

CUCKMERE COMMUNITY BUS LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1120494

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [06032000](#)

Registered 2007-08-08

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 6 Alexandra Close
Seaford
East Sussex
BN25 2XA

Phone 01323894988

Email paul@cuckmerebuses.org.uk

Website www.cuckmerebuses.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 3. THE OBJECT OF THE CHARITY IS TO PROVIDE A COMMUNITY BUS AND A COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SERVICE, INCLUDING PRIVATE HIRE, FOR SUCH OF THE INHABITANTS OF EAST AND WEST SUSSEX AND THE CITY OF BRIGHTON AND HOVE WHO ARE IN NEED OF SUCH A SERVICE BECAUSE OF AGE, SICKNESS OR DISABILITY (MENTAL OR PHYSICAL), OR POVERTY, OR BECAUSE OF A LACK OF AVAILABILITY OF ADEQUATE AND SAFE PUBLIC PASSENGER SERVICES.

Activities: PROVIDE A COMMUNITY BUS AND A COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SERVICE

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** EAST SUSSEX, WEST SUSSEX, BRIGHTON AND HOVE.
- Brighton And Hove
- East Sussex
- West Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£329,623	£319,771	-	-
2024-12-31	£339,027	£329,667	-	-
2023-12-31	£266,781	£257,256	-	-
2022-12-31	£238,868	£237,879	-	-
2021-12-31	£220,739	£187,978	-	-
2020-12-31	£176,946	£177,008	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
BERYL ANNE SMITH	Chair	
Nicholas Brian Price		2021-02-15
PHILIP MONTAGUE AYRES		
Paul Warren		2023-04-03
Wayne Evenden		2024-04-23

CUCKMERE COMMUNITY BUS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1120494

Accounts



Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

(Registered Charity 1120494)

Trustees' Report and unaudited Accounts

31 December 2025

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd 2025 Report and unaudited Accounts

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**Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Report
for year ended 31 December 2025**

Legal and Administrative Details

Legal Status

- company/charity name - Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
- England & Wales Charity Commission register number 1120494
- England & Wales Registrar of Companies register number 06032000
- trading name - Cuckmere Buses
- website address for charity – www.cuckmerebuses.org.uk

Objects

The object of the Company is to provide a community bus and a community transport service, including private hire, for such of the inhabitants of East and West Sussex and the City of Brighton and Hove who are in need of such a service because of age, sickness or disability (mental or physical), or poverty, or because of a lack of availability of adequate and safe public passenger services.

Trustees/Directors

Philip Montague Ayers
Nicholas Brian Price
Wayne John Evenden

Beryl Anne Smith
Paul Patrick Warren

Principal Address

The Old Rectory
Litlington
Polegate
East Sussex
BN26 5RB

Insurance Broker

Arthur J Gallacher
34 Tower View
Kings Hill, West Malling
Kent
ME19 4UY

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc

Co-operative Bank plc

CCLA Fund Managers

Independent Examiner

Sarah Price – SLP Advisory Limited

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2025

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Review of Activities

Cuckmere Buses is the trading name for Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd (CCB), a charitable limited company based in Berwick, East Sussex. It has been running for 49 years supplementing existing bus services and providing bus links for village residents throughout the Cuckmere Valley area to their nearest towns for shopping, for appointments, or for social activities.

OUR VISION is being the Community Bus service of choice in our area, and OUR MISSION is providing a safe, reliable, and courteous local bus, serving those rural and urban communities in our part of East Sussex not served by commercial companies.

CCB is run entirely by volunteers; there are no employees. We have some 50 volunteer drivers, all with D1 classification on their licences, and a few additional volunteers who all help run the fleet of 16-seater low-floor Mercedes mini-buses. The MiDAS (Minibus Awareness Scheme) system of training has been radically altered to the point where CCB no longer considers it appropriate for new driver recruits or for continuing education and reassessment. CCB has instead developed its own training and assessment scheme, at least equivalent to MiDAS standards, which has been accepted by East Sussex County Council and our insurers. The value of volunteers to the organisation cannot be overestimated, in terms of community support and company viability. In addition to over 20 weekly timetabled services, requiring nearly twice as many half-day shifts, the company operates summer leisure services and offers private hire facilities. We also provide special annual services for the International Tennis in Eastbourne, and the Charleston festivals.

CCB remains a busy voluntary organisation and always needs new volunteers. Our ongoing recruitment programme has resulted in a reasonable net increase in drivers by the end of the year and we are still looking to increase numbers further in 2026. However, the Department for Transport's review of the changing need for D1 licence requirements for minibuses is a positive move and may result in us being able to access a broader driver pool, given that the D1 licence is currently only available if a car driving test was passed before 1997. Although this review seems to have stalled recently, we optimistically await the outcome of the consultation.

2025 saw a modest increase in passenger numbers over 2024, which was itself a record year, and by the year-end we had carried 88,267 (2024 87,915) passengers which, not only exceeded the 2019 figure of 81,632 but is now the highest numbers of journeys we have ever catered for. In addition, we ran some 168,671 (2024 159,042) miles and hope to see a continued growth in passenger journeys during 2026.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2025 (cont)

The charity did not take any new buses into service during 2025 but did place an order in July 2025 for one new bus with delivery scheduled for January 2026 with the aim being for it to enter service in late March 2026 with a special livery celebrating the charity's 50th year. This means that the year end the fleet remains at eight minibuses. The charity was fortunate to be awarded a grant from the Garfield Weston Foundation for £10,000 towards the cost of the new 2026 addition and the charity thanks the trust for their kind donation.

Roadworks and road closures continued to present major challenges during the year, especially in Hailsham town centre, which often resulted in delays, re-scheduled and re-routed services and regrettably, some cancellations. Hopefully these will ease during 2026.

The charity operates efficiently to a high standard under the control of the Board of Trustees who met formally on four occasions during the year. They reviewed operations of the company, its financial position, and the outlook for the future. In addition, two Stakeholder meetings consisting of representatives of parish and town councils and company officers were held, plus the AGM in April. The annual social gathering of stakeholders and drivers was held in July and periodic drivers' meetings were held during the year to review resource availability, services operated and passenger views. Drivers provide a vital first point of contact with passengers and their feedback is invaluable.

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the charity commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Financial Performance

The financial statements are included on pages 9 to 14. All income and expenditure are related to unrestricted funds; there are no restricted nor endowment funds.

Central and local government continued financial support for bus operators generally during the year by continuing to pay fuel rebate grants and concessionary travel fares based on pre-covid levels, along with other support grants. These government support initiatives, together with our volunteer structure avoiding staff costs and related overheads, plus maintenance costs reflecting a relatively young fleet, all helped the charity maintain a viable operating financial position.

With a gross income of £329,623 (2024 – £339,027) and expenditure of £319,771 (2024 - £329,667), the year ended with a modest surplus of £9,852 (2024 - £9,360). Year-end net assets amounted to £294,039 (2024 - £284,187) including cash at bank of £146,558 (2024 - £114,309). The charity operates a policy of holding cash reserves to meet projected cash outlays taking account of sourcing requirements for acquisitions under its bus replacement programme. Funds not required in the short term are held in an appropriate deposit account. At the end of the year, the Trustees agreed an unrestricted bus replacement reserve fund of £50,000 (2024 - £20,000), to cover future bus acquisitions.

A high-level five-year trend of finances, passengers and miles run is shown graphically on page 15.

The Trustees have not identified any major uninsured risks to which the charity is exposed.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Review
for year ended 31 December 2025 (cont)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The governing document of the charity is the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which was adopted in November 2006 on the formation of the Cuckmere Community Bus as a company which was registered as a charity.

The current members of the Company are all Directors of the Company and Trustees of the Charity, who meet quarterly to fulfil both functions and who may stand for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting.

Going Concern

The Trustees continue to monitor the ongoing impacts the industry faces, including recovery of passenger numbers as well as other events, particularly levels of inflation and increased fuel and vehicle running costs. They have determined that, whilst significant, they do not create a material uncertainty that casts major doubt upon the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Forward View

In addition to maintaining a strong operational business base for the charity, our focus over the coming year will again be threefold. First, to continue to build patronage numbers so we can provide support to the same or greater level of deserving passengers we helped pre-pandemic. Secondly, to continue to develop our driver training, assessment and support programme and thirdly, to continue with the recruitment programme to increase the overall number of volunteer drivers.

As a result of central government's positive focus on the bus industry, a number of initiatives within East Sussex may provide the opportunity for CCB to increase current service levels leading to increased net revenues. We look forward to these possible developments during the coming year.

Changes in Trustees/Directors

There have been no changes to any of the Trustees or Directors during 2025.

Acknowledgements

We are a successful business in meeting our mission and as always, thanks go to our volunteer drivers, our regular passengers, to everybody involved in the day to day running of the organisation, and to Berwick Service Station for keeping the buses well maintained. Particular thanks also go to the individuals and local authorities who made donations to the charity during the year. A summary of donation support is listed on page 13 of this report. Thank you all.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Review
for year ended 31 December 2025 (cont)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

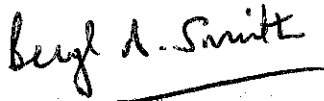
The Trustees (who are also Directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

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

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ^{per} April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Beryl Smith - Chairman

Zm April 2026

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the Board of Trustees/Directors on my examination of the accounts of Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd for the year ended 31 December 2025.

As the Trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records
- 3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement
- 4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended

Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Sarah Price

**Sarah Price – SLP Advisory Limited
Independent Examiner**

14 April 2026

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Income			
Passenger Services	2	257,650	248,919
Grants & Donations	3	37,062	31,802
Private Hire & Special Events		26,338	22,760
Other income	4	8,573	35,546
Total Income		<u>329,623</u>	<u>339,027</u>
Expenditure			
Charitable Activities			
Servicing, Repairs & Cleaning		(79,598)	(112,762)
Diesel (net of BSOG)		(21,614)	(21,346)
Licences & Insurance		(39,789)	(34,927)
Operations		(31,992)	(33,061)
		<u>(172,993)</u>	<u>(202,096)</u>
Support Costs			
Administration		(45,121)	(39,751)
Depreciation	5	(101,657)	(87,820)
		<u>(146,778)</u>	<u>(127,571)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(319,771)</u>	<u>(329,667)</u>
Surplus for the year		9,852	9,360
Opening reserves		284,187	274,827
Closing reserves (per Balance Sheet)		<u>294,039</u>	<u>284,187</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	325,468	427,125
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	14,420	14,448
Cash at Bank	9	146,558	114,309
		<u>160,978</u>	<u>128,757</u>
Prepayments and Accrued Income		21,117	12,493
Total Current Assets		<u>182,095</u>	<u>141,250</u>
Creditors due within one year			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(65,301)	(83,578)
Accruals and deferred income		(47,578)	(49,389)
Unamortised grants for purchase of assets	6	-	-
Total Creditors due within one year		<u>(112,879)</u>	<u>(132,967)</u>
Net Current Assets (liabilities)		69,216	8,283
Total Assets less current liabilities		<u>394,684</u>	<u>435,408</u>
Creditors due after one year	10	(100,645)	(151,221)
Total net assets		<u>294,039</u>	<u>284,187</u>
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds - general		244,039	264,187
Unrestricted funds - asset replacement		50,000	20,000
Total Unrestricted Funds		<u>294,039</u>	<u>284,187</u>

- the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2025.
- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
- the Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:
 - ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with sections 368 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
 - preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies act 2006 relating to financial statements so far as applicable to the charitable company.
- these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 2nd April 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

Beryl Smith
Trustee/Director

Beryl A. Smith

Paul Warren
Paul Warren
Trustee/Director

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Funds Flow Statement
for year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Surplus for the year		9,852	9,360
add back Depreciation (net)	5	103,682	87,820
less Other Income	4	(8,573)	(35,546)
Cash from Trading		<u>104,961</u>	<u>61,634</u>
Other Income	4	8,573	35,546
Capital Grants Received		-	-
Movement in fixed assets			
Acquisitions	7	-	(262,377)
Proceeds of disposal (NBV before surplus)	7	-	<u>103</u>
			(262,274)
Movement in Working Capital			
Debtors		28	(1,452)
Prepayments		(8,624)	358
Creditors		<u>(16,689)</u>	<u>35,250</u>
		(25,285)	34,156
Movement in Loans			
New debt		-	171,142
Interest		16,158	10,855
Payments		<u>(70,133)</u>	<u>(73,472)</u>
		(53,975)	108,525
Movement in Funds in the Year		<u>34,274</u>	<u>(22,413)</u>
Cash at Bank			
Opening		114,309	136,722
Movement in Funds (as above)		<u>34,274</u>	<u>(22,413)</u>
Closing (per Balance Sheet)		<u>148,583</u>	<u>114,309</u>
Fund Reconciliation		General Funds	Asset Funds
Opening		264,187	20,000
Surplus for the year		9,852	0
Inter funds transfer		<u>(30,000)</u>	<u>30,000</u>
Closing (per Balance Sheet)		<u>244,039</u>	<u>50,000</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Notes to the Accounts

for year ended 31 December 2025

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Statutory information - Cuckmere Community Bus Limited is an incorporated charity and registered in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and registered office address can be found in the Report of the Trustees.

1.2 Basis of Accounting - The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. Income and expenditure are accounted for on an accruals basis.

1.3 Income - is recognised in the accounts when the charity becomes entitled to the resources and is shown exclusive of VAT. The significant value of voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report. Debtors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

1.4 Expenditure - liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as 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. Creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

1.5 Tangible Fixed Assets - are recorded at cost and subsequently stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

1.6 Depreciation - is calculated to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the prudent useful economic life of that asset on a straight-line basis, as follows:

Motor Vehicles 5-7 years

1.7 Capital Grants - In accordance with s24 of FRS 102 these are treated using an accruals model and so are recognised in income on a systematic basis over the periods in which the charity recognises the related costs for which the grants intended to compensate.

1.8 Hire Purchase Agreements - assets are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and depreciated over their useful lives. The capital element of future finance payments is included within creditors; finance charges are allocated to accounting periods over the length of the contract.

1.9 Fund Accounting - unrestricted funds (including designated funds) may be used in accordance with the charitable objectives of the charity at the discretion of the trustees.

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

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2025 (cont)

	2025	2024
	£	£
2 Passengers Services		
Concessionary Fares	120,564	128,899
Ticket Fares	52,773	42,469
Support from:		
Charleston Towner Support	32,905	28,833
East Dean & Friston PC	1,820	1,628
ESCC/B&H	48,738	47,090
Hailsham Town Council	350	-
Polegate Town Council	500	-
	<u>257,650</u>	<u>248,919</u>
3 Grants and Donations	2025	2024
Town and Parish Councils		
Alfriston	200	-
Arlington	200	200
Berwick	-	200
Cuckmere Valley	250	1,271
Heathfield & Waldron	-	250
Herstmonceux	200	-
Long Man	-	250
Pevensey	150	-
Polegate	-	-
Seaford	2,500	2,500
Westham	-	150
Willingdon & Jevington	1,000	800
	<u>4,500</u>	<u>5,621</u>
ESCC	3,925	5,133
Wealden District Council	5,750	5,000
Passenger donations	11,010	9,929
Other donations	11,877	6,119
	<u>37,062</u>	<u>31,802</u>
4 Other Income	2025	2024
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	-	29,150
Bank interest	39	1,569
Insurance Claims	7784	3,727
Timetable and other adverts	750	1,100
	<u>8,573</u>	<u>35,546</u>
5 Depreciation	2025	2024
Charge in year	101,657	92,662
less amortisation of grant in year (note 6)	-	(4,842)
	<u>101,657</u>	<u>87,820</u>
6 Unamortised Grants	2025	2024
at start of year	-	(4,842)
released during year (note 5)	-	4,842
at end of year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2025 (cont)

	2025	2024
	£	£
7 Tangible Fixed assets		
Cost		
at start of year	858,794	690,636
additions in the year	-	262,377
disposals in the year	-	(94,219)
at end of year	<u>858,794</u>	<u>858,794</u>
Cumulative Depreciation		
at start of year	431,669	433,123
charges in the year (note 5)	101,657	92,662
disposals in the year	-	(94,116)
at end of year	<u>533,326</u>	<u>431,669</u>
Net Book Value	<u>325,468</u>	<u>427,125</u>
8 Debtors	2025	2024
Accounts receivable	9,644	11,469
VAT reclaimable	4,776	2,979
	<u>14,420</u>	<u>14,448</u>
9 Cash at Bank	2025	2024
Barclays current account	61,664	105,091
Co-operative current account	33,940	8,303
Barclays deposit account	50,000	-
Charities deposit account	954	915
Petty Cash	-	-
	<u>146,558</u>	<u>114,309</u>
10 Creditors	2025	2024
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	(14,725)	(29,603)
Hire purchase contracts	(50,576)	(53,975)
	<u>(65,301)</u>	<u>(83,578)</u>
Amounts falling due after one year		
Hire purchase contracts (1-5 years)	<u>(100,645)</u>	<u>(151,221)</u>

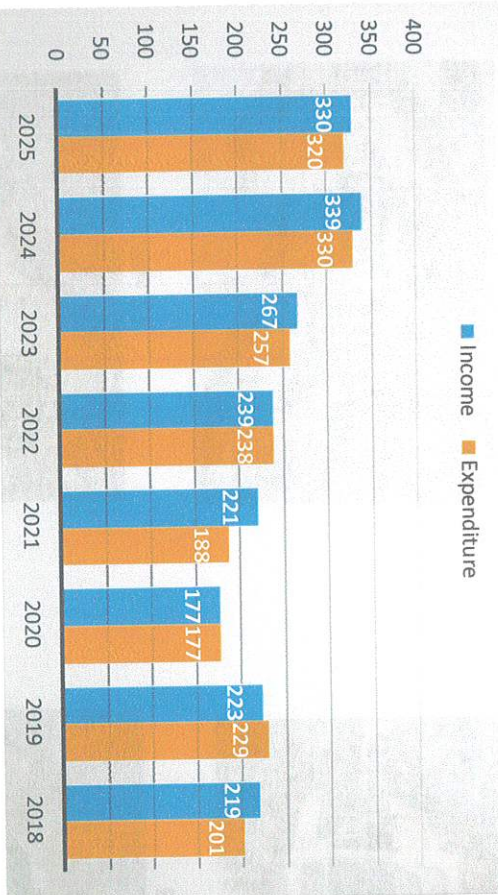
11 Audit: Expenditure is after charges for independent Review £900 (2024 - £900) and other professional services £nil (2024 - £nil)

12 Transactions with Directors: There were no transactions between the company and its Trustees/Directors

13 Related Party Disclosures: There were no transactions between the company and related parties

Graphs - year on year trends

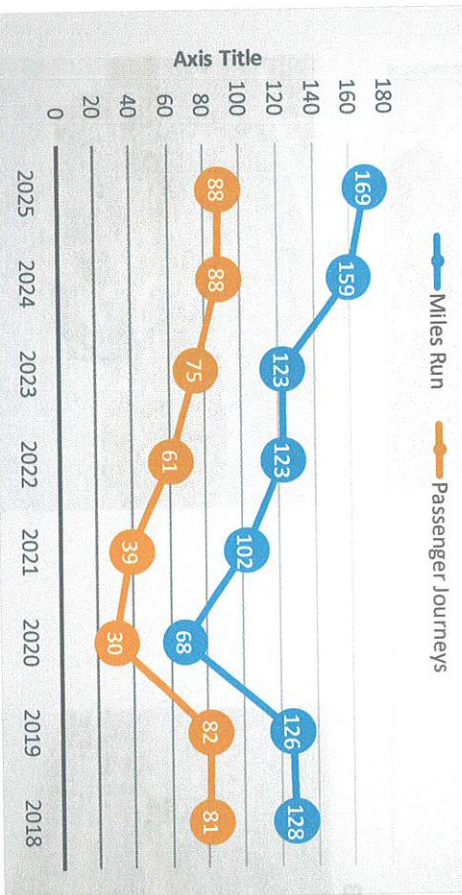
Financials (£'000)



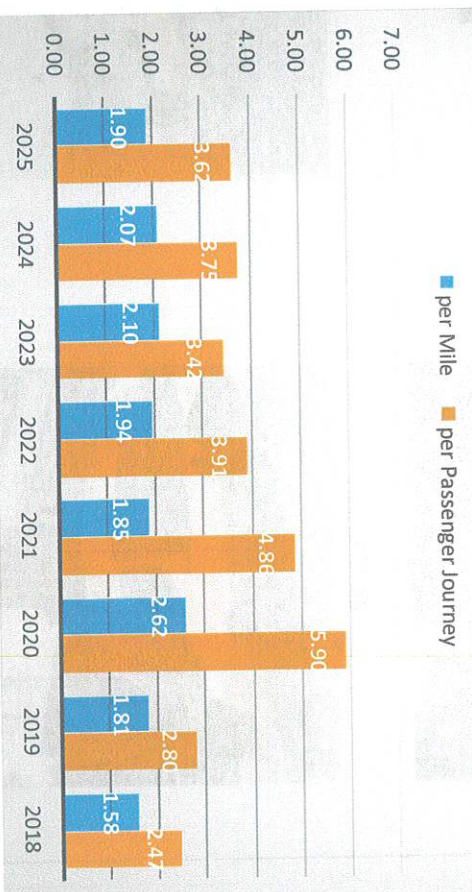
Expenditure (£'000)



Statistics ('000)



All-in Cost per Key Factor (£)



Our Current Fleet



Bus 30



Bus 29



Bus 28



Bus 27



Bus 26



Bus 25



Bus 24



Bus 22



Support Vehicle

CUCKMERE COMMUNITY BUS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1120494

Accounts



Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

(Registered Charity 1120494)

Trustees' Report and unaudited Accounts

31 December 2024

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

2024 Report and unaudited Accounts

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Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Report
for year ended 31 December 2024

Legal and Administrative Details

Legal Status

- company/charity name - Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
- England & Wales Charity Commission register number 1120494
- England & Wales Registrar of Companies register number 06032000
- trading name - Cuckmere Buses
- website address for charity – www.cuckmerebuses.org.uk

Objects

The object of the Company is to provide a community bus and a community transport service, including private hire, for such of the inhabitants of East and West Sussex and the City of Brighton and Hove who are in need of such a service because of age, sickness or disability (mental or physical), or poverty, or because of a lack of availability of adequate and safe public passenger services.

Trustees/Directors

Philip Montague Ayers

Nicholas Brian Price

Susan Olave de Angeli (resigned 23 April 2024)

Stewart Colin Fuller (resigned 23 April 2024)

Beryl Anne Smith

Paul Patrick Warren

Wayne John Evenden (from 23 April 2024)

Principal Address

The Old Rectory

Litlington

Polegate

East Sussex

BN26 5RB

Insurance Broker

Arthur J Gallacher

34 Tower View

Kings Hill, West Malling

Kent

ME19 4UY

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc

Co-operative Bank plc

CCLA Fund Managers

Independent Examiner

Sarah Price – SLP Advisory Limited

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Review of Activities

Cuckmere Buses is the trading name for Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd (CCB), a charitable limited company based in Berwick, East Sussex. It has been running for 48 years supplementing existing bus services and providing bus links for village residents throughout the Cuckmere Valley area to their nearest towns for shopping, for appointments, or for social activities.

OUR VISION is being the Community Bus service of choice in our area, and OUR MISSION is providing a safe, reliable, and courteous local bus, serving those rural and urban communities in our part of East Sussex not served by commercial companies.

CCB is run entirely by volunteers; there are no employees. We have some 41 volunteer drivers, all with D1 classification on their licences, and a few additional volunteers who all help run the fleet of 16-seater low-floor Mercedes mini-buses. The MIDAS (Minibus Awareness Scheme) system of training has been radically altered to the point where CCB no longer considers it appropriate for new driver recruits or for continuing education and reassessment. CCB has instead developed its own training and assessment scheme, at least equivalent to MIDAS standards, which has been accepted by East Sussex County Council and our insurers. The value of volunteers to the organisation cannot be overestimated, in terms of community support and company viability. In addition to over 20 weekly timetabled services, requiring nearly twice as many half-day shifts, the company operates summer leisure services and offers private hire facilities. We also provide special annual services for the International Tennis in Eastbourne, and the Charleston festivals.

CCB remains a busy voluntary organisation and always needs new volunteers. Our ongoing recruitment programme has resulted in a reasonable net increase in drivers by the end of the year and we are still looking to increase numbers further in 2025. However, the Department for Transport's review of the changing need for D1 licence requirements for minibuses is a positive move and may result in us being able to access a broader driver pool, given that the D1 licence is only available if you passed your test before 1997. Although this review seems to have stalled recently, we optimistically await the outcome of the consultation.

2024 continued the growth in passenger numbers following the pandemic and by the year-end we had carried 87,915 (2023 75,222) passengers which, not only exceeded the 2019 figure of 81,632 but was also the highest numbers of journeys we have ever catered for. In addition, we ran some 159,042 (2023 137,573) miles and hope to see a continued recovery of passenger journeys during 2025.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Review
for year ended 31 December 2024 (cont)

The charity did eventually take delivery of its new bus (ordered in 2023), a little later than planned, and this went into service from March 2024. Given supply chain issues a further bus was ordered at the beginning of 2024, with expected delivery in 2025, but this arrived much sooner than anticipated and was delivered in the autumn and went into service from November 2024 and coincided with the disposal of our oldest bus, meaning, that the fleet now consists of eight minibuses at the year-end. There are no further planned additions to the fleet for 2025, with any likely additions to take place in 2026.

Roadworks and road closures continued to present major challenges during the year, especially in Hailsham town centre, which often resulted in delays, re-scheduled and re-routed services and regrettably, some cancellations. Hopefully these will ease during 2025.

The charity operates efficiently to a high standard under the control of the Board of Trustees who met formally on four occasions during the year. They reviewed operations of the company, its financial position, and the outlook for the future. In addition, two Stakeholder meetings consisting of representatives of parish and town councils and company officers were held, plus the AGM in April. The annual social gathering of stakeholders and drivers was held in July and periodic drivers' meetings were held during the year to review resource availability, services operated and passenger views. Drivers provide a vital first point of contact with passengers and their feedback is invaluable.

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the charity commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Financial Performance

The financial statements are included on pages 8 to 14. All income and expenditure are related to unrestricted funds; there are no restricted nor endowment funds.

Central and local government continued financial support for bus operators generally during the year by continuing to pay fuel rebate grants and concessionary travel fares based on pre-covid levels, along with other support grants. These government support initiatives, together with our volunteer structure avoiding staff costs and related overheads, plus maintenance costs reflecting a relatively young fleet, all helped the charity maintain a viable operating financial position.

With a gross income of £339,027 (2023 - £266,781) and expenditure of £329,667 (2023 - £257,256), the year ended with a modest surplus of £9,360 (2023 - £9,525). Year-end net assets amounted to £284,187 (2023 - £274,827) including cash at bank of £114,309 (2023 - £136,722). The charity operates a policy of holding cash reserves to meet projected cash outlays taking account of sourcing requirements for acquisitions under its bus replacement programme. Funds not required in the short term are held in an appropriate deposit account. At the end of the year, the Trustees agreed an unrestricted bus replacement reserve fund of £20,000 (2023 - £55,000), to cover future bus acquisitions.

A high-level five-year trend of finances, passengers and miles run is shown graphically on page 15.

The Trustees have not identified any major uninsured risks to which the charity is exposed.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Review
for year ended 31 December 2024 (cont)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The governing document of the charity is the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which was adopted in November 2006 on the formation of the Cuckmere Community Bus as a company which was registered as a charity.

The current members of the Company are all Directors of the Company and Trustees of the Charity, who meet quarterly to fulfil both functions and who may stand for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting.

Going Concern

The Trustees continue to monitor the ongoing impacts the industry faces, including recovery of passenger numbers as well as other events, particularly levels of inflation and increased fuel and vehicle running costs. They have determined that, whilst significant, they do not create a material uncertainty that casts major doubt upon the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Forward View

In addition to maintaining a strong operational business base for the charity, our focus over the coming year will again be threefold. First, to continue to build patronage numbers so we can provide support to the same or greater level of deserving passengers we helped pre-pandemic. Secondly, to continue to develop our driver training, assessment and support programme and thirdly, to continue with the recruitment programme to increase the overall number of volunteer drivers.

As a result of central government's positive focus on the bus industry, a number of initiatives within East Sussex may provide the opportunity for CCB to increase current service levels leading to increased net revenues. We look forward to these possible developments during the coming year.

Changes in Trustees/Directors

In April 2024 we welcomed onboard Wayne Evenden as Trustee/ Engineering Director. Wayne is also a volunteer driver.

In April 2024 we sadly said farewell to Susan Olave de Angelli and Stewart Fuller, both Trustee/Directors who resigned after many years' service and we thank them for all their hard work.

Acknowledgements

We are a successful business in meeting our mission and as always, thanks go to our volunteer drivers, our regular passengers, to everybody involved in the day to day running of the organisation, and to Berwick Service Station for keeping the buses well maintained. Particular thanks also go to the individuals and local authorities who made donations to the charity during the year. A summary of donation support is listed on page 13 of this report. Thank you all.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Review
for year ended 31 December 2024 (cont)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also Directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

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

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 2 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Beryl Smith - Chairman

2 April 2025

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the Board of Trustees/Directors on my examination of the accounts of Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd for the year ended 31 December 2024.

As the Trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records
- 3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement
- 4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended

Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Sarah Price.

**Sarah Price – SLP Advisory Limited
Independent Examiner**

02 April 2025

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Income			
Passenger Services	2	248,919	196,831
Grants & Donations	3	31,802	29,220
Private Hire & Special Events		22,760	30,106
Other income	4	35,546	10,624
Total Income		<u>339,027</u>	<u>266,781</u>
Expenditure			
Charitable Activities			
Servicing, Repairs & Cleaning		(112,762)	(76,814)
Diesel (net of BSOG)		(21,346)	(29,423)
Licences & Insurance		(34,927)	(27,136)
Operations		(33,061)	(38,238)
		<u>(202,096)</u>	<u>(171,611)</u>
Support Costs			
Administration		(39,751)	(20,708)
Depreciation	5	(87,820)	(64,937)
		<u>(127,571)</u>	<u>(85,645)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(329,667)</u>	<u>(257,256)</u>
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		9,360	9,525
Opening reserves		274,827	265,302
Closing reserves (per Balance Sheet)		<u>284,187</u>	<u>274,827</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

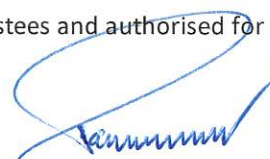
Balance Sheet at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	427,125	257,513
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	14,448	12,996
Cash at Bank	9	<u>114,309</u>	<u>136,722</u>
		128,757	149,718
Prepayments and Accrued Income		12,493	12,851
Total Current Assets		<u>141,250</u>	<u>162,569</u>
Creditors due within one year			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(83,578)	(68,319)
Accruals and deferred income		(49,389)	(26,274)
Unamortised grants for purchase of assets	6	-	(4,842)
Total Creditors due within one year		<u>(132,967)</u>	<u>(99,435)</u>
Net Current Assets (liabilities)		8,283	63,134
Total Assets less current liabilities		<u>435,408</u>	<u>320,647</u>
Creditors due after one year	10	(151,221)	(45,820)
Total net assets		<u>284,187</u>	<u>274,827</u>
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds - general		264,187	219,827
Unrestricted funds - asset replacement		20,000	55,000
Total Unrestricted Funds		<u>284,187</u>	<u>274,827</u>

- a) the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.
- b) the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
- c) the Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:
 - i) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with sections 368 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
 - ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies act 2006 relating to financial statements so far as applicable to the charitable company.
- d) these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 2 April 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:


Beryl Smith
Trustee/Director


Paul Warren
Trustee/Director

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Funds Flow Statement
for year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Surplus for the year		9,360	9,525
add back Depreciation (net)	5	87,820	64,937
less Other Income	4	(35,546)	(10,624)
Cash from Trading		61,634	63,838
Other Income	4	35,546	10,624
Capital Grants Received		-	-
Movement in fixed assets			
Acquisitions	7	(262,377)	-
Proceeds of disposal (NBV before surplus)	7	103	-
		(262,274)	-
Movement in Working Capital			
Debtors		(1,452)	(3,790)
Prepayments		358	(5,430)
Creditors		35,250	10,289
		34,156	1,069
Movement in Loans			
New debt		171,142	-
Interest		10,855	7,323
Payments		(73,472)	(57,360)
		108,525	(50,037)
Movement in Funds in the Year		(22,413)	25,494
Cash at Bank			
Opening		136,722	111,228
Movement in Funds (as above)		(22,413)	25,494
Closing (per Balance Sheet)		114,309	136,722

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Notes to the Accounts

for year ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Statutory information - Cuckmere Community Bus Limited is an incorporated charity and registered in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and registered office address can be found in the Report of the Trustees.

1.2 Basis of Accounting - The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. Income and expenditure are accounted for on an accruals basis.

1.3 Income - is recognised in the accounts when the charity becomes entitled to the resources and is shown exclusive of VAT. The significant value of voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report. Debtors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

1.4 Expenditure - liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as 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. Creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

1.5 Tangible Fixed Assets - are recorded at cost and subsequently stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the prudent useful economic life of that asset on a straight-line basis. Capital grants supporting fixed asset acquisitions are released to revenue account on a straight-line basis over the life of the related asset class and reduce the annual total depreciation charge.

1.6 Hire Purchase Agreements - assets are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and depreciated over their useful lives. The capital element of future finance payments is included within creditors; finance charges are allocated to accounting periods over the length of the contract.

1.7 Fund Accounting - unrestricted funds (including designated funds) may be used in accordance with the charitable objectives of the charity at the discretion of the trustees.

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

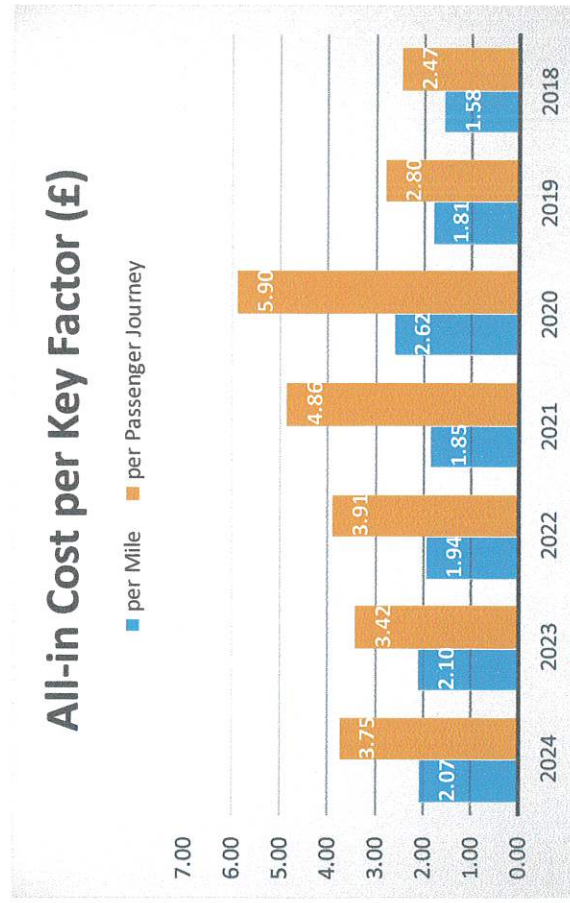
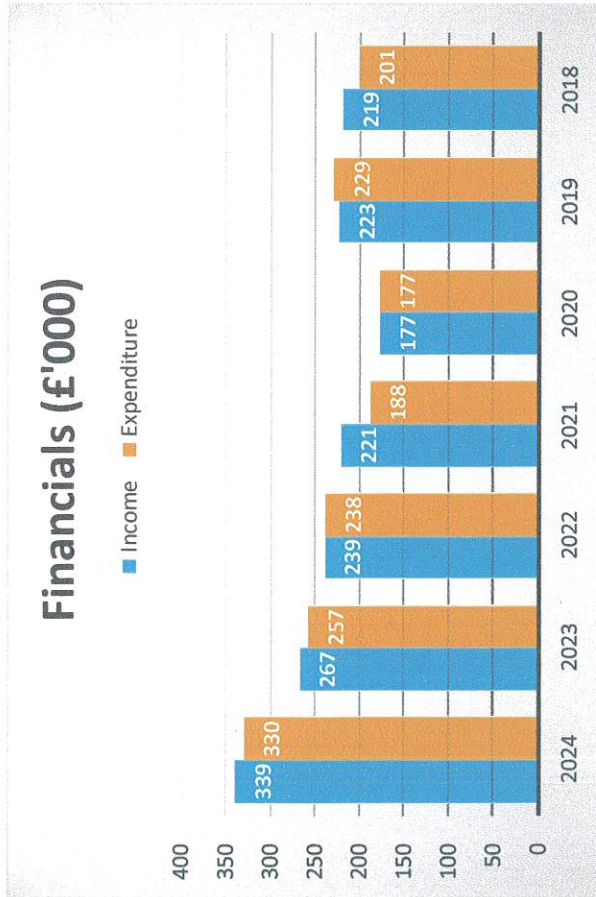
Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2024 (cont)

	2024	2023
	£	£
2 Passengers Services		
Concessionary Fares	128,899	127,325
Ticket Fares	42,469	21,754
Support from:		
Charleston Towner Support	28,833	13,217
East Dean & Friston PC	1,628	1,921
ESCC/B&H	47,090	30,214
Hailsham Town Council	-	2,050
Polegate Town Council	-	350
	<u>248,919</u>	<u>196,831</u>
3 Grants and Donations	2024	2023
Town and Parish Councils		
Alfriston	-	200
Arlington	200	100
Berwick	200	100
Cuckmere Valley	1,271	250
Heathfield & Waldron	250	200
Herstmonceux	-	250
Long Man	250	250
Polegate	-	500
Seaford	2,500	2000
Westham	150	-
Willingdon & Jevington	800	850
	<u>5,621</u>	<u>4,700</u>
ESCC	5,133	3,705
Wealden District Council	5,000	5,000
Passenger donations	9,929	12,198
Other donations	6,119	3,617
	<u>31,802</u>	<u>29,220</u>
4 Other Income	2024	2023
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	29,150	-
Bank interest	1,569	1,345
Insurance Claims	3,727	8,827
Timetable and other adverts	1,100	452
	<u>35,546</u>	<u>10,624</u>
5 Depreciation	2024	2023
Charge in year	92,662	88,653
less amortisation of grant in year (note 6)	(4,842)	(23,716)
	<u>87,820</u>	<u>64,937</u>
6 Unamortised Grants	2024	2023
at start of year	(4,842)	(28,558)
released during year (note 5)	4,842	23,716
at end of year	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,842)</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2024 (cont)

	2024	2023
7 Tangible Fixed assets		£
Cost		
at start of year	690,636	690,636
additions in the year	262,377	-
disposals in the year	<u>(94,219)</u>	<u>-</u>
at end of year	<u>858,794</u>	<u>690,636</u>
Cumulative Depreciation		
at start of year	433,123	344,470
charges in the year (note 5)	92,662	88,653
disposals in the year	<u>(94,116)</u>	<u>-</u>
at end of year	<u>431,669</u>	<u>433,123</u>
Net Book Value	<u>427,125</u>	<u>257,513</u>
8 Debtors	2024	2023
Accounts receivable	11,469	6,612
VAT reclaimable	<u>2,979</u>	<u>6,384</u>
	<u>14,448</u>	<u>12,996</u>
9 Cash at Bank	2024	2023
Barclays current account	105,091	65,708
Co-operative current account	8,303	25,666
Charities deposit account	915	45,348
Petty Cash	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>114,309</u>	<u>136,722</u>
10 Creditors	2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	(29,603)	(17,468)
Hire purchase contracts	<u>(53,975)</u>	<u>(50,851)</u>
	<u>(83,578)</u>	<u>(68,319)</u>
Amounts falling due after one year		
Hire purchase contracts (1-5 years)	<u>(151,221)</u>	<u>(45,820)</u>
11 Audit:	Expenditure is after charges for Independent Review £900 (2023 - £960) and other professional services £nil (2023 - £300)	
12 Transactions with Directors:	There were no transactions between the company and its Trustees/Directors	
13 Related Party Disclosures:	There were no transactions between the company and related parties	

Graphs - year on year trends



Our Current Fleet



Bus 30



Bus 29



Bus 28



Bus 27



Bus 26



Bus 25



Bus 24



Bus 22



Support Vehicle

CUCKMERE COMMUNITY BUS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1120494

Accounts



Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

(Registered Charity 1120494)

Trustees' Report and Accounts

31 December 2023

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd 2023 Report and Accounts

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8	Income & Expenditure Account
9	Balance Sheet
10	Funds Flow Statement
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14	Graphs – 5-year trends
15	Our Current Fleet

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Report
for year ended 31 December 2023

Legal and Administrative Details

Legal Status

- company/charity name - Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
- England & Wales Charity Commission register number 1120494
- England & Wales Registrar of Companies register number 06032000
- trading name - Cuckmere Buses

Objects

The object of the Company is to provide a community bus and a community transport service, including private hire, for such of the inhabitants of East and West Sussex and the City of Brighton and Hove who are in need of such a service because of age, sickness or disability (mental or physical), or poverty, or because of a lack of availability of adequate and safe public passenger services.

Trustees/Directors

Philip Montague Ayers

Nicholas Brian Price

Susan Olave de Angeli

Kevin Patrick Fryer (until 26 September 2023)

Stewart Colin Fuller

Beryl Anne Smith

Paul Patrick Warren FCA (from 3 April 2023)

Principal Address

The Old Rectory

Litlington

Polegate

East Sussex

BN26 5RB

Insurance Broker

Arthur J Gallacher

34 Tower View

Kings Hill, West Malling

Kent

ME19 4UY

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc

Co-operative Bank plc

CCLA Fund Managers

Independent Examiner

Sarah Price – SLP Advisory Limited

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Review of Activities

Cuckmere Buses is the trading name for Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd (CCB), a charitable limited company based in Berwick, East Sussex. It has been running for 47 years supplementing existing bus services and providing bus links for village residents throughout the Cuckmere Valley area to their nearest towns for shopping, for appointments, or for social activities.

OUR VISION is being the Community Bus service of choice in our area, and OUR MISSION is providing a safe, reliable, and courteous local bus, serving those rural and urban communities in our part of East Sussex not served by commercial companies.

CCB is run entirely by volunteers; there are no employees. We have some 40 volunteer drivers and some 8 additional volunteers who all help run the fleet of 16-seater low-floor Mercedes mini-buses. The drivers are trained to MIDAS standards (Mini-bus Driver Awareness Scheme) and are reassessed every four years. They all have D1 classification on their licence. The value of volunteers to the organisation cannot be overestimated, in terms of community support and company viability. In addition to over 20 weekly timetabled services, requiring nearly twice as many half-day shifts, the company operates summer leisure services and offers private hire facilities. We also provide special annual services for the International Tennis in Eastbourne, and the Charleston festivals.

CCB remains a busy voluntary organisation and always needs new volunteers. Our ongoing recruitment programme has resulted in a reasonable net increase in drivers by the end of the year and we are still looking to increase numbers further in 2024. However, the Department for Transport's review of the changing need for D1 licence requirements for minibuses is a positive move and may result in us being able to access a broader driver pool. We await the outcome of the consultation.

2023 showed a good recovery of passenger numbers following the pandemic and by the year-end the numbers were only 8% below the 2019 pre-pandemic levels. For the year, we catered for some 75,222 passenger journeys (2022, 60,900), and ran some 137,573 (2022, 122,700) miles. We hope to see a continued recovery of passenger journeys during 2024.

The charity didn't take delivery of its new bus in 2023, as originally planned, due to global supply chain issues affecting production, but this new bus is promised by spring 2024. The fleet consisted of seven minibuses at the year-end. Given the delays in getting delivery of new buses, it has been agreed to order a further new bus for delivery in the summer of 2025.

Roadworks and road closures continued to present major challenges during the year, and whilst the major works along the A27 Polegate to Selmeston have been completed, numerous other utility works and roadway patch repairs, especially in Hailsham town centre, continue which often resulted in

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Review
for year ended 31 December 2023 (cont)

delays, re-scheduled and re-routed services, and regrettably, some cancellations. Hopefully these major schemes will shortly conclude and result in a smoother overall operation for all passengers and road-users.

The charity operates efficiently to a high standard under the control of the Board of Trustees who met formally on four occasions during the year. They reviewed operations of the company, its financial position, and the outlook for the future. In addition, two Stakeholder meetings consisting of representatives of parish and town councils and company officers were held, plus the AGM in April. The annual social gathering of stakeholders and drivers was held in July and periodic drivers' meetings were held during the year to review resource availability, services operated and passenger views. Drivers provide a vital first point of contact with passengers and their feedback is invaluable.

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the charity commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Financial Performance

The financial statements are included on pages 8 to 13. All income and expenditure are related to unrestricted funds; there are no restricted nor endowment funds.

Central and local government continued financial support for bus operators generally during the year by continuing to pay fuel rebate grants and concessionary travel fares based on pre-covid levels, along with other support grants. These government support initiatives, together with our volunteer structure avoiding staff costs and related overheads, plus maintenance costs reflecting a relatively young fleet, all helped the charity maintain a viable operating financial position.

With a gross income of £266,781 (2022, £238,868) and expenditure of £257,256 (2022, £237,879), the year ended with a modest surplus of £9,525 (2022, £989). Year-end net assets amounted to £274,827 (2022, £265,302) including cash at bank of £136,722 (2022, £111,228). The charity operates a policy of holding cash reserves to meet projected cash outlays taking account of sourcing requirements for acquisitions under its bus replacement programme. Funds not required in the short term are held in an appropriate deposit account. At the end of the year, the Trustees agreed to maintain the unrestricted bus replacement reserve fund at £55,000 (2022, £55,000), to cover future bus acquisitions.

A high-level five-year trend of finances, passengers and miles run is shown graphically on page 14.

The Trustees have not identified any uninsured major risks to which the charity is exposed.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Review
for year ended 31 December 2023 (cont)

Going Concern

The Trustees continue to monitor the ongoing impacts the covid crisis has had on the recovery of passenger numbers as well as other events, particularly levels of Inflation and Increased fuel and vehicle running costs. They have determined that, whilst significant, they do not create a material uncertainty that casts major doubt upon the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Forward View

In addition to maintaining a strong operational business base for the charity, our focus over the coming year will again be threefold. First, to continue to rebuild patronage numbers so we can provide support to the same or greater level of deserving passengers we helped pre-pandemic. Secondly, to onboard our new bus in 2024 and thirdly, to continue with the recruitment programme to increase the overall number of volunteer drivers.

As a result of central government's positive focus on the bus industry, a number of initiatives within East Sussex may provide the opportunity for CCB to increase current service levels leading to increased net revenues. We look forward to these possible developments during the coming year.

Changes in Trustees/Directors

In April 2023 we welcomed onboard Paul Warren as Trustee/ Finance Director. Paul is also a volunteer driver.

In September 2023 we said farewell to Kevin Fryer Trustee/Director who resigned due to increased personal work commitments. Kevin was a volunteer driver.

Acknowledgements

We are a successful business in meeting our mission and as always, thanks go to our volunteer drivers, our regular passengers, to everybody involved in the day to day running of the organisation, and to Berwick Service Station for keeping the buses well maintained. Particular thanks also go to the individuals and local authorities who made donations to the charity during the year. A summary of donation support is listed on page 12 of this report. Thank you all.



Beryl Smith - Chairman
3rd April 2024

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the Board of Trustees/Directors on my examination of the accounts of Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd for the year ended 31 December 2023.

As the Trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records

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

Sarah Price

**Sarah Price – SLP Advisory Limited T/A SLP Accountants
Independent Examiner
Date: 11 April 2024**

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2023

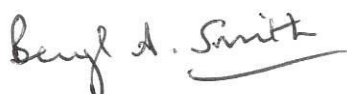
	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Income			
Passenger Services	2	196,831	165,629
Grants & Donations	3	29,220	33,417
Private Hire & Special Events		30,106	23,102
Other Income	4	10,624	16,720
Total Income		<u>266,781</u>	<u>238,868</u>
Expenditure			
Servicing, Repairs & Cleaning		(76,814)	(60,637)
Depreciation	5	(64,937)	(67,814)
Licences & Insurance		(27,136)	(26,482)
Operations		(38,238)	(23,403)
Diesel (net of BSOG)		(29,423)	(31,793)
Administration		(20,708)	(27,750)
Total Expenditure		<u>(257,256)</u>	<u>(237,879)</u>
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		9,525	989
Opening reserves		265,302	264,313
Closing reserves (per Balance Sheet)		<u>274,827</u>	<u>265,302</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Balance Sheet
at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	257,513	346,166
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	12,996	9,206
Cash at Bank	9	<u>136,722</u>	<u>111,228</u>
		149,718	120,434
Prepayments and Accrued Income		12,851	7,421
Total Current Assets		<u>162,569</u>	<u>127,855</u>
Creditors due within one year			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(68,319)	(68,388)
Accruals and deferred income		(26,274)	(22,427)
Unamortised grants for purchase of assets	6	(4,842)	(28,558)
Total Creditors due within one year		<u>(99,435)</u>	<u>(119,373)</u>
Net Current Assets (liabilities)		63,134	8,482
Total Assets less current liabilities		<u>320,647</u>	<u>354,648</u>
Creditors due after one year	10	(45,820)	(89,346)
Total net assets		<u>274,827</u>	<u>265,302</u>
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds - general		219,827	210,302
Unrestricted funds - asset replacement		55,000	55,000
Total Unrestricted Funds		<u>274,827</u>	<u>265,302</u>

- the company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to the small companies
- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006
- the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts
- these accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The Report and Accounts were approved by the Board on 3rd April 2024



Beryl Smith
Trustee/Director



Paul Warren FCA
Trustee/Director

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Funds Flow Statement
for year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		9,525	989
add back Depreciation (net)	5	64,937	67,814
less Other income	4	(10,624)	(16,720)
Cash from Trading		63,838	52,083
Other income	4	10,624	16,720
Capital Grants Received		-	19,367
Movement in fixed assets			
Acquisitions	7	-	(126,519)
Proceeds of disposal (NBV before surplus)	7	-	50
		-	(126,469)
Movement in Working Capital			
Debtors		(3,790)	(3,461)
Prepayments		(5,430)	5,761
Creditors		10,289	(40,526)
		1,069	(38,226)
Movement in Loans			
New debt		0	84,000
Interest		7,323	8,879
Payments		(57,360)	(54,131)
		(50,037)	38,748
Movement in Funds in the Year		25,494	(37,777)
Cash at Bank			
Opening		111,228	149,005
Movement in Funds (as above)		25,494	(37,777)
Closing (per Balance Sheet)		136,722	111,228

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2023

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of Accounting - these accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s). Income and expenditure are accounted for on an accruals basis.

1.2 Income - is recognised in the accounts when the charity becomes entitled to the resources and is shown exclusive of VAT. The significant value of voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report. Debtors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

1.3 Expenditure - liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as 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. Creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

1.4 Tangible Fixed Assets - are recorded at cost and subsequently stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the prudent useful economic life of that asset on a straight-line basis. Capital grants supporting fixed asset acquisitions are released to revenue account on a straight-line basis over the life of the related asset class and reduce the annual total depreciation charge.

1.5 Hire Purchase Agreements - assets are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and depreciated over their useful lives. The capital element of future finance payments is included within creditors; finance charges are allocated to accounting periods over the length of the contract.

1.6 Fund Accounting - unrestricted funds (including designated funds) may be used in accordance with the charitable objectives of the charity at the discretion of the trustees.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2023 (cont)

	2023	2022
	£	£
2 Passengers Services		
Concessionary Fares	127,325	122,784
Ticket Fares	21,754	19,594
Support from:		
Charleston Towner Support	13,217	-
East Dean & Friston PC	1,921	2,641
ESCC/B&H	30,214	13,630
Hailsham Town Council	2,050	6,680
Polegate Town Council	350	300
	<u>196,831</u>	<u>165,629</u>
3 Grants and Donations	2023	2022
Town and Parish Councils		
Alfriston	200	200
Arlington	100	100
Berwick	100	100
Chalvington & Ripe	-	150
Cuckmere Valley	250	250
East Dean & Friston	-	500
Heathfield & Waldron	200	500
Herstmonceux	250	500
Long Man	250	150
Pevensey	-	150
Polegate	500	200
Seaford	2000	2,000
Westham	-	120
Willington & Jevington	850	850
	<u>4,700</u>	<u>5,770</u>
ESCC	3,705	9,948
Wealden District Council	5,000	5,125
Passenger donations	12,198	9,403
Other donations	3,617	3,171
	<u>29,220</u>	<u>39,417</u>
4 Other Income	2023	2022
Covid Support from DfT	-	14,369
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	-	1,325
Bank interest	1,345	429
Insurance Claims	8,827	-
Timetable and other adverts	452	597
	<u>10,624</u>	<u>16,720</u>
5 Depreciation	2023	2022
Charge in year	88,653	95,035
less amortisation of grant in year (note 6)	(23,716)	(27,221)
	<u>64,937</u>	<u>67,814</u>
6 Unamortised Grants	2023	2022
at start of year	(28,558)	(36,412)
grants received in year	-	(19,367)
released during year (note 5)	23,716	27,221
at end of year	<u>(4,842)</u>	<u>(28,558)</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2023 (cont)

	2023	2022
	£	£
7 Tangible Fixed assets		
Cost		
at start of year	690,636	591,295
additions in the year	-	126,519
disposals in the year	-	(27,178)
at end of year	<u>690,636</u>	<u>690,636</u>
Cumulative Depreciation		
at start of year	344,470	276,563
charges in the year (note 5)	88,653	95,035
disposals in the year	-	(27,128)
at end of year	<u>433,123</u>	<u>344,470</u>
Net Book Value	<u>257,513</u>	<u>346,166</u>
8 Debtors	2023	2022
Accounts receivable	6,612	7,087
VAT reclaimable	6,384	2,119
	<u>12,996</u>	<u>9,206</u>
9 Cash at Bank	2023	2022
Barclays current account	65,708	60,671
Co-operative current account	25,666	6,553
Charities deposit account	45,348	44,004
Petty Cash	-	-
	<u>136,722</u>	<u>111,228</u>
10 Creditors	2023	2022
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	(17,468)	(11,026)
Hire purchase contracts	(50,851)	(57,362)
	<u>(68,319)</u>	<u>(68,388)</u>
Amounts falling due after one year		
Hire purchase contracts (1-5 years)	<u>(45,820)</u>	<u>(89,346)</u>

11 Audit: Expenditure is after charges for Independent Review £960 (2022, £960) and other professional services £300 (2022, £300)

12 Transactions with Directors: There were no transactions between the company and its Trustees/Directors

13 Related Party Disclosures: There were no transactions between the company and related parties

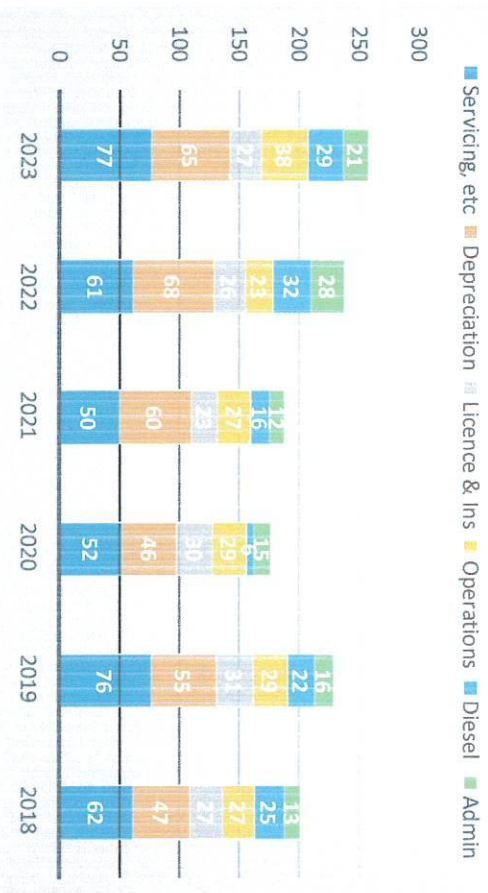
Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Graphs - 5 year trends

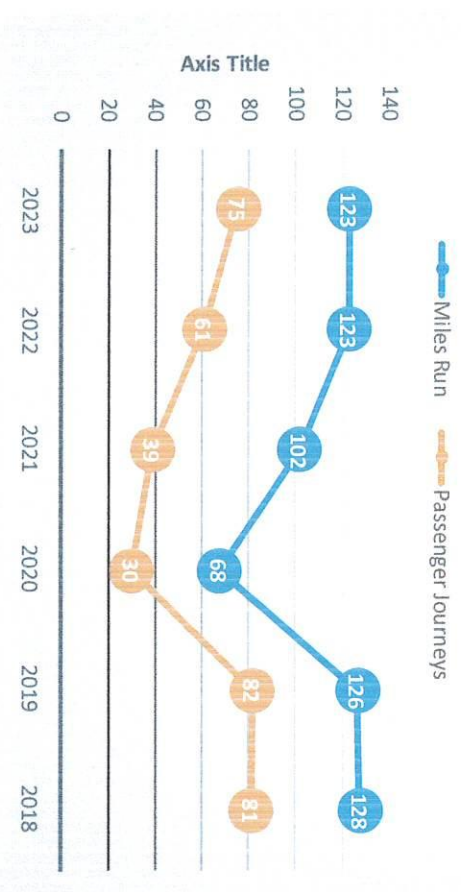
Financials (£'000)



Expenditure (£'000)



Statistics ('000)



All-in Cost per Key Factor (£)



Our Current Fleet



Bus28



Bus27



Bus26



Bus25



Bus 24



Bus22



Bus20

Cuckmere buses

CUCKMERE COMMUNITY BUS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1120494

Accounts



Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

(Registered Charity 1120494)

Trustees' Report and Accounts

31 December 2022

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

2022 Report and Accounts

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7	Independent Examiner's Report
8	Income & Expenditure Account
9	Balance Sheet
10	Funds Flow Statement
11	Notes to the Accounts
14	Graphs – 5-year trends
15	Our Current Fleet

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Report
for year ended 31 December 2022

Legal and Administrative Details

Legal Status

- company/charity name - Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
- England & Wales Charity Commission register number 1120494
- England & Wales Registrar of Companies register number 06032000
- trading name - Cuckmere Buses

Objects

The object of the Company is to provide a community bus and a community transport service, including private hire, for such of the inhabitants of East and West Sussex and the City of Brighton and Hove who are in need of such a service because of age, sickness or disability (mental or physical), or poverty, or because of a lack of availability of adequate and safe public passenger services.

Trustees/Directors

Philip Montague Ayers	Stewart Colin Fuller
Andrew John Cottingham (to 11 November 2022)	Nicholas Brian Price
Susan Olave de Angeli	Beryl Anne Smith
Kevin Patrick Fryer (from 01 February 2022)	

Principal Address

The Old Rectory
Litlington
Polegate
East Sussex
BN26 5RB

Insurance Broker

Arthur J Gallacher
34 Tower View
Kings Hill, West Malling
Kent
ME19 4UY

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc	Co-operative Bank plc	CCLA Fund Managers
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Independent Examiner

Nigel Butten FCA

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Review of Activities

Cuckmere Buses is the trading name for Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd (CCB), a charitable limited company based in Berwick, East Sussex. It has been running for 46 years supplementing existing bus services and providing bus links for village residents throughout the Cuckmere Valley area to their nearest towns for shopping, for appointments, or for social activities.

OUR VISION is being the Community Bus service of choice in our area, and OUR MISSION is providing a safe, reliable, and courteous local bus, serving those rural and urban communities in our part of East Sussex not served by commercial companies.

CCB is run entirely by volunteers; there are no employees. We have some 40 volunteer drivers and some 8 additional volunteers who all help run the fleet of 16-seater low-floor Mercedes mini-buses. The drivers are trained to MiDAS standards (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) and are reassessed every four years. They all have D1 classification on their licence. The value of volunteers to the organisation cannot be overestimated, in terms of community support and company viability. In addition to over 20 weekly timetabled services, requiring nearly twice as many half-day shifts, the company operates summer leisure services and offers private hire facilities. We also provide special annual services for the International Tennis in Eastbourne, and the Charleston festivals.

CCB remains a busy voluntary organisation and always needs new volunteers. The recruitment programme scheduled for the year has resulted in only a small increase in drivers. Some new drivers joined but others left. However, the Department for Transport's review of the changing need for D1 licence requirements for minibuses is a positive move and may result in us being able to access a broader driver pool. We await the outcome of the consultation.

2022 showed a slow recovery of passenger numbers following the pandemic and by the year-end the numbers were some 25% below the 2019 pre-pandemic levels. For the year, we catered for some 60,900 passenger journeys (2021, 38,700), and ran some 122,700 (2021, 101,600) miles. We hope for a continued recovery of passenger journeys during 2023.

The charity took delivery of a new bus early in the year, having been delayed from 2021 owing to the global shortage of semiconductor parts. The fleet consisted of seven minibuses at the year-end. The ticket machines were upgraded during the year, supported by a capital grant, to provide enhanced features including the acceptance of credit cards.

Roadworks and road closures continued to present major challenges during the year, particularly along the A27 Polegate to Selmeston, Jevington Road from Wannock to Friston, and in Hailsham town centre. These were all for utility works and roadway patch repairs, which often resulted in delays, re-

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2022 (cont)

scheduled and re-routed services, and regrettably, some cancellations. Hopefully these major schemes will shortly conclude and result in a smoother overall operation for all passengers and road-users.

The sudden cold snap and snow fall in early December resulted in the cancellation of all our services, but we were only off the roads for half a day.

The charity operates efficiently to a high standard under the control of the Board of Trustees who met formally on four occasions during the year. They reviewed operations of the company, its financial position, and the outlook for the future. In addition, two Stakeholder meetings consisting of representatives of parish and town councils and company officers were held, plus the AGM in April. The annual social gathering of stakeholders and drivers was held in October in Arlington, after being cancelled the previous two years owing to coronavirus. Periodic drivers' meetings were held during the year to review resource availability, services operated and passenger views. Drivers provide a vital first point of contact with passengers and their feedback is invaluable.

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the charity commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Financial Performance

The financial statements are included on pages 8 to 13. All income and expenditure are related to unrestricted funds; there are no restricted nor endowment funds.

Central and local government continued financial support for bus operators generally during the year by continuing to pay fuel rebate grants and concessionary travel fares based on pre-covid levels, along with other support grants. These government support initiatives, together with our volunteer structure avoiding staff costs and related overheads, plus maintenance costs reflecting a relatively young fleet, all helped the charity maintain a viable operating financial position.

With a gross income of £238,868 (2021, £220,739) and expenditure of £237,879 (2021, £187,978), the year ended with a modest surplus of £989 (2021, £32,761). Year-end net assets amounted to £265,302 (2021, £264,313) including cash at bank of £111,228 (2021, £149,005). The charity operates a policy of holding cash reserves to meet projected cash outlays taking account of sourcing requirements for acquisitions under its bus replacement programme. Funds not required in the short term are held in an appropriate deposit account. At the end of the year, Trustees agreed to transfer £12,000 to the unrestricted bus replacement reserve fund for future bus acquisitions. The fund stands at £55,000 (2021, £43,000)

A high-level five-year trend of finances, passengers and miles run is shown graphically on page 14.

The Trustees have not identified any uninsured major risks to which the charity is exposed.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2022 (cont)

Going Concern

The Trustees have considered the consequences of the impact of covid and other events, particularly the relatively slow recovery of passenger numbers, and projections of inflation and levels of recession. They have determined that, whilst significant, they do not create a material uncertainty that casts major doubt upon the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Forward View

In addition to maintaining a strong operational business base for the charity, our focus over the coming year will again be threefold. First, to continue to rebuild patronage numbers so we can provide support to the same or greater level of deserving passengers we helped pre-pandemic. Secondly, to acquire a new bus in 2023, subject to passenger numbers increasing either from existing or new services, and thirdly, to continue with the recruitment programme to increase the overall number of volunteer drivers.

As a result of central government's positive focus on the bus industry, a number of initiatives within East Sussex may provide the opportunity for CCB to increase current service levels leading to increased net revenues. We look forward to these possible developments during the coming year.

Changes in Trustees/Directors

In February 2022 we welcomed aboard Kevin Fryer as Trustee/Director. Kevin is also a volunteer driver.

In November 2022 we said farewell to Andrew Cottingham Trustee/Director who resigned on health grounds after serving the organisation for over over 20 years. Andrew was a volunteer driver.

Acknowledgements

We are a successful business in meeting our mission and as always, thanks go to our volunteer drivers, our regular passengers, to everybody involved in the day to day running of the organisation, and to Berwick Service Station for keeping the buses well maintained. Particular thanks also go to the individuals and local authorities who made donations to the charity during the year. A summary of donation support is listed on page 12 of this report. Thank you all.

Beryl Smith - Chairman
03 April 2023

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the Board of Trustees/Directors on my examination of the accounts of Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd for the year ended 31 December 2022.

As the Trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records

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

NA Butten
Independent Examiner
20 March 2023

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022	£	2021
Income				
Passenger Services	2	165,629		155,752
Grants & Donations	3	33,417		24,071
Private Hire & Special Events		23,102		5,604
Other income	4	16,720		35,312
Total Income		<u>238,868</u>		<u>220,739</u>
Expenditure				
Servicing, Repairs & Cleaning		(60,637)		(49,549)
Depreciation	5	(67,814)		(60,360)
Licences & Insurance		(26,482)		(22,610)
Operations		(23,403)		(27,329)
Diesel (net of BSOG)		(31,793)		(15,956)
Administration		(27,750)		(12,174)
Total Expenditure		<u>(237,879)</u>		<u>(187,978)</u>
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		989		32,761
Opening reserves		264,313		231,552
Closing reserves (per Balance Sheet)		<u>265,302</u>		<u>264,313</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Balance Sheet
at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022	£	2021
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	346,166		314,732
Current Assets				
Debtors	8	9,206	5,745	
Cash at Bank	9	<u>111,228</u>	<u>149,005</u>	
		120,434	154,750	
Prepayments and Accrued Income		7,421	13,182	
Total Current Assets		<u>127,855</u>	<u>167,932</u>	
Creditors due within one year				
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(68,388)	(47,291)	
Accruals and deferred income		(22,427)	(64,660)	
Unamortised grants for purchase of assets	6	(28,558)	(36,412)	
Total Creditors due within one year		<u>(119,373)</u>	<u>(148,363)</u>	
Net Current Assets (liabilities)		8,482		19,569
Total Assets less current liabilities		<u>354,648</u>		<u>334,301</u>
Creditors due after one year	10	(89,346)		(69,988)
Total net assets		<u>265,302</u>		<u>264,313</u>
Funds of the Charity				
Unrestricted funds - general		210,302		221,313
Unrestricted funds - asset replacement		55,000		43,000
Total Unrestricted Funds		<u>265,302</u>		<u>264,313</u>

- the company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to the small companies
- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006
- the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts
- these accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The Report and Accounts were approved by the Board on 03 April 2023

Beryl Smith
Trustee/Director

Stewart Fuller
Trustee/Director

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Funds Flow Statement
for year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022	£	2021
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		989		32,761
add back Depreciation (net)	5	67,814		60,360
less Other Income	4	(16,720)		(35,312)
Cash from Trading		<u>52,083</u>		<u>57,809</u>
Other Income	4	16,720		35,312
Capital Grants Received		19,367		-
Movement in fixed assets				
Acquisitions	7	(126,519)	(101,700)	
Proceeds of disposal (NBV before surplus)	7	<u>50</u>	<u>30,260</u>	
		(126,469)		(71,440)
Movement in Working Capital				
Debtors		(3,461)	22,043	
Prepayments		5,761	(10,238)	
Creditors		<u>(40,526)</u>	<u>11,498</u>	
		(38,226)		23,303
Movement in Loans				
New debt		84,000	60,000	
Interest		8,879	6,736	
Payments		<u>(54,131)</u>	<u>(57,453)</u>	
		38,748		9,283
Movement in Funds in the Year		<u>(37,777)</u>		<u>54,267</u>
Cash at Bank				
Opening		149,005		94,738
Movement in Funds (as above)		<u>(37,777)</u>		<u>54,267</u>
Closing (per Balance Sheet)		<u>111,228</u>		<u>149,005</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Notes to the Accounts

for year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of Accounting - these accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s). Income and expenditure are accounted for on an accruals basis.

1.2 Income - is recognised in the accounts when the charity becomes entitled to the resources and is shown exclusive of VAT. The significant value of voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report. Debtors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

1.3 Expenditure - liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as 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. Creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

1.4 Tangible Fixed Assets - are recorded at cost and subsequently stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the prudent useful economic life of that asset on a straight-line basis. Capital grants supporting fixed asset acquisitions are released to revenue account on a straight-line basis over the life of the related asset class and reduce the annual total depreciation charge.

1.5 Hire Purchase Agreements - assets are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and depreciated over their useful lives. The capital element of future finance payments is included within creditors; finance charges are allocated to accounting periods over the length of the contract.

1.6 Fund Accounting - unrestricted funds (including designated funds) may be used in accordance with the charitable objectives of the charity at the discretion of the trustees.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2022 (cont)

	2022	2021
		£
2 Passengers Services		
Concessionary Fares	122,784	123,912
Ticket Fares	19,594	11,523
Support from:		
East Dean & Friston PC	2,641	1,568
ESCC/B&H	13,630	12,591
Hailsham Town Council	6,680	5,858
Polegate Town Council	300	300
	<u>165,629</u>	<u>155,752</u>
3 Grants and Donations		
Town and Parish Councils		
Alfriston	200	200
Arlington	100	100
Berwick	100	100
Chalvington & Ripe	150	-
Cuckmere Valley	250	250
East Dean & Friston	500	500
Heathfield & Waldron	500	500
Herstmonceux	500	1,000
Long Man	150	150
Pevensy	150	-
Polegate	200	200
Seaford	2,000	2,000
Westham	120	100
Willingdon & Jevington	850	800
	<u>5,770</u>	<u>5,900</u>
ESCC	9,948	2,430
Wealden District Council	5,125	5,500
Passenger donations	9,403	6,898
Other donations	3,171	3,343
	<u>33,417</u>	<u>24,071</u>
4 Other Income		
Covid Support from DfT	14,369	25,900
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	1,325	9,407
Bank interest	429	5
Timetable and other adverts	597	-
	<u>16,720</u>	<u>35,312</u>
5 Depreciation		
Charge in year	95,035	82,752
less amortisation of grant in year (note 6)	(27,221)	(22,392)
	<u>67,814</u>	<u>60,360</u>
6 Unamortised Grants		
at start of year	(36,412)	(58,804)
grants received in year	(19,367)	-
released during year (note 5)	27,221	22,392
at end of year	<u>(28,558)</u>	<u>(36,412)</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2022 (cont)

	£	
	2022	2021
7 Tangible Fixed assets		
Cost		
at start of year	591,295	660,828
additions in the year	126,519	101,700
disposals in the year	<u>(27,178)</u>	<u>(171,233)</u>
at end of year	<u>690,636</u>	<u>591,295</u>
Cumulative Depreciation		
at start of year	276,563	334,784
charges in the year (note 5)	95,035	82,752
disposals in the year	<u>(27,128)</u>	<u>(140,973)</u>
at end of year	<u>344,470</u>	<u>276,563</u>
Net Book Value	<u>346,166</u>	<u>314,732</u>
8 Debtors	2022	2021
Accounts receivable	7,087	2,694
VAT reclaimable	<u>2,119</u>	<u>3,051</u>
	<u>9,206</u>	<u>5,745</u>
9 Cash at Bank	2022	2021
Barclays current account	60,671	96,058
Co-operative current account	6,553	9,288
Charities deposit account	44,004	43,579
Petty Cash	<u>-</u>	<u>80</u>
	<u>111,228</u>	<u>149,005</u>
10 Creditors	2022	2021
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	(11,026)	(9,319)
Hire purchase contracts	<u>(57,362)</u>	<u>(37,972)</u>
	<u>(68,388)</u>	<u>(47,291)</u>
Amounts falling due after one year		
Hire purchase contracts (1-5 years)	<u>(89,346)</u>	<u>(69,988)</u>

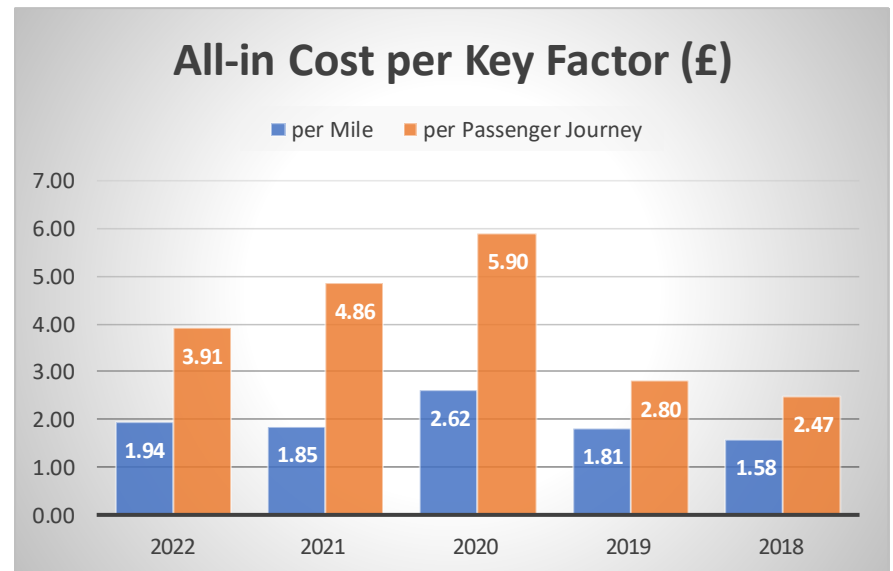
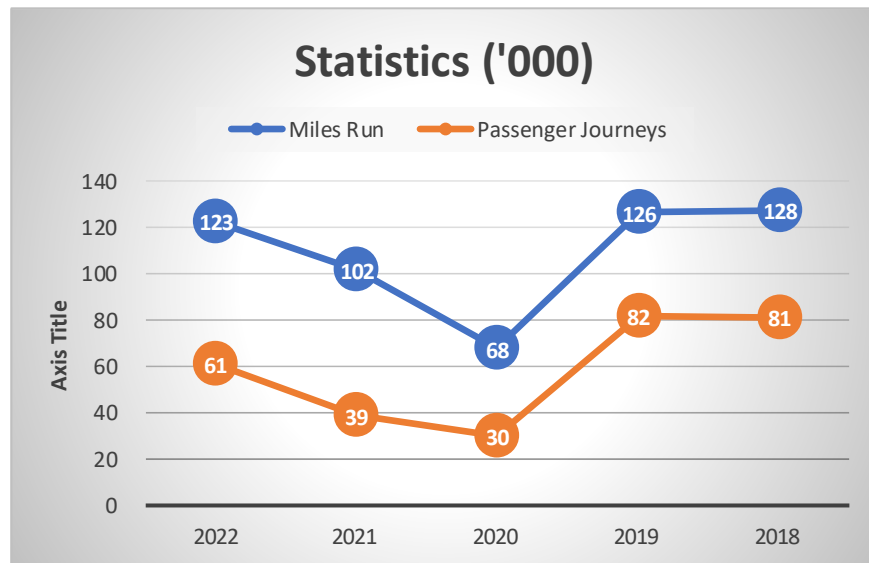
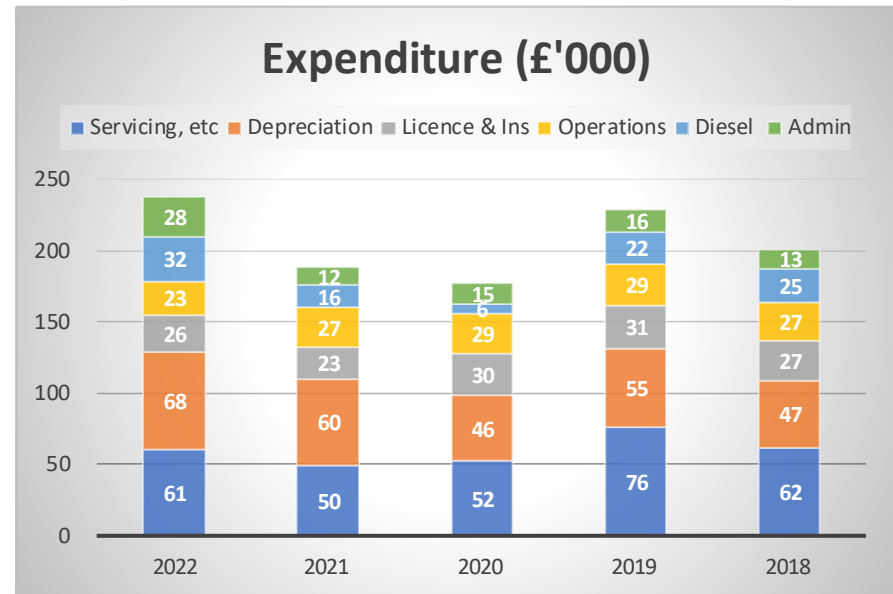
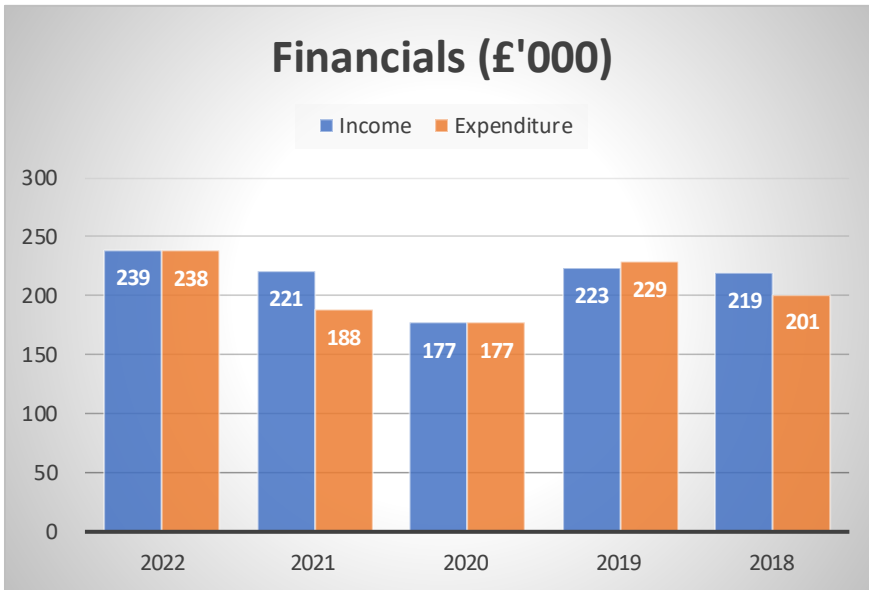
11 Audit: Expenditure is after charges for Independent Review £960 (2021, £960) and other professional services £300 (2021, £300)

12 Transactions with Directors: There were no transactions between the company and its Trustees/Directors

13 Related Party Disclosures: There were no transactions between the company and related parties

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Graphs - 5 year trends



Our Current Fleet



Bus28



Bus27



Bus26



Bus25



Bus 24



Bus22



Bus20



CUCKMERE COMMUNITY BUS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1120494

Accounts



Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

(Registered Charity 1120494)

Trustees' Report and Accounts

31 December 2021

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

2021 Report and Accounts

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9	Balance Sheet
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11	Notes to the Accounts
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15	Our Buses – Past & Present

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Report
for year ended 31 December 2021

Legal and Administrative Details

Legal Status

- company/charity name - Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
- England & Wales Charity Commission register number 1120494
- England & Wales Registrar of Companies register number 06032000
- trading name - Cuckmere Buses

Objects

The object of the Company is to provide a community bus and a community transport service, including private hire, for such of the inhabitants of East and West Sussex and the City of Brighton and Hove who are in need of such a service because of age, sickness or disability (mental or physical), or poverty, or because of a lack of availability of adequate and safe public passenger services.

Trustees/Directors

Philip Montague Ayers	Stewart Colin Fuller
John Howard Bunce (to 24 June 2021)	Nicholas Brian Price (from 15 February 2021)
Andrew John Cottingham	Beryl Anne Smith
Susan Olave de Angeli	

Principal Address

The Old Rectory
Litlington
Polegate
East Sussex
BN26 5RB

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc Co-operative Bank plc CCLA Fund Managers

Independent Examiner

Nigel Butten FCA

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Review of Activities

Cuckmere Buses is the trading name for Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd (CCB), an incorporated charity based in Berwick, East Sussex. It has been running for 45 years supplementing existing bus services and providing bus links for village residents throughout the Cuckmere Valley area to their nearest towns for shopping, for appointments, or for social activities.

OUR VISION is being the Community Bus service of choice in our area, and OUR MISSION is providing a safe, reliable, and courteous local bus, serving those rural and urban communities in our part of East Sussex not served by commercial companies.

CCB is run entirely by volunteers; there are no employees. We have some 45 volunteer drivers and some 10 additional volunteers who all help run the fleet of 16-seater low-floor Mercedes mini-buses. The drivers are trained to MiDAS standards (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) and are reassessed every four years. They all have D1 classification on their licence. The value of volunteers to the organisation cannot be overestimated, in terms of community support and company viability. In addition to over 20 weekly timetabled services, requiring nearly twice as many half-day shifts, the company operates summer leisure services and offers private hire facilities. We also provide special annual services for the International Tennis in Eastbourne, and the Charleston festivals. CCB remains a busy voluntary organisation and always needs new volunteers. The recruitment programme scheduled for last year stalled owing to covid-19 but restarted at the end of this year and will continue into next.

2021 was again a difficult year owing to the coronavirus. The year started with covid related national restrictions, and we didn't return to providing full services until April. Passenger numbers were understandably slow to recover and whilst the numbers were growing the Omicron variant of Covid hit and had a detrimental impact on the recovery. Passenger numbers had not recovered to 2019 pre-pandemic levels at the year-end, and it may be some time into 2022 before they do so. Buses continued to be regularly sanitised and face masks were required when travelling, in accordance with government guidelines. For the year, we ran 101,600 (2020, 67,600) miles and catered for some 38,700 (2020, 30,000) passenger journeys.

The charity sold two of its older vehicles during the year and took delivery of a new bus in June, all as part of a bus replacement programme. Additionally, a third vehicle was an insurance write off following an electrical fire in the engine compartment. A new bus was due for delivery at the end of the year but owing to the global shortage of semiconductor parts, this has been delayed until early 2022. The next acquisition on the replacement programme is in 2023 and with the current commitment to leasing it will need to be funded primarily by grant/donation receipts after an initial priming with available internal resources. At the end of the year the Trustees agreed to set up an

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2021 (cont)

unrestricted bus replacement reserve fund and to embark on a specific fundraising initiative early in 2022.

A significant amount of ongoing roadworks and road closures, particularly at Polegate, Drusillas roundabout, and Wilmington crossroads caused some major challenges during the year. These ranged from rescheduled and re-routed services, and related loss of revenue, to issues in transporting drivers to/from shift changeovers points. An extra support vehicle was acquired during the year to help with these changeover difficulties. Hopefully, once completed, the new road layouts will improve service times. National fuel shortages in September forced the cancellation of some afternoon and weekend leisure services in order to sustain at least a reliable weekly service to all the communities we serve; luckily this fuel shortage was short-lived.

The charity operates efficiently to a high standard under the control of the Board of Trustees who met formally on four occasions during the year, all remotely. They reviewed operations of the company, its financial position, and the outlook for the future. Covid-19 implications were a continuing focus item. In addition, two Stakeholder meetings consisting of representatives of parish and town councils and company officers were held, plus the AGM in April, all remotely. The usual annual social gathering of drivers was again cancelled owing to the pandemic, but regular remote meetings were held with drivers to monitor resource availability, passenger levels and services operated. Feedback and views from drivers are paramount as they provide the charity's front-line contact with passengers.

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the charity commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Financial Performance

The financial statements are included on pages 8 to 13. All income and expenditure are related to unrestricted funds; there are no restricted nor endowment funds.

Central and local government continued covid-related support for bus operators generally during the year by continuing to pay existing fuel rebate grants and concessionary travel fares based on pre-covid levels. The coronavirus support grant introduced by the Department for Transport in 2020 ended in August; a follow-on grant scheme was not taken up by CCB owing to deemed de minimis benefits. These government support initiatives, together with our volunteer capacity avoiding staff costs and related overheads, plus reduced maintenance costs owing to less mileage and the younger fleet, all helped the charity maintain a viable operating financial position.

With a gross income of £220,739 (2020, £176,946) and expenditure of £187,978 (2020, £177,008), the year ended with a surplus of £32,761 (2020, deficit £62). Year-end net assets amounted to £264,313 (2020, £231,552) including cash at bank of £149,005 (2020, £94,738). The charity operates a policy of holding cash reserves to meet projected cash outlays taking account of sourcing requirements for acquisitions under its bus replacement programme. Funds not required in the short term are held in

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2021 (cont)

an appropriate deposit account. At the end of the year the Trustees agreed to transfer £43,000 (2020, nil) to an unrestricted bus replacement reserve fund for future bus acquisitions.

A high-level five-year trend of finances, passengers and miles run is shown graphically on page 14.

The Trustees have not identified any uninsured major risks to which the charity is exposed.

Going Concern

The Trustees have considered the consequences of covid and other events and conditions, and have determined that, whilst significant, they do not create a material uncertainty that casts major doubt upon the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Forward View

In addition to maintaining a strong operational business base for the charity, our focus over the coming year will be threefold. First, to rebuild patronage numbers so we can provide support to the same or greater level of deserving passengers we helped pre-pandemic. Secondly, to build cash reserve for the outright purchase of a replacement bus in 2023, and thirdly, to continue with the recruitment programme to increase the overall number of volunteer drivers.

Acknowledgements

We are a successful business in meeting our mission and as always, thanks go to our volunteer drivers, our regular passengers, to everybody involved in the day to day running of the organisation, and to Berwick Service Station for keeping the buses well maintained. Particular thanks also go to the individuals and local authorities who made donations to the charity during a difficult year. A summary of donation support is listed on page 12 of this report. Thank you all.

And finally

It was with sadness we recorded the passing of John Bunce, Operations Director, in June. He was with CCB for over 20 years and his hard work and commitment helped grow the business to what it is today. He will be missed by us all.

Beryl Smith - Chairman
28 March 2022

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the Board of Directors/Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd for the year ended 31 December 2021.

As the Trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records

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

**NA Butten
Independent Examiner
28 February 2022**

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2021

		£	
	Notes	2021	2020
Income			
Passenger Services	2	155,752	152,331
Grants & Donations	3	24,071	20,318
Private Hire & Special Events		5,604	1,830
Other income	4	35,312	2,467
Total Income		<u>220,739</u>	<u>176,946</u>
Expenditure			
Servicing, Repairs & Cleaning		(49,549)	(52,446)
Depreciation	5/6	(60,360)	(45,577)
Licences & Insurance		(22,610)	(29,604)
Operations		(27,329)	(28,688)
Diesel (net of BSOG)		(15,956)	(5,924)
Administration		(12,174)	(14,769)
Total Expenditure		<u>(187,978)</u>	<u>(177,008)</u>
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		32,761	(62)
Opening reserves		231,552	231,614
Closing reserves (per Balance Sheet)		<u>264,313</u>	<u>231,552</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Balance Sheet
at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021	£	2020
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	314,732		326,044
Current Assets				
Debtors	8	5,745	27,788	
Cash at Bank	9	<u>149,005</u>	<u>94,738</u>	
		154,750	122,526	
Prepayments and Accrued Income		13,182	2,944	
Total Current Assets		<u>167,932</u>	<u>125,470</u>	
Creditors due within one year				
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(47,291)	(37,015)	
Accruals and deferred income		(64,660)	(60,605)	
Unamortised grants for purchase of assets	6	(36,412)	(58,804)	
Total Creditors due within one year		<u>(148,363)</u>	<u>(156,424)</u>	
Net Current Assets (liabilities)		19,569		(30,954)
Total Assets less current liabilities		<u>334,301</u>		<u>295,090</u>
Creditors due after one year	10	(69,988)		(63,538)
Total net assets		<u>264,313</u>		<u>231,552</u>
Funds of the Charity				
Unrestricted funds - general		221,313	231,552	
Unrestricted funds - asset replacement		43,000	0	
Total Unrestricted Funds		<u>264,313</u>		<u>231,552</u>

- the company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to the small companies
- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006
- the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts
- these accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The Report and Accounts were approved by the Board on 28 March 2022

Beryl Smith
Trustee/Director

Stewart Fuller
Trustee/Director

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Funds Flow Statement
for year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021	£	2020
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		32,761		(62)
add back Depreciation (net)	5	60,360		45,577
less Other Income	4	(35,312)		(2,467)
Cash from Trading		<u>57,809</u>		<u>43,048</u>
Other Income	4	35,312		2,467
Movement in fixed assets				
Acquisitions	7	(101,700)	(192,243)	
Proceeds of disposal (NBV before surplus)	7	<u>30,260</u>	<u>50</u>	
		(71,440)		(192,193)
Movement in Working Capital				
Debtors		22,043	(16,752)	
Prepayments		(10,238)	11,517	
Creditors		<u>11,498</u>	<u>18,905</u>	
		23,303		13,670
Movement in Loans				
New debt		60,000	87,434	
Interest		6,736	8,483	
Payments		<u>(57,453)</u>	<u>(31,615)</u>	
		9,283		64,302
Movement in Funds in the Year		<u>54,267</u>		<u>(68,706)</u>
Cash at Bank				
Opening		94,738		163,444
Movement in Funds (as above)		<u>54,267</u>		<u>(68,706)</u>
Closing (per Balance Sheet)		<u>149,005</u>		<u>94,738</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of Accounting - these accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s). Income and expenditure are accounted for on an accruals basis.

1.2 Income - is recognised in the accounts when the charity becomes entitled to the resources and is shown exclusive of VAT. The significant value of voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report. Debtors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

1.3 Expenditure - liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as 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. Creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

1.4 Tangible Fixed Assets - are recorded at cost and subsequently stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the prudent useful economic life of that asset on a straight-line basis. Capital grants supporting fixed asset acquisitions are released to revenue account on a straight-line basis over the life of the related asset class and reduce the annual total depreciation charge.

1.5 Hire Purchase Agreements - assets are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and depreciated over their useful lives. The capital element of future finance payments is included within creditors; finance charges are allocated to accounting periods over the length of the contract.

1.6 Fund Accounting - unrestricted funds (including designated funds) may be used in accordance with the charitable objectives of the charity at the discretion of the trustees.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2021 (cont)

	£	
2 Passengers Services	2021	2020
Concessionary Fares	123,912	122,998
Ticket Fares	11,523	6,364
Support from:		
East Dean & Friston PC	1,568	1,218
ESCC/B&H	12,591	12,580
Hailsham Town Council	5,858	8,871
Polegate Town Council	300	300
	<u>155,752</u>	<u>152,331</u>
3 Grants and Donations	2021	2020
Town and Parish Councils		
Alfriston	200	150
Arlington	100	100
Berwick	100	100
Chalvington & Ripe	-	125
Cuckmere Valley	250	250
East Dean & Friston	500	500
Heathfield & Waldron	500	500
Herstmonceux	1,000	-
Long Man	150	150
Pevensey	-	-
Polegate	200	200
Seaford	2,000	2,000
Westham	100	100
Willingdon & Jevington	800	800
	<u>5,900</u>	<u>4,975</u>
ESCC	2,430	2,430
Wealden District Council	5,500	5,500
Passenger donations	6,898	5,431
Other donations	3,343	1,982
	<u>24,071</u>	<u>20,318</u>
4 Other Income	2021	2020
Covid Support from DfT	25,900	-
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	9,407	2,250
Bank interest	5	217
	<u>35,312</u>	<u>2,467</u>
5 Depreciation	2021	2020
Charge in year	82,752	67,957
less amortisation of grant in year (note 6)	<u>(22,392)</u>	<u>(22,380)</u>
	<u>60,360</u>	<u>45,577</u>
6 Unamortised Grants	2021	2020
at start of year	(58,804)	(81,184)
released during year (note 5)	22,392	22,380
at end of year	<u>(36,412)</u>	<u>(58,804)</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2021 (cont)

	£	
7 Tangible Fixed assets	2021	2020
Cost		
at start of year	660,828	545,554
additions in the year	101,700	192,243
disposals in the year	<u>(171,233)</u>	<u>(76,969)</u>
at end of year	<u>591,295</u>	<u>660,828</u>
Cumulative Depreciation		
at start of year	334,784	343,746
charges in the year (note 5)	82,752	67,957
disposals in the year	<u>(140,973)</u>	<u>(76,919)</u>
at end of year	<u>276,563</u>	<u>334,784</u>
Net Book Value	<u>314,732</u>	<u>326,044</u>
8 Debtors	2021	2020
Accounts receivable	2,694	7,867
VAT reclaimable	<u>3,051</u>	<u>19,921</u>
	<u>5,745</u>	<u>27,788</u>
9 Cash at Bank	2021	2020
Barclays current account	96,058	61,449
Co-operative current account	9,288	9,502
Charities deposit account	43,579	23,576
Petty Cash	<u>80</u>	<u>211</u>
	<u>149,005</u>	<u>94,738</u>
10 Creditors	2021	2020
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	(9,319)	(1,876)
Hire purchase contracts	<u>(37,972)</u>	<u>(35,139)</u>
	<u>(47,291)</u>	<u>(37,015)</u>
Amounts falling due after one year		
Hire purchase contracts (1-5 years)	<u>(69,988)</u>	<u>(63,538)</u>

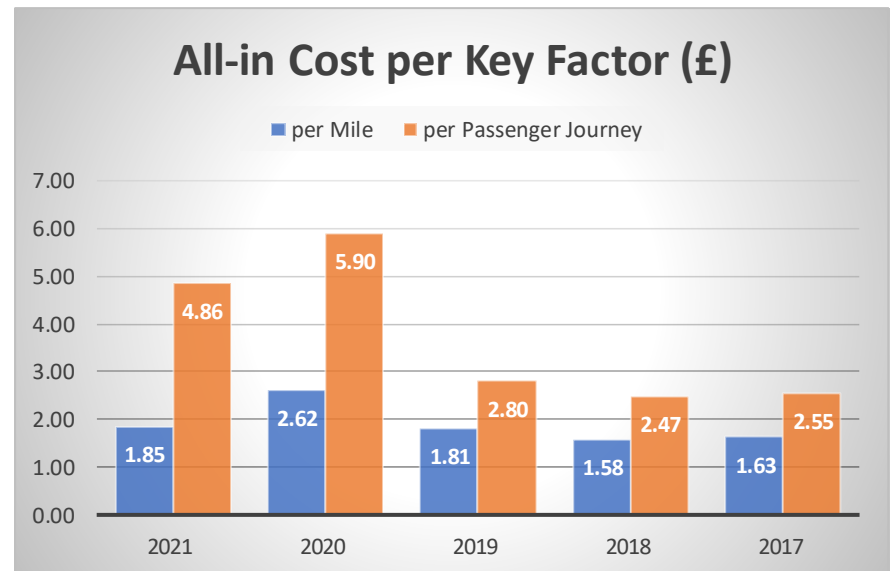
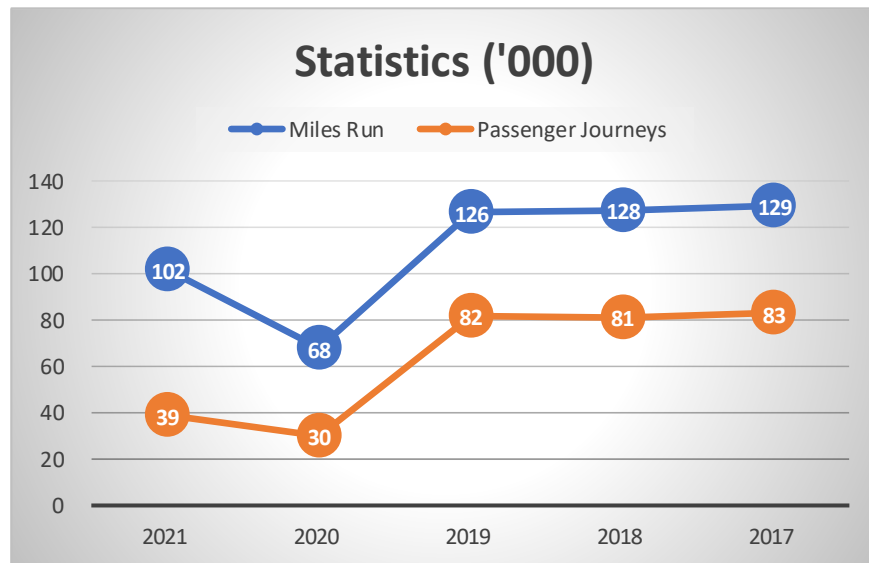
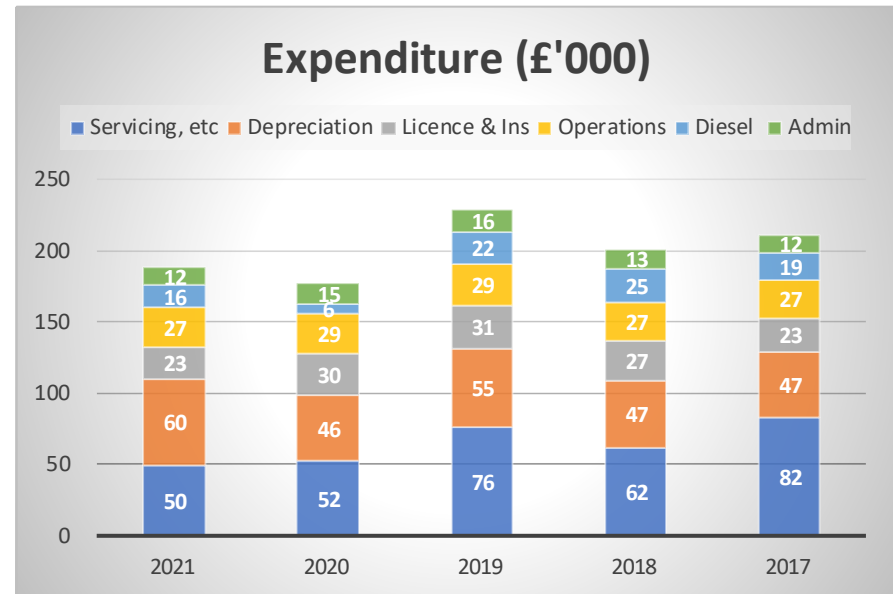
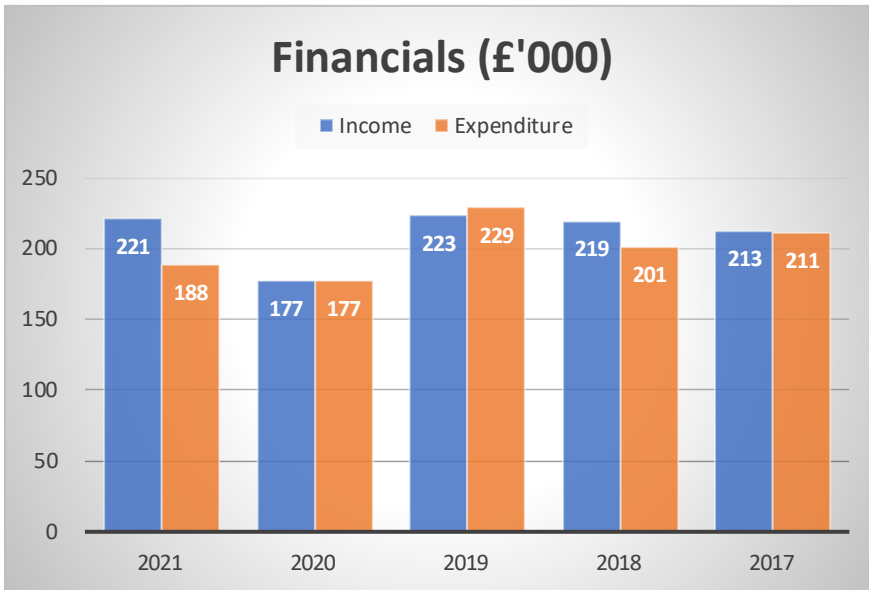
11 Audit: Expenditure is after charges for Independent Review £960 (2020, £960) and other professional services £300 (2020, £300)

12 Transactions with Directors: There were no transactions between the company and its Trustees/Directors

13 Related Party Disclosures: There were no transactions between the company and related parties

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Graphs - 5 year trends



Our Buses – Past & Present#

					
CCB01	CCB02	CCB03	CCB04	CCB05	CCB06
					
CCB07	CCB08	CCB09	CCB10	CCB11	CCB12
					
CCB13	CCB14	CCB15	CCB16	CCB17	CCB18
					
CCB19	CCB20#	CCB21	CCB22#	CCB23	CCB24#
			Arriving March 2022	Planned for 2023	
CCB25#	CCB26#	CCB27#	CCB28	CCB29	

CUCKMERE COMMUNITY BUS LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1120494

Accounts



Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

(Registered Charity 1120494)

Trustees' Report and Accounts

31 December 2020

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

2020 Report and Accounts

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Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Report
for year ended 31 December 2020

Legal and Administrative Details

Legal Status

- registered charity - number 1120494
- company limited by guarantee – number 06032000
- ‘Cuckmere Buses’ is the company trading name

Objects

The object of the Company is to provide a community bus and a community transport service, including private hire, for such of the inhabitants of East and West Sussex and the City of Brighton and Hove who are in need of such a service because of age, sickness or disability (mental or physical), or poverty, or because of a lack of availability of adequate and safe public passenger services.

Trustees/Directors

Philip Montague Ayers

Susan Olave de Angeli

John Howard Bunce

Stewart Colin Fuller

Andrew John Cottingham

Beryl Anne Smith

Principal Address

The Old Rectory

Litlington

Polegate

East Sussex

BN26 5RB

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc

Co-operative Bank plc

CCLA Fund Managers

Independent Examiner

Nigel Butten FCA

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2020

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Review of Activities

Cuckmere Buses is the trading name for Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd (CCB) and is run entirely by trained volunteers. It has been running for over 40 years supplementing existing bus services and providing bus links for village residents throughout the Cuckmere Valley area to their nearest towns for shopping, for appointments, or for social activities.

OUR VISION is being the Community Bus service of choice in our area, and OUR MISSION is providing a safe, reliable, and courteous local bus, serving those rural and urban communities in our part of East Sussex not served by commercial companies.

Based in Berwick, East Sussex, CCB has around 45 volunteer drivers and 10 additional volunteers who run its fleet of eight 16-seater low-floor mini-buses.

2020 was a difficult year owing to the coronavirus. We suspended operations from end March to early June during the initial lockdown period, when many of our drivers self-isolated. We made our buses covid-compliant and started slowly returning to service over the second half of the year with the aim of delivering all timetabled services by spring 2021. The number of passengers carried was limited per service to maintain social distancing, although many passengers were also isolating. Recovery of services and passengers was continuing towards the end of the year, until the company was further impacted by the second lockdown introduced in November. For the year, we ran some 67,600 (2019, 125,000) miles and catered for around 30,000 (2019, 81,000*) passenger journeys. There was no Private Hire after March and no bespoke services for the whole year. A number of drivers continued to refrain from driving at the end of the year owing to covid.

The charity took delivery of a new bus in February and one in December and sold one of its older vehicles all as part of a bus replacement programme. Apart from two remaining older buses, all vehicles were sprayed with the new corporate colours and logo. The website was also updated reflecting the new image.

CCB remains a busy voluntary organisation and always needs new volunteers. The recruitment programme scheduled for the year stalled owing to covid-19 but will now roll over to 2021.

The Charity operates efficiently to a high standard under the control of the Board of Directors/Trustees who met formally on four occasions during the year (three remotely). They reviewed operations of the company, its financial position, and the outlook for the future. Covid-19 implications were a continuing focus item. In addition, two Stakeholder meetings were held plus the AGM in July, all remotely. The usual annual social gathering was cancelled owing to the pandemic. Regular remote meetings were held with drivers to monitor resource availability, passenger levels and the services operated.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review (cont.)

for year ended 31 December 2020

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the charity commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

At the end of the year, advice was finally received from Department for Transport following their consultation about possible changes to the regulations governing the operation of Section 19 and 22 licences for not-for-profit community transport operators. This review followed an earlier challenge from the Bus and Coach Association. The advice means that we can continue operating as we have done in the past.

Financial Performance

The financial statements are included on pages 7 to 9.

Central and local government supported bus operators generally during the lockdown and subsequently by continuing to pay existing grants and concessionary travel support, both based on estimated levels agreed pre-covid. This, together with no salary nor related costs, and reduced maintenance costs owing to less mileage, has helped the charity maintain a viable operating financial position. A new coronavirus support grant was also introduced by the Department for Transport.

With a gross income of £176,946 (2019, £223,112) and expenditure of £177,008 (2019, £228,868), the year ended with a deficit of £62 (2019, deficit £5,756). Year-end net assets amounted to £231,552 (2019, £231,614) including cash at bank of £94,738 (2019, £163,444). The Charity operates a policy of holding cash reserves to meet projected cash outlays taking account of sourcing requirements for acquisitions under its bus replacement programme. Funds not required in the short term are held in an appropriate deposit account.

The Trustees have not identified any uninsured major risks to which the Charity is exposed.

Post Balance Sheet Date Activities

Extended covid-19 lockdown arrangements were introduced in January 2021 which will further impact the business. We anticipate central and local government will continue with their financial support.

Acknowledgements

As always, thanks go to our volunteer drivers, our regular passengers, to everybody involved in the day to day running of the organisation, and to Berwick Service Station for keeping the buses well maintained. Particular thanks also go to the individuals and local authorities who made donations to the Charity during a difficult year. Thank you all.

Beryl Smith - Chairman
29 March 2021

(* incorrectly shown as 85,000 last year)

Cuckmere Community Bus Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the Board of Directors/Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd for the year ended 31 December 2020.

As the Trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records

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

**NA Butten
Independent Examiner
20 February 2021**

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2020

		£	
	Notes	2020	2019
Income			
Passenger Services	1	152,331	171,635
Grants & Donations	2	20,318	27,602
Private Hire & Special Events		1,830	20,278
Other income		2,467	3,597
Total Income		<u>176,946</u>	<u>223,112</u>
Expenditure			
Servicing, Repairs & Cleaning		(52,446)	(76,281)
Depreciation	3	(45,577)	(54,766)
Licences & Insurance		(29,604)	(30,778)
Operations		(28,688)	(28,795)
Diesel (net of BSOG)		(5,924)	(22,251)
Administration		(14,769)	(15,997)
Total Expenditure		<u>(177,008)</u>	<u>(228,868)</u>
Deficit for the year		(62)	(5,756)
Opening reserves		231,614	237,370
Closing reserves (per Balance Sheet)		<u>231,552</u>	<u>231,614</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Balance Sheet
at 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020	£	2019
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	326,044		201,808
Current Assets				
Debtors	6	27,788	11,036	
Cash at Bank	7	94,738	163,444	
		<u>122,526</u>	<u>174,480</u>	
Prepayments and Accrued Income		2,944	14,461	
Total Current Assets		<u>125,470</u>	<u>188,941</u>	
Creditors due within one year				
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(37,015)	(46,781)	
Accruals and deferred income		(60,605)	(10,788)	
Unamortised grants for purchase of assets	4	(58,804)	(81,184)	
Total Creditors		<u>(156,424)</u>	<u>(138,753)</u>	
Net Current Assets			(30,954)	50,188
Total Assets less current liabilities		<u>295,090</u>		<u>251,996</u>
Creditors due after one year	8	(63,538)		(20,382)
Total Charity Funds		<u>231,552</u>		<u>231,614</u>

- for the year ending 31st December 2020, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006 relating to the small companies
- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with Section 476
- the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts
- these accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The Report and Accounts were approved by the Board on 29 March 2021

Beryl Smith
Director

Stewart Fuller
Director

**Cuckmere Community Bus
Funds Flow Statement
for year ended 31 December 2020**

		£	
	Notes	2020	2019
Deficit for the year		(62)	(5,756)
add back depreciation (net)	3	45,577	54,766
Cash from Trading		<u>45,515</u>	<u>49,010</u>
Net movement of fixed assets		(192,193)	40,713
Movement in Working Capital			
Debtors	(16,752)	(6,775)	
Prepayments	11,517	(4,794)	
Creditors	<u>18,905</u>	<u>12,391</u>	
		13,670	822
Movement in Loans		64,302	(30,851)
Movement in Funds in the Year		<u>(68,706)</u>	<u>59,694</u>
Cash at Bank			
Opening		163,444	103,750
Movement in Funds		<u>(68,706)</u>	<u>59,694</u>
Closing		<u>94,738</u>	<u>163,444</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2020

	£	
1 Passengers Services	2020	2019
Concessionary Fares	122,998	124,092
Ticket Fares	6,364	20,990
Support from:		
East Dean & Friston PC	1,218	2,427
ESCC/B&H	12,580	13,218
Hailsham Town Council	8,871	10,608
Polegate Town Council	300	300
	<u>152,331</u>	<u>171,635</u>
2 Grants and Donations	2020	2019
Alfriston	150	200
Arlington	100	
Berwick	100	100
Chalvington & Ripe	125	100
Cuckmere Valley	250	250
East Dean & Friston	500	
Heathfield & Waldron	500	500
Herstmonceux		500
Long Man	150	150
Pevensey		150
Polegate	200	200
Seaford	2,000	1,000
Westham	100	100
Willingdon & Jevington	800	800
	<u>4,975</u>	<u>4,050</u>
ESCC	2,430	2,430
Wealden District Council	5,500	5,375
Passenger donations	5,431	12,798
Other donations	1,982	2,949
	<u>20,318</u>	<u>27,602</u>
3 Depreciation	2020	2019
Charge in year	67,957	81,776
less amortisation of grant in year (note 4)	(22,380)	(27,010)
	<u>45,577</u>	<u>54,766</u>
4 Unamortised Grants	2020	2019
at start of year	(81,184)	(108,194)
released during year (note 3)	22,380	27,010
at end of year	<u>(58,804)</u>	<u>(81,184)</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2020 (cont.)

	£	
	2020	2019
5 Tangible Fixed assets		
Cost		
at start of year	545,554	637,651
additions in the year	192,243	10
disposals in the year	(76,969)	(92,107)
at end of year	<u>660,828</u>	<u>545,554</u>
Cumulative Depreciation		
at start of year	343,746	313,354
charges in the year	67,957	81,776
disposals in the year	(76,919)	(51,384)
at end of year	<u>334,784</u>	<u>343,746</u>
Net Book Value	<u>326,044</u>	<u>201,808</u>
6 Debtors	2020	2019
Accounts receivable	7,867	6,528
VAT reclaimable	19,921	4,508
	<u>27,788</u>	<u>11,036</u>
7 Cash at Bank	2020	2019
Barclays current account	61,449	75,334
Co-operative current account	9,502	4,537
Charities deposit account	23,576	83,362
Petty Cash	211	211
	<u>94,738</u>	<u>163,444</u>
8 Creditors	2020	2019
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	(1,876)	(32,788)
Loan repayments due	(35,139)	(13,993)
	<u>(37,015)</u>	<u>(46,781)</u>
Amounts falling due after one year		
Loan repayments due	<u>(63,538)</u>	<u>(20,382)</u>

9 Transactions with Directors: There were no transactions between the company and its Directors

10 Related Party Disclosures: There were no transactions between the company and related parties