	18,000	18,000
Sensory Loss Resource Centre Sales	0	0	3,948	3,948
Transport	9,073	0	0	9,073
	<u>26,419</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>22,646</u>	<u>49,065</u>
c.) Other Trading Activities				
Fund Raising	19,140	0	0	19,140
Room Hire	73,290	0	0	73,290
	<u>92,430</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>92,430</u>
d.) Investment Income				
Interest Income	733	0	0	733
Dividend Income	14,053	0	0	14,053
	<u>14,786</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,786</u>

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4. Analysis of Receipts of Government Grants

The charity received a single local government grant from BCP Council for the provision of a Sight and Hearing Resource Centre and a Community Support service under a Service Level Agreement.

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Provision of Sight & Hearing Resource Centre and Community Support Service	23,000	18,000
Total	<u>23,000</u>	<u>18,000</u>

As part of Central Government's economic support to businesses during the Covid-19 outbreak, the Society has received monthly grants under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) for workers furloughed, both full time and part time.

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
CJRS	48,334	1,240
Total	<u>48,334</u>	<u>1,240</u>

The amounts received have been split between Unrestricted and Restricted income in accordance with the posts put on furlough and follows the same basis for all staff and related costs.

5. Donated Goods, Facilities and Services

The accounting policies for the recognition and valuation of donated goods, facilities and services are set out in notes 2.1h and 2.1i.

No seconded staff or property was provided to the charity. Other donated goods and services are as follows:

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Fundraising Equipment	0	32
Total	<u>0</u>	<u>32</u>

Bournemouth Blind Society also benefits from the hours given each week by unpaid volunteers. Volunteers' roles include: befrienders, activity assistants, guiders, Resource Centre assistants and fundraisers.

During the year to 31 March 2021 the time given by volunteers was considerably less than that given in previous years due to the pandemic and averaged at 40 (2020: 138) hours per week. Evaluated at the 2021 living wage rate, the total time given by the volunteers equates to £21,783 (2020 £56,674). The contribution of unpaid volunteers has not been recognised in the accounts.

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6. Analysis of Expenditure

6.1 Expenditure 2020/21

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020/21 £
a.) Raising Funds				
Advertising & Publicity	0	0	0	0
Fund Raising Costs	2,037	0	0	2,037
	<u>2,037</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,037</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Canteen Costs	0	0	0	0
Cleaning Costs	61	0	0	61
Emotional Support Services	0	0	444	444
Depreciation Expense	0	11,386	0	11,386
Equipment Costs	76	0	76	152
Leisure Activities	196	0	0	196
Minibus Costs	2,233	0	0	2,233
Printing Postage & Stationery	1,434	0	1,374	2,808
Property Maintenance	0	0	0	0
Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	1,913	0	1,689	3,602
Salaries & Staff Costs	63,453	0	63,112	126,565
Sensory Loss Resource Centre	0	0	686	686
Subscriptions	221	0	109	330
Telephone Costs	577	0	577	1,154
Training Costs	0	0	0	0
Travel Costs	0	0	47	47
Utility Costs	2,293	0	776	3,069
	<u>72,457</u>	<u>11,386</u>	<u>68,890</u>	<u>152,733</u>
c.) Other				
Bank Charges	135	0	135	270
Independent Examination Fees	780	0	780	1,560
Insurance Costs	1,243	0	1,243	2,486
Investment Management Charges	2,182	2,183	0	4,365
Legal & Professional Fees	40	0	63	103
	<u>4,380</u>	<u>2,183</u>	<u>2,221</u>	<u>8,784</u>

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6.2. Expenditure 2019/20

	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Designated Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>Total 2019/20 £</i>
a.) Raising Funds				
Advertising & Publicity	0	0	593	593
Fund Raising Costs	5,412	0	0	5,412
	<u>5,412</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>593</u>	<u>6,005</u>
b.) Charitable Activities				
Canteen Costs	10,828	0	0	10,828
Cleaning Costs	1,502	0	0	1,502
Emotional Support Services	0	0	370	370
Depreciation Expense	0	11,386	3,048	14,434
Equipment Costs	87	0	87	174
Leisure Activities	2,060	0	0	2,060
Minibus Costs	3,714	0	0	3,714
Printing Postage & Stationery	989	0	945	1,934
Property Maintenance	3,665	0	3,665	7,330
Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	1,629	0	1,625	3,254
Salaries & Staff Costs	65,811	0	56,625	122,436
Sensory Loss Resource Centre	0	0	2,247	2,247
Subscriptions	160	0	0	160
Telephone Costs	622	0	622	1,244
Training Costs	164	0	164	328
Travel Costs	863	0	1,176	2,039
Utility Costs	5,773	0	1,924	7,697
	<u>97,867</u>	<u>11,386</u>	<u>72,498</u>	<u>181,751</u>
c.) Other				
Bank Charges	292	0	292	584
Independent Examination Fees	750	0	750	1,500
Insurance Costs	1,183	0	1,183	2,366
Investment Management Charges	2,147	2,146	0	4,293
Legal & Professional Fees	207	0	253	460
	<u>4,579</u>	<u>2,146</u>	<u>2,478</u>	<u>9,203</u>

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7. Fees for the Examination of the Accounts

The surplus of income over expenditure is stated after providing for the following fees:

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Independent examiner's Fees	1,560	1,500
Assurance services other than independent examination	0	0
Tax advisory fees	0	0
Other fees paid to the independent examiner	0	0
Total	1,560	1,500

8. Paid Employees

8.1 Staff Costs

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Salaries and wages	121,898	117,269
Social security costs	3,037	3,589
Pension costs (defined contribution plan)	1,630	1,578
Other employee benefits	0	0
Total	126,565	122,436

No employees received employee benefits (including employer pension costs) for the year of more than £60,000.

Key management personnel received employee benefits of £35,997 (2020: £34,840) during the year.

The holiday year is aligned with the financial year. At 31 March 2021 there were no holiday pay accruals to carry forward (2020 £0).

There were no redundancy or ex-gratia payments made during the year (2020: £0)

8.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work	2020/21	2019/20
	Number	Number
Fundraising	1	1
Charitable Activities	3	5
Governance	1	1
Other	2	2
Total	7	9

9. Defined Contribution Pension Scheme

The charity started a stakeholder pension scheme with NEST, which is a defined contribution pension scheme, on 1 January 2017 and is Pension Compliant.

An amount of £1,630 (2020:£1,578) is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as the charity's contribution to the scheme. The Society made the minimum contribution of 3% throughout the year.

The contribution is allocated between restricted and unrestricted funds according to the main role of the employee concerned. The contributions made for the employee who is primarily employed under the banner of Governance is shared equally between restricted and unrestricted funds.

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10. Tangible Fixed Assets

10.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost at 01 April 2020	206,376	35,923	53,171	295,470
Additions	0	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Cost at 31 March 2021	<u>206,376</u>	<u>35,923</u>	<u>53,171</u>	<u>295,470</u>

10.2 Depreciation

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	Straight Line	Straight Line	Straight Line	
Basis	0%	20%	25%	
Rate				
	£	£	£	£
Depreciation at 01 April 2020	0	16,166	44,597	60,763
Charge	0	7,184	4,202	11,386
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Depreciation at 31 March 2021	<u>0</u>	<u>23,350</u>	<u>48,799</u>	<u>72,149</u>

A zero rate of depreciation is charged to freehold property as the property is maintained to such a standard that the estimated residual value is not less than cost.

10.3 Net book value

	Freehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
<i>Net Book Value at 01 April 2020</i>	<u>206,376</u>	<u>19,757</u>	<u>8,574</u>	<u>234,707</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2021	<u>206,376</u>	<u>12,573</u>	<u>4,372</u>	<u>223,321</u>

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11. Investment Assets

	Treasury Stock £	Shares & Cash £	Investment Trusts £	Total £
Market Value at 01 April 2020	32,525	56,441	293,705	382,671
Additions at cost	0	75,508	89,760	165,268
Disposal proceeds	0	67,211	51,762	118,973
Gains/(Losses)	(171)	64	61,899	61,792
Market Value at 31 March 2021	<u>32,354</u>	<u>64,802</u>	<u>393,602</u>	<u>490,758</u>

12. Stocks

	Stock for resale £	Fundraising Activities - Bar Stock:	Stock for resale £
Charitable Activities - Resource Centre:			
Opening Stock at 01 April 2020	4,063		330
Added in period	686		0
Expensed in period	761		169
Impaired	0		0
Closing Stock at 31 March 2021	<u>3,988</u>		<u>161</u>

13. Debtors and Prepayments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 21 £	Total 31 Mar 20 £
Trade debtors	0	0	0	0	5,018
Prepayments and accrued income	5,548	0	2,421	7,969	29,366
	<u>5,548</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,421</u>	<u>7,969</u>	<u>34,384</u>

14. Creditors and Accruals

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 21 £	Total 31 Mar 20 £
Trade creditors	11	0	11	22	1,094
Accruals	1,967	0	1,000	2,967	3,787
Taxation and social security	713	0	836	1,549	1,567
Other creditors	0	0	0	0	62
	<u>2,691</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,847</u>	<u>4,538</u>	<u>6,510</u>

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15. Cash at Bank and in Hand

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Mar 21 £	Total 31 Mar 20 £
Cash at Bank	75,352	80,000	221	155,573	153,364
Petty Cash	540	0	40	580	513
	<u>75,892</u>	<u>80,000</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>156,153</u>	<u>153,877</u>

16. Events After the End of the Reporting Period

There were no events after the reporting period that require adjustment of the accounts.

17. Charity Funds

17.1 General Funds

General Funds include a Revaluation Reserve amounting to £25,777 (2020: (£5,071)).

17.2. Designated Funds

	Balance 31 Mar 20 £	Income/ Gains £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 Mar 21 £
Capital Fund	206,376	0	0	0	206,376
Continuity Reserve Fund	191,336	30,896	2,183	25,330	245,379
Building Maintenance Fund	6,178	0	2,060	100,000	104,118
Furniture Replacement Fund	3,826	0	2,142	(1,430)	254
Vehicle Replacement Fund	19,757	0	7,184	10,000	22,573
Resource Centre Equipment Fund	0	0	0	10,000	10,000
Equipment Fund	0	0	0	5,000	5,000
Covid Refresh Fund	0	0	0	5,000	5,000
	<u>427,473</u>	<u>30,896</u>	<u>13,569</u>	<u>153,900</u>	<u>598,700</u>

The balance on the Capital Fund is the book value of the Freehold Property, as explained in the Director's report (section H).

The Continuity Reserve Fund, which includes a Revaluation Reserve amounting to 25,777 (2020: (£5,071)), is half the value of the Investments held at year end.

The balance in the Building Maintenance Fund represents the net book value of the air conditioning unit installed in Rooper Hall during 2019, plus £100,000 set aside for anticipated property upkeep over the next 2 - 3 years. £50,000 is held as investments, the balance being held as cash.

The balance in the Furniture Replacement Fund represents the net book value of chairs bought 2020.

The balance in the Vehicle Replacement Fund is the net book value of the minibus, which has a further 2 years depreciation to be charged against this fund, plus £10,000, held as cash, toward a replacement vehicle within the next 3 - 4 years.

The balance in the Resource Centre Equipment Fund is £10,000, held as cash, set aside to update and upgrade the demonstration equipment held in the Resource Centre over the next 1 - 2 years.

The balance in the Equipment Fund is £5,000, held as cash, toward replacement office and/or catering equipment over the next 1 - 2 years.

The balance on the Covid Refresh Fund is £5,000, held as cash, toward the costs (including advertising and publicity) of re-opening the charity following the national Covid-19 shutdown.

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17.3. Restricted Funds

The balance in the restricted funds represents current assets (cash, stock and debtors) held as a result of transactions outstanding at the end of the financial year, less the liabilities incurred by the same funds outstanding at year end.

Movements on the individual restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance 31 Mar 20	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 21
	£	£	£	£	£
Resource Centre	4,173	19,927	19,636	3	4,467
Community Support	(41)	18,057	26,660	8,654	10
Emotional Support Services	(477)	1,824	14,980	13,758	125
Befriending Service	0	8,500	9,835	1,335	0
Sensory Garden Fund	221	0	0	0	221
	<u>3,876</u>	<u>48,308</u>	<u>71,111</u>	<u>23,750</u>	<u>4,823</u>

17.4 Transfers between funds

2021	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £
Transfers between Funds were made as follows:			
Unrestricted to Restricted deficit for the year	(23,750)		23,750
Designated to Unrestricted additions/disposals of investments	(25,330)	25,330	
Designated to Unrestricted reduction of provision	1,430	(1,430)	
Unrestricted to Designated additional provisions	(130,000)	130,000	
	<u>(177,650)</u>	<u>153,900</u>	<u>23,750</u>
2020	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £
Transfers between Funds were made as follows:			
Unrestricted to Restricted deficit for the year	(51,298)		51,298
Designated to Unrestricted additions/disposals of investments	1,239	(1,239)	
	<u>(50,059)</u>	<u>(1,239)</u>	<u>51,298</u>

18. Transactions with Trustees and Related Parties

18.1. Trustee remuneration and benefits

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity.

18.2 Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred.

18.3. Transactions with Related Parties

Mr Terence Wood is a Trustee of the charity. A person connected to Mr Wood is an employee of the charity but Mr Wood was not involved in the recruitment of the employee or in setting levels of remuneration and management of the employee. Mr Wood received no direct or indirect financial benefit from this relationship.

During the year £nil (2020: £nil) was donated to the charity by Trustees.