BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

England & Wales · Charity number 1122980

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	05814032
Registered	2008-02-28
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	11A Church Green East Redditch Worcestershire B98 8BP
Phone	0152760282
Email	office@barn.org.uk
Website	www.barn.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1 TO PROMOTE ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITIES IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH ("THE AREA OF BENEFIT") AND IN PARTICULAR THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION, THE PROTECTION OF HEALTH AND THE RELIEF OF POVERTY, DISTRESS AND SICKNESS;2 TO PROMOTE THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH.THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR SHALL MEAN CHARITIES AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.CHARITIES ARE ORGANISATIONS WHICH ARE ESTABLISHED FOR EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES.VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS ARE INDEPENDENT ORGANISATIONS WHICH ARE ESTABLISHED FOR PURPOSES THAT ADD VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE, OR A SIGNIFICANT SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY, AND WHICH ARE NOT PERMITTED BY THEIR CONSTITUTION TO MAKE A PROFIT FOR PRIVATE DISTRIBUTION. VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS DO NOT INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR OTHER STATUTORY ACTIVITIES.

Activities: To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the communities in the areas of Bromsgrove and Redditch LocalAuthority areas, in particular the advancement of education, protection of health, relief of proverty, distress and sickness.

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1122980

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH
- Worcestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£525,671	£672,124	£303,350	12
2024-03-31	£602,298	£481,116	£449,803	12
2023-03-31	£376,588	£300,839	-	-
2022-03-31	£322,946	£180,375	-	-
2021-03-31	£175,536	£110,300	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Yvonne Rendell	Chair	2017-11-23
Clare Mary Carmen		2025-09-05
Fiona Joyce Mitchell		2019-04-29
John Cochrane		2015-06-19
Karen Jones		2015-02-11
Keith Pople		2025-12-08

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1122980

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1122980

Accounts

Charity registration number 1122980

Company registration number 05814032 (England and Wales)

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT AND INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs K Jones Mr J Cochrane Mrs Y Rendell Mrs F Mitchell Mr A Hopkins Ms C Carmen	 (Appointed 5 September 2025)
Secretary	Mr G P Roskell	
Charity number	1122980	
Company number	05814032	
Registered office	C/O Redi Centre 54 South Street Redditch Worcestershire B98 7DQ	
Independent examiner	Colm McGrory FCA	
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank plc Four Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2JB	

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

CONTENTS

	Page
Chair's Report	1
Trustees' report	2 - 4
Independent examiner's report	5
Statement of financial activities	6
Balance sheet	7 - 8
Statement of cash flows	9
Notes to the financial statements	10 - 18

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

CHAIR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2024-2025 has been another successful year of operation for BARN, albeit one somewhat dominated by the search for new premises. Both the Community Workers Lunch, held in partnership with the Community Workers Network and Redditch District Collaborative, and the Bromsgrove Community Workers Group meeting, have continued running successfully. This gives frontline workers in both towns an opportunity to come together and share experiences. Network and board meetings continue using a hybrid model. Our training programme has continued over the year and been very successful. Most sessions have been bought in, but we developed and delivered three sessions in-house - social media, fundraising and bid writing.

Because of problems with the Do-it website (national volunteering website), it was necessary to bring the Volunteer website service in house and for BARN staff to build a new section of the website and transfer over existing opportunities manually. It was also necessary to export all volunteer records. The new website has proved popular with the public. A new monthly Volunteer Centre newsletter has also been launched, promoting the new opportunities which have come up.

The BURT (Bromsgrove Urban and Rural Transport) service is now operating 5 days a week and customer numbers are back to pre-pandemic levels. BARN has formed a consortium with BluWave and Redditch Dial a Ride to deliver a combined offer across Bromsgrove and Redditch. BARN continues to deliver the ABCD (Asset Based Community Development) initiative in Redditch, where communities' strengths are built on, rather than being defined by their deficits. We now employ only one community builder post, providing some support for Abbeydale and Woodrow and minority communities.

BARN is also the fundholder for the Reimagine Redditch – Creative People and Places project, which started in April 22 and goes on until March 2026. The workload remains significant, but manageable. BARN is now registered for Gift Aid, where tax can be reclaimed on some donations from the public. In March 2026, Severn Arts will take over as fundholder for Reimagine Redditch.

The task of finding new premises has taken up a lot of time over the year. There are now two main contenders – Market Walk (by the Canopies) and St Stephen's Court. Both have different problems to sort out and temporary options for moving out of Community House are being considered.

The financial position of the charity is more secure for the next few years, because of the large projects described above. Fundraising efforts are continuing though to ensure that we stay in a good position. We are grateful to a range of organisations, companies and foundations that have provided funding over the years. We continue to work closely with Redditch BC and Bromsgrove DC and their support and funding for parts of our work continues to be welcome.

I would like to thank all our members, volunteers, trustees and staff for their support, hard work and commitment over the last 12 months. This year we have said goodbye to our vice-chair, Ben Costello and special thanks go to him for his hard work over the years. As part of our governance arrangements, we regularly review the skills base of our trustees to ensure effective experience and knowledge exists within our trustee body and those skills have been extremely valuable to help us through the year. We maintain an up to date risk management register and review our financial position at each meeting. As Trustees leave the organisation from time to time, we do welcome anyone suitable wishing to join the Board.

In conclusion, we look forward to how BARN can continue its role in supporting volunteers, voluntary organisations and communities in 2025/26.

Y Rendell

Yvonne Rendell CITP MBCS
Chair

Dated: 19/12/2025

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as effective from 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the communities in the areas of Bromsgrove and Redditch local authority areas, in particular the advancement of education, protection of health, relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

Significant Activities

Bromsgrove and Redditch Network (BARN) is a network supporting volunteers, voluntary organisations and communities across Bromsgrove and Redditch. BARN is the local Council for Voluntary Service. We run the Volunteer Centre for Bromsgrove and Redditch and a range of local community projects. We represent the local voluntary sector, support local communities, and help with networking, information, funding and volunteering. Where we see a gap in provision we try to help through delivery or partnerships. BARN has been supporting local communities for over 25 years.

Network support activities

BARN has a broad range of Bromsgrove, Redditch and countywide groups as members, more than 90 across the area. Network meetings have remained a popular way to support the sector by providing an opportunity for VCS colleagues to meet each other and share information. We continue using a hybrid model, allowing for both face to face and virtual participation. Introduced during the pandemic, this allows organisations that struggle to get to meetings to participate fully. BARN continues to run the **Community Workers' Lunch** in Redditch, a partnership with the Community Workers' Network, which provides an opportunity for frontline workers to meet and talk. BARN also runs **Community Workers Bromsgrove**, which continues to grow in popularity.

The **Funding Newsletter** continues to be extremely helpful to our members, and we provide a funding portal that is free for all local VCS. We were once again successful with funding applications that allowed us to offer a comprehensive range of training, tailored to the needs of voluntary and community groups across the area. We work in partnership with Bromsgrove and Redditch Councils to maintain the **Knowledge Bank**, a public directory of local VCS and statutory services. With Local Government reform directly impacting all the local councils, BARN has been key to ensuring the local VCS has a voice in the debate.

During the year BARN continued to work closely with other Councils for Voluntary Service and Volunteer Centres across Worcestershire to strengthen the voice of the grassroots VCS through Worcestershire Community Action Network (WeCAN) and share best practice. As Redditch is a non- constituent authority in the West Midlands Combined Authority we also talk to other CVSs in the region representing the local voluntary sector to the Authority. We are also a key member of the new Worcestershire VCSE Alliance, a countywide network with a health and wellbeing focus.

Volunteer Centre

We are the only accredited Volunteer Centre in Worcestershire, and were one of the first in the country to achieve the new standard. We continue to promote volunteering and help match volunteers with appropriate opportunities, and regularly attend community events to promote our work. Our Volunteer Managers' Forum offers a chance for volunteer managers to come together to share their experience and best practice.

We continued to develop projects to build on the experience of the Volunteer Centre. Our **Skills for Work** volunteering programme helps residents across Bromsgrove and Redditch use volunteering as a stepping stone into employment, boosting confidence, gaining experience, and learning new skills. We work closely with the Job Centres in both areas to help their clients use volunteering to improve their employability. Our **Live.Grow.Succeed**. project is designed to encourage more young people to volunteer, and its dedicated website livegrowsucceed.org hosts young people's volunteering stories.

Community Activities

BURT (Bromsgrove Urban and Rural Transport) is a community transport minibus in Bromsgrove for those who can't get about on their own. Numbers continued to grow after the pandemic, with numbers approaching pre-COVID levels. The service remains popular, and a vital lifeline to our passengers.

BARN continued to deliver **Asset Based Community Development** in Redditch. The project employs community builders to support people to initiate and take ownership of activities in their communities, focused around the neighbourhoods of Abbeydale and Woodrow, and also supporting minority communities. The results of this programme are often unexpected, but hugely rewarding as the community takes control of its own projects.

Reimagine Redditch, a four year Arts Council England funded project in Redditch, began in April 2022. BARN is the fund holder for the project until March 2026. We employ the staff team, working closely with other members of the Consortium that run the project. In Bromsgrove we still host resources developed as part of the **Support Bromsgrove** partnership that came together as a result of COVID, and we offer a signposting and referral service for people in Bromsgrove and Redditch struggling because of cost of living pressures or other reasons. BARN also runs a number of grant schemes on behalf of funders, and from time to time holds money on behalf of VCS organisations that have no suitable account

This year was our last at Community House, our home for thirteen years. Previously a lively community hall and building, Redditch Borough Council is selling the site which meant BARN, like the other charities and community groups based there, had to search for a new home. In April 2025 we relocated to our temporary home at The REDI Centre, before a more permanent move later in the year. We're proud to say that, despite this, we maintained all our services without interruption.

The continued support from our dedicated partners and funders, including Redditch Borough Council, Bromsgrove District Council, and our local strategic partnerships, continued to be indispensable. BARN's core purposes remain advocating for and strengthening the voluntary and community sector across Bromsgrove and Redditch, and serving its communities. The successes of the past year, even amidst the significant challenge of relocating from Community House, are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our members, trustees, staff, and volunteers. We remain proud supporters of the essential difference our communities and VCS organisations make every day across Bromsgrove and Redditch.

Public benefit

In setting the objectives, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education.

Achievements and performance

Financial review

During the year the charity made a net deficit of £146,453 (2024 - net surplus of £121,182).

At the year end the charity had net assets of £303,350 (2024 - net assets of £449,803).

Reserves policy

The trustees consider that unrestricted reserves be held at a level approximately equal to between 1 and 3 months expenditure in order to be able to cover day to day running costs in the unlikely event that future incoming resources are either delayed or unduly cease.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a private company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs K Jones	
Mr J Cochrane	
Ms J Morris	(Retired 30 May 2025)
Mrs Y Rendell	
Mrs F Mitchell	
Dr B Costello	(Retired 19 February 2025)
Mr A Hopkins	
Ms C Carmen	(Appointed 5 September 2025)

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
Trustees can co-opt new trustees, members must vote to confirm the appointment of the new trustee at the AGM.

Risk management
The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities
The Trustees, who are also the directors of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Y Rendell

Yvonne Rendell CITP MBCS
Chair
Dated: 19/12/2025

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4 the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Colm McGrory FCA

Ormerod Rutter Limited
The Oakley
Kidderminster Road
Droitwich
Worcestershire
WR9 9AY

Dated: 22/12/2025

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:							
Charitable activities	3	103,567	418,687	522,254	75,774	523,506	599,280
Other trading activities	4	2,348	-	2,348	2,150	-	2,150
Investments	5	1,069	-	1,069	868	-	868
Total income		106,984	418,687	525,671	78,792	523,506	602,298
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	7	89,422	582,702	672,124	81,590	399,526	481,116
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		17,562	(164,015)	(146,453)	(2,798)	123,980	121,182
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		56,297	393,506	449,803	59,095	269,526	328,621
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		73,859	229,491	303,350	56,297	393,506	449,803

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**13**		5,576		7,435
Current assets					
Debtors	**14**	2,370		2,328	
Cash at bank and in hand		303,919		449,606	
		306,289		451,934	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**15**	(8,515)		(9,566)	
Net current assets			297,774		442,368
Total assets less current liabilities			303,350		449,803
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**20**		229,491		393,506
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	**18**	51,500		45,500	
General unrestricted funds	**20**	22,359		10,797	
			73,859		56,297
			303,350		449,803

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the 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 company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 19/12/2025

Andrew Hopkins
Treasurer

Company Registration No. 05814032

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	17		(146,756)		123,972
Investing activities					
Investment income received		1,069		868	
Net cash generated from investing activities			1,069		868
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(145,687)		124,840
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			449,606		324,766
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			303,919		449,606

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Bromsgrove And Redditch Network is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is C/O Redi Centre, 54 South Street, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 7DQ.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as effective from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Taxation

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

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Charitable activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Income within charitable activities	522,254	599,280
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	103,567	75,774
Restricted funds	418,687	523,506
	522,254	599,280

4 Other trading activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Memberships	2,348	2,150

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Other income	1,069	868

6 Other material income

During the year, the charity received funds of £1,691 on behalf of RCNT, £1,500 from MediServices Health on behalf of Headway and £300 from the Mental Health Action Group for Woodrow Community Corner. These funds are classed as managed funds by the charity and are held by Bromsgrove and Redditch Network, the balance in the remaining funds account at the year end is £22,857.

In the prior year the charity received funds of £13,465 from Worcestershire County Council, Worcestershire County Council's divisional funds and other donors, for running the Community Stories Scheme and for the activities of Bromsgrove Pride. The balance in the funds account at the year end was £22,192.

Both the income and the corresponding expenditure relating to managed grants has been excluded from the statement of financial activities.

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	325,059	318,750
Depreciation and impairment	1,859	2,478
Office costs	8,456	6,018
Insurance	2,051	2,482
Project costs	333,026	150,512
Sundries	197	180
	670,648	480,420
Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)		
Support	720	-
Governance	756	696
	672,124	481,116
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	89,422	81,590
Restricted funds	582,702	399,526
	672,124	481,116

8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Support	720	-
Governance costs	756	696
	1,476	696
Analysed between:		
Unrestricted	1,476	696

Governance costs include £756 of Independent Examiners fees. (2024: £696).

9 Net movement in funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	756	696
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	1,859	2,478

10 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Staff	12	13

Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	295,794	292,297
Social security costs	21,067	17,933
Other pension costs	8,198	8,520
	325,059	318,750

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Motor vehicles £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	34,975
At 31 March 2025	34,975
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2024	27,540
Depreciation charged in the year	1,859
At 31 March 2025	29,399
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	5,576
At 31 March 2024	7,435

14 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments and accrued income	2,370	2,328

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	4,768	5,725
Other creditors	3,003	3,145
Accruals and deferred income	744	696
	8,515	9,566

16 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes	2025	2024
	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	8,198	8,520

The charity contributes to defined contribution pension schemes for all qualifying employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

17 Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations

	2025	2024
	£	£
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(146,453)	121,182
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(1,069)	(868)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	1,859	2,478
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(42)	(257)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(1,051)	1,437
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	(146,756)	123,972

18 Designated funds

Designated funds are distinct funds which have been set aside from the unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes, and are not available for general use.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
Minibus fund	35,500	6,000	-	41,500
BARN Relocation	10,000	-	-	10,000
	45,500	6,000	-	51,500

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
Minibus fund	29,500	6,000	-	35,500
BARN Relocation	-	10,000	-	10,000
	29,500	16,000	-	45,500

Minibus Fund funding for the purchase of a minibus to be used within the charity.

BARN Relocation funding for the relocation of charity activities to new premises.

20 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donation and grants which are not subject to speific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 March 2025 £
General funds	10,797	100,984	(89,422)	-	-	22,359

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	29,595	62,792	(81,590)	-	-	10,797

20 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
Redditch Borough Council - Community Builder Grant	138,140	73,004	(57,515)	153,629
Arts Council England - Reimagine Redditch	255,366	298,571	(478,075)	75,862
Redditch Borough Council - Training and Infrastructure	-	26,565	(26,565)	-
Bromsgrove District Council - Training and Infrastructure	-	20,547	(20,547)	-
	393,506	418,687	(582,702)	229,491

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
Redditch Borough Council - Community Builder Grant	133,276	97,339	(92,475)	138,140
Arts Council England - Reimagine Redditch	136,250	385,771	(266,655)	255,366
WFDC - Apprenticeship Support	-	1,500	(1,500)	-
Arts Council England - Reimagine Redditch	-	12,267	(12,267)	-
Redditch Borough Council - Volunteer Centre	-	13,020	(13,020)	-
Baron Davenport - Community Minibus	-	1,500	(1,500)	-
Worcestershire County Council - Bus Pass Discount Scheme	-	12,109	(12,109)	-
	269,526	523,506	(399,526)	393,506

20 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

Redditch Borough Council - Community Builder funding to deliver asset based community development.

Arts Council England - Reimagine Redditch funding to support the CPP project relating to Redditch Reimagined.

Redditch Borough Council - Training and Infrastructure Support funding to support the delivery of training and general maintenance of charity infrastructure.

Bromsgrove District Council - Training and Infrastructure Support funding to support the delivery of training and general maintenance of charity infrastructure.

Worcestershire County Council - N/A

WFDC - Apprenticeship Support funding to support development of an apprenticeship role within the charity.

Redditch Borough Council - Volunteer Centre funding to support the training programme and Volunteer Centre function in Redditch.

Baron Davenport - Community Minibus funding for the running of the BURT community minibus.

Worcestershire County Council - Bus Pass Discount Scheme funding from the bus pass discount scheme and a project to encourage people back to community transport.

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
At 31 March 2025:			
Tangible assets	5,576	-	5,576
Current assets/(liabilities)	68,283	229,491	297,774
	73,859	229,491	303,350

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	7,435	-	7,435
Current assets/(liabilities)	48,862	393,506	442,368
	56,297	393,506	449,803

22 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1122980

Accounts

Charity registration number 1122980

Company registration number 05814032 (England and Wales)

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT AND INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs K Jones Mr J Cochrane Ms J Morris Mrs Y Rendell Mrs F Mitchell Dr B Costello Mr A Hopkins
Secretary	Mr G P Roskell
Charity number	1122980
Company number	05814032
Registered office	Community House 103 Easemore Road Redditch Worcestershire B98 8EY
Independent examiner	Colm McGrory FCA
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank plc Four Brindleyplace Birmingham B1 2JB

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

CONTENTS

	Page
Chair's Report	1
Trustees' report	2 - 4
Independent examiner's report	5
Statement of financial activities	6
Balance sheet	7 - 8
Statement of cash flows	9
Notes to the financial statements	10-19

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

CHAIR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2023-2024 has largely been a successful year of operation for BARN, with one or two surprises on the way. The Community Workers Lunch, in partnership with the Community Workers Network and Redditch District Collaborative, has continued and a separate group, Community Workers Bromsgrove, has just begun. This gives frontline workers in both towns an opportunity to come together and share experiences. Network and board meetings continue using a hybrid model. The Volunteer Centre activities carry on with new branding being rolled out and despite problems with the Do-it website (national volunteering website) as they moved unexpectedly to a new model.

The BURT (Bromsgrove Urban and Rural Transport) service is now virtually back to normal having overcome some staffing problems early in the year. BARN continues to deliver the ABCD (Asset Based Community Development) initiative in Redditch, where communities' strengths are built on, rather than being defined by their deficits. We employ two community builder posts, one in Abbeydale (now expanding into the area around St Georges school) and one in Woodrow. Both also cover Redditch working particularly with minority communities.

BARN is also the fundholder for the Reimagine Redditch – Creative People and Places project, which started in April 22 and goes on until March 2026. All the posts have now been recruited, with the workload remaining significant, but manageable. BARN has begun the registration process for Gift Aid, but this is taking a long time to be sorted out.

RCNT (the charity that ran Community House) no longer has the lease. The Council is now the direct landlord and we have reached agreement to have a small discount on our rent to do minor jobs in the property and the ability to invoice if tasks become too onerous. A lot of time has been spent looking for new suitable premises and the Old Needle Works was looking a likely contender. However, they decided to go with another tenant and so the process of finding a suitable property continues.

The financial position of the charity is more secure for the next few years, because of the large projects described above. Fundraising efforts are continuing though to ensure that we stay in a good position. We are grateful to a range of organisations, companies and foundations that have provided funding over the years. We continue to work closely with Redditch BC and Bromsgrove DC and their support and funding for parts of our work continues to be welcome.

I would like to thank all our members, volunteers, trustees and staff for their support, hard work and commitment over the last 12 months. As part of our governance arrangements, we regularly review the skills base of our trustees to ensure effective experience and knowledge exists within our trustee body and those skills have been extremely valuable to help us through the year. We maintain an up to date risk management register and review our financial position at each meeting. As Trustees leave the organisation from time to time, we do welcome anyone suitable wishing to join the Board.

In conclusion, we look forward to how BARN can continue its role in supporting volunteers, voluntary organisations and communities in 2024/25.

.....

Yvonne Rendell CITP MBCS
Chair

Dated: 18 December 2024

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2 to the accounts and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as effective from 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the communities in the areas of Bromsgrove and Redditch local authority areas, in particular the advancement of education, protection of health, relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

Significant Activities

Bromsgrove and Redditch Network (BARN) is a network supporting volunteers, voluntary organisations and communities across Bromsgrove and Redditch. BARN is the local Council for Voluntary Service, and also runs the Volunteer Centre for Bromsgrove and Redditch and a range of local community projects. We represent the local voluntary sector, support local communities, and help with networking, information, funding and volunteering. Where we see a gap in provision we try to help through delivery or partnerships. BARN has been supporting local communities for over 25 years.

Network support activities

BARN has a broad range of Bromsgrove, Redditch and countywide groups as members, more than 90 across the area. Network meetings have remained a popular way to support the sector by providing an opportunity for VCS colleagues to meet each other and share information. We continue using a hybrid model, allowing for both face to face and virtual participation. Introduced during the pandemic, this allows organisations that struggle to get to meetings to participate fully. BARN continues its partnership with the Community Workers' Network and Redditch District Collaborative to run the **Community Workers' Lunch**, an opportunity for frontline workers to meet and talk. This proved so useful in Redditch that BARN launched **Community Workers Bromsgrove**, and those meetings have proved extremely popular.

The **Funding Newsletter** continues to be extremely helpful to our members, and the funding portal that is free for all local VCS to use. In January we held a Funding Fair at the Kingfisher Centre in Redditch, attended by a range of funders and VCS organisations from across the area. BARN was also successful in applying for funds to run a comprehensive training package for volunteers and the VCS, including Safeguarding, First Aid, First Aid for Mental Health, and Food Hygiene.

During the year BARN continued to work closely with other Councils for Voluntary Service and Volunteer Centres across Worcestershire to strengthen the voice of the grassroots VCS through Worcestershire Community Action Network (WeCAN) and share best practice. As Redditch is a non- constituent authority in the West Midlands Combined Authority we also talk to other CVSs in the region representing the local voluntary sector to the Authority. We are also a key member of the new Worcestershire VCSE Alliance, a countywide network with a health and wellbeing focus.

Volunteer Centre

We are the only accredited Volunteer Centre in Worcestershire, and were one of the first in the country to achieve the new standard. We continue to promote volunteering and help match volunteers with appropriate opportunities, and regularly attend community events to promote our work. Our Volunteer Managers' Forum offers a chance for volunteer managers to come together to share their experience and best practice.

We continued to develop projects to build on the experience of the Volunteer Centre. Our **Skills for Work** volunteering helps residents across Bromsgrove and Redditch use volunteering as a stepping stone into employment, boosting confidence, gaining experience, and learning new skills. We work closely with the Job Centres in both areas to help their clients use volunteering to improve their employability. Our **Live.Grow.Succeed**. project is designed to encourage more young people to volunteer, and its dedicated website livegrowsucceed.org hosts young people's volunteering stories.

Community Activities

BURT (Bromsgrove Urban and Rural Transport) is a community transport minibus in Bromsgrove for those who can't get about on their own. Numbers continued to grow after the pandemic, with numbers approaching pre-COVID levels. The service remains popular, and a vital lifeline to our passengers.

BARN continued to deliver **Asset Based Community Development** in Redditch. The project employs community builders to support people to initiate and take ownership of activities in their communities, focused around the neighbourhoods of Abbeydale and Woodrow, and also supporting Minority Communities. The results of this programme are often unexpected, but hugely rewarding as the community takes control of its own projects.

Reimagine Redditch, a four year Arts Council England funded project in Redditch, began in April 2022. BARN is the fund holder for the project, and employ the staff team, working closely with other members of the Consortium that run the project. In Bromsgrove we continued to coordinate the **Support Bromsgrove** partnership that came together as a result of COVID, and the resources on the website supportbromsgrove.com were developed to respond to cost of living pressures. BARN also ran a number of grant schemes on behalf of funders, and from time to time holds money on behalf of organisations that have no suitable account.

One of the saddest duties of BARN during the year was overseeing the winding down of Redditch Common Neighbourhood Trust, the charity that had overseen Community House for so many years, and where BARN is based. Previously a lively community hall and building, the devastating news that the local Council will be going ahead with plans to sell the site meant the charity needed to close when the lease reverted back to the Council. BARN, like the other charities and community groups based there, is searching for a new home.

BARN's role in supporting the voluntary and community sector across Bromsgrove and Redditch, and its communities, remains as vital as ever. The support from our partners and funders, and the contributions of Redditch Borough Council, Bromsgrove District Council, the two local strategic partnerships, continue to be vital to BARN and the work it does. BARN's success has been, as always, reliant on the hard work and dedication of its members, trustees, staff and volunteers, and we remain proud supporters of the work of our communities and VCS organisations across Bromsgrove and Redditch.

Public benefit

In setting the objectives, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education.

Achievements and performance

Financial review

During the year the charity made a net surplus of £121,182 (2023 - net surplus of £75,749).

At the year end the charity had net assets of £449,803 (2023 - net assets of £328,621).

Reserves policy

The trustees consider that unrestricted reserves be held at a level approximately equal to between 1 and 3 months expenditure in order to be able to cover day to day running costs in the unlikely event that future incoming resources are either delayed or unduly cease.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a private company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:
Mrs K Jones
Mr J Cochrane
Ms J Morris
Mrs Y Rendell
Mrs F Mitchell
Dr B Costello
Mr A Hopkins

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
Trustees can co-opt new trustees, members must vote to confirm the appointment of the new trustee at the AGM.

Risk management
The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities
The Trustees, who are also the directors of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

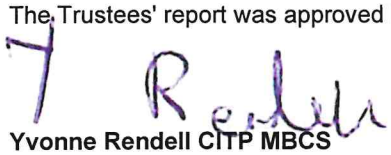
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Yvonne Rendell CITP MBCS
Chair
Dated: 18 December 2024

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity 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 the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of FCA, 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 that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4 the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Colm McGrory FCA

Ormerod Rutter Limited
The Oakley
Kidderminster Road
Droitwich
Worcestershire
WR9 9AY

Dated: 18 December 2024

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:							
Charitable activities	3	75,774	523,506	599,280	66,993	307,193	374,186
Other trading activities	6	2,150	-	2,150	2,135	-	2,135
Investments	4	868	-	868	267	-	267
Total income		78,792	523,506	602,298	69,395	307,193	376,588
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	7	81,590	399,526	481,116	134,097	166,742	300,839
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(2,798)	123,980	121,182	(64,702)	140,451	75,749
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		59,095	269,526	328,621	123,797	129,075	252,872
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		56,297	393,506	449,803	59,095	269,526	328,621

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**14**		7,435		9,913
Current assets					
Debtors	**15**	2,328		2,071	
Cash at bank and in hand		449,606		324,766	
		451,934		326,837	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**16**	(9,566)		(8,129)	
Net current assets			442,368		318,708
Total assets less current liabilities			449,803		328,621
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**21**		393,506		269,526
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	**19**	45,500		29,500	
General unrestricted funds	**20**	10,797		29,595	
			56,297		59,095
			449,803		328,621

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the 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 company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 18 December 2024

Andrew Hopkins
Treasurer

Company Registration No. 05814032

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	18		123,972		77,634
Investing activities					
Investment income received		868		267	
Net cash generated from investing activities			868		267
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			124,840		77,901
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			324,766		246,863
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			449,606		324,766

1 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

2 Accounting policies

Charity information

Bromsgrove And Redditch Network is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Community House, 103 Easemore Road, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 8EY.

2.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as effective from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

2.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

2.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

2 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

2.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computer equipment	3 year straight line
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

2.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

2.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

2.9 Taxation

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

2.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

3 Charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income within charitable activities	599,280	374,186
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	75,774	66,993
Restricted funds	523,506	307,193
	599,280	374,186

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Other income	868	267

5 Other material income

During the year, the charity received funds of £13,465 from Worcestershire County Council, Worcestershire County Council's divisional funds and other donors. for running the Community Stories scheme and for the activities of Bromsgrove Pride. These funds are classed as managed funds by the charity and are held by Bromsgrove and Redditch Network, the balance in the remaining funds account at the year end is £22,192.

In the prior year the charity received funds of £8,580 from Redditch Borough Council and Bromsgrove District Council for running Community Clean Up and Social Prescriber schemes, as well as from Bromsgrove Pride relating to their activities. The balance remaining at year end was £23,824.

Both the income and the corresponding expenditure relating to managed grants has been excluded from the statement of financial activities.

6 Other trading activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Memberships	2,150	2,135

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Direct costs		
Staff costs	318,750	189,133
Depreciation and impairment	2,478	3,395
Office costs	6,018	7,786
Insurance	2,482	2,174
Project costs	150,512	97,465
Sundries	180	214
	480,420	300,167
Share of support and governance costs (see note 9)		
Governance	696	672
	481,116	300,839
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	81,590	134,097
Restricted funds	399,526	166,742
	481,116	300,839

8 Net movement in funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	696	672
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	2,478	3,395

9 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Governance costs	696	672
Analysed between:		
Unrestricted	696	672

Governance costs include £696 of Independent Examiners fees. (2023: £672).

10 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

11 Independent examiner's remuneration

The analysis of independent examiner's remuneration is as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examination of the charity's annual accounts	696	672

12 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Staff	13	8

Employment costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	292,297	175,595
Social security costs	17,933	8,595
Other pension costs	8,520	4,943
	318,750	189,133

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	361	34,975	35,336
Disposals	(361)	-	(361)
At 31 March 2024	-	34,975	34,975
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2023	361	25,062	25,423
Depreciation charged in the year	-	2,478	2,478
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(361)	-	(361)
At 31 March 2024	-	27,540	27,540
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2024	-	7,435	7,435
At 31 March 2023	-	9,913	9,913

15 Debtors

	2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	2,328	2,071

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	5,725	4,502
Other creditors	3,145	2,973
Accruals and deferred income	696	654
	9,566	8,129

17 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024	2023
Defined contribution schemes	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	8,520	4,943

The charity contributes to defined contribution pension schemes for all qualifying employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

18 Cash generated from operations	2024 £	2023 £
Surplus for the year	121,182	75,749
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(868)	(267)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	2,478	3,395
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(257)	(133)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,437	(1,110)
Cash generated from operations	123,972	77,634

19 Designated funds

Designated funds are distinct funds which have been set aside from the unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes, and are not available for general use.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Minibus fund	29,500	6,000	-	35,500
BARN Relocation	-	10,000	-	10,000
	29,500	16,000	-	45,500

Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Minibus fund	14,000	15,500	-	29,500

Minibus Fund funding for the purchase of a minibus to be used within the charity.

BARN Relocation funding for the relocation of charity activities to new premises.

20 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donation and grants which are not subject to speific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	29,595	62,792	(81,590)	-	-	10,797

Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	109,797	53,895	(134,097)	-	-	29,595

21 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Redditch Borough Council - Community Builder Grant	133,276	97,339	(92,475)	138,140
Arts Council England - Reimagine Redditch	136,250	385,771	(266,655)	255,366
WFDC - Apprenticeship Support	-	1,500	(1,500)	-
Arts Council England - Reimagine Redditch	-	12,267	(12,267)	-
Redditch Borough Council - Volunteer Centre	-	13,020	(13,020)	-
Baron Davenport - Community Minibus	-	1,500	(1,500)	-
Worcestershire County Council - Bus Pass Discount Scheme	-	12,109	(12,109)	-
	269,526	523,506	(399,526)	393,506

Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bromsgrove District Council	-	1,945	(1,945)	-
Redditch Borough Council - Community Builder Grant	128,875	99,339	(94,938)	133,276
Arts Council England	-	185,000	(48,750)	136,250
Baron Davenport	-	1,500	(1,500)	-
National Association of Voluntary and Community Action	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Worcestershire County Council	-	14,109	(14,109)	-
ASDA Community Foundation	200	300	(500)	-
	129,075	307,193	166,742	269,526

21 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

Redditch Borough Council - Community Builder funding to deliver asset based community development.

Arts Council England - Reimagine Redditch funding to support the CPP project relating to Redditch Reimagined.

WFDC - Apprenticeship Support funding to support development of an apprenticeship role within the charity.

Bromsgrove District Council - Volunteer Centre funding to support the training programme and Volunteer Centre function in Bromsgrove.

Redditch Borough Council - Volunteer Centre funding to support the training programme and Volunteer Centre function in Redditch.

Baron Davenport - Community Minibus funding for the running of the BURT community minibus.

Worcestershire County Council - Bus Pass Discount Scheme funding from the bus pass discount scheme and a project to encourage people back to community transport.

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	7,435	-	7,435
Current assets/(liabilities)	48,862	393,506	442,368
	56,297	393,506	449,803

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total 2023
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2023:			
Tangible assets	9,913	-	9,913
Current assets/(liabilities)	49,182	269,526	318,708
	59,095	269,526	328,621

23 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1122980

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1122980

Company Registration No. 05814032 (England and Wales)

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT AND INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs K Jones Mr J Cochrane Ms J Morris Mrs Y Rendell Mrs F Mitchell Dr B Costello Mr A Hopkins
Secretary	Mr G P Roskell
Charity number	1122980
Company number	05814032
Registered office	Community House 103 Easemore Road Redditch Worcestershire B98 8EY
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank plc Nine Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

CONTENTS

	Page
Chairman's Report	1
Trustees' report	2 - 4
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	5
Independent examiner's report	6
Statement of financial activities	7
Balance sheet	8 - 9
Notes to the financial statements	10 - 17

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

After the difficulties of the pandemic, 2022-2023 has been a smoother year of operation for BARN, if not without some challenges. Usage of the BURT (Bromsgrove Urban and Rural Transport) service has continued to recover and is back in operation 5 days a week, with levels now approaching pre-pandemic levels. In July 22, we had the bombshell news that the Council were planning to sell Community House for development. There has been an ongoing battle to try and change the Council's mind, but to no avail. Contingency plans have been made to look at other premises for BARN if it becomes necessary.

In September 22, the Volunteer Centre started its Volunteer Centre Quality Accreditation (VCQA). This involved interviews with some staff and trustees. This process took three months and the accreditation will last 3 years. It also involved rebranding the Volunteer Centre as the old one was no longer available. BARN have also helped to relaunch the Community Workers Lunch, in partnership with the Community Workers Network and Redditch District Collaborative. This gives frontline workers an opportunity to come together and share experiences.

We continue to deliver the ABCD (Asset Based Community Development) initiative in Redditch, where communities' strengths are built on, rather than being defined by their deficits. We have employed two Community Builder posts:- one based in Abbeydale and one in Woodrow. A third post around BAME communities is employed directly by Sandycroft.

BARN is also the fund holder for the Reimagine Redditch – Creative People and Places project, which started in April 22 and goes on for three years. The workload setting up the project has been significant, much larger than expected. Four posts have now been recruited, Programme Director, Community Engagement Officer, Marketing and Communications Director and Programme Administrator.

The financial position of the charity is more secure for the next few years, because of the large projects described above. Fundraising efforts do need to continue though to ensure that we stay in a good position. We are grateful to a range of organisations, companies and foundations that have provided funding over the year. We continue to work closely with Redditch BC and Bromsgrove DC and their support and funding for parts of our work continues to be welcome.

Because of the increase in our workload, we were happy to welcome a new apprentice, Mantas Sukevicius, to the team. On the other hand, we said a sad goodbye to Geoff Taylor-Smith, one of our long standing trustees. Our network meetings for BARN members have continued in a hybrid form, allowing people to use Zoom to attend the meetings from home, if they couldn't get to a face to face meeting. Board meetings have also taken place in a hybrid form.

I would like to thank all our members, volunteers, trustees and staff for their support, hard work and commitment over the last 12 months. As part of our governance arrangements, we regularly review the skills base of our trustees to ensure effective experience and knowledge exists within our trustee body and those skills have been extremely valuable to help us through the year. We maintain an up to date risk management register and review our financial position at each meeting. As Trustees leave the organisation from time to time, we do welcome anyone suitable wishing to join the Board.

In conclusion, we look forward to how BARN can continue its role in supporting volunteers, voluntary organisations and communities in 2023/24.

Yvonne Rendell CITP MBCS
Chair

Dated: 12th December 2023

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2 to the accounts and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as effective from 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the communities in the areas of Bromsgrove and Redditch local authority areas, in particular the advancement of education, protection of health, relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

Significant activities

Bromsgrove and Redditch Network (BARN) is a network supporting volunteers, voluntary organisations and communities across Bromsgrove and Redditch.

BARN is the local Council for Voluntary Service, and also runs the Volunteer Centre for Bromsgrove and Redditch and a range of local community projects. We represent the local voluntary sector, support local communities, and help with networking, information, funding and volunteering. Where we see a gap in provision we try to help through delivery or partnerships. 2022 marks its 25th year supporting the communities of Bromsgrove and Redditch.

Network support activities

BARN has a broad range of Bromsgrove, Redditch and countywide groups as members, more than 90 across the area. Network meetings have remained a popular way to support for the sector by providing an opportunity for VCS colleagues to meet each other and share information, and we continued with a hybrid model, allowing for both face to face and virtual participation, introduced during the pandemic. BARN partnered with the Community Workers' Network and Redditch District Collaborative to relaunch the **Community Workers' Lunch**, an opportunity for frontline workers to meet and talk. The **Funding Newsletter** continues to be extremely useful to our members, and the funding portal that is free for all local VCS to use.

2022 was a year of recovery following the pandemic, and BARN's links between the public, private and voluntary and community sectors continued to prove vital. During the year BARN continued to work with other Councils for Voluntary Service and Volunteer Centres across Worcestershire to strengthen the voice of the grassroots VCS through Worcestershire Community Action Network (WeCAN) and share best practice. As Redditch is a non-constituent authority in the West Midlands Combined Authority we also work with other CVSs in the region representing the local voluntary sector to the Authority.

Volunteer Centre

We remained one of only two accredited Volunteer Centres in Worcestershire, and we continue to promote volunteering and help match volunteers with appropriate opportunities. Our Volunteer Managers' Forums offers a chance for volunteer managers to come together to share their experience.

We continued to develop projects to build on the experience of the Volunteer Centre. Our **Skills for Work** volunteering helps residents across Bromsgrove and Redditch use volunteering as a stepping stone into employment, boosting confidence, gaining experience, learning new skills, and after stalling due to the pandemic numbers began to rise once more. Our **Live.Grow.Succeed.** project is designed to encourage more young people to volunteer, and its dedicated website livegrowsucceed.org hosts young people's volunteering stories, although the pandemic has delayed the planned expansion of this.

The Volunteer Centre continued to work to increase volunteering numbers again following the considerable fall in numbers at the end of the pandemic as a result of the ending of furlough and COVID volunteering fatigue. Numbers remained lower than before though.

Community Action activities

BURT (Bromsgrove Urban and Rural Transport) is a community transport minibus in Bromsgrove for those who can't get about on their own. In 2022 we were once again expanding the service with clients returning after the pandemic, although it remained at lower levels. We continued welfare calls to passengers who have yet to return to travel.

BARN continued to lead a consortium to deliver **Asset Based Community Development** in Redditch. The project employs three community builders to support people to initiate and take ownership of activities in their communities, and in 2022-2023 we began to see community-led and run activities develop in the communities we were working in.

Reimagine Redditch, a three year Arts Council England funded project in Redditch, began in April 2022. BARN is the fund holder for the project, and employ the staff team. In Bromsgrove we continued to coordinate the **Support Bromsgrove** partnership that came together as a result of COVID, and the resources on the website supportbromsgrove.com were developed to respond to cost of living pressures. BARN also ran a number of grant schemes on behalf of funders, and from time to time holds money on behalf of organisations that have no suitable account.

BARN continues administering Community House, where BARN is based. A lively community hall and building, the hall's activities had returned to pre-pandemic levels of activity. However, BARN received the devastating news that the local Council will be going ahead with plans to sell the site and reduce their portfolio of community buildings across the District. In 2023-2024 BARN will need to find a new home.

The support from our partners and funders, and the contributions of Redditch Borough Council, Bromsgrove District Council, the two local strategic partnerships, continue to be vital to BARN and the work it does. BARN's success has been, as always, reliant on the hard work and dedication of its members, trustees, staff and volunteers. BARN's role in supporting the voluntary and community sector across Bromsgrove and Redditch, and its communities, remains as vital as ever.

Public benefit

In setting the objectives, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education.

Achievements and performance

Financial review

During the year the charity made a net surplus of £75,749 (2022 - net surplus of £142,571).

At the year end the charity had net assets of £328,621 (2022 - net assets of £252,871).

Reserves policy

The trustees consider that unrestricted reserves be held at a level approximately equal to between 1 and 3 months expenditure in order to be able to cover day to day running costs in the unlikely event that future incoming resources are either delayed or unduly cease.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a private company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs K Jones
Mr J Cochrane
Ms J Morris
Mrs Y Rendell
Mrs F Mitchell
Dr B Costello
Mr A Hopkins
Mr G Taylor-Smith (Resigned 1 June 2022)

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees can co-opt new trustees, members must vote to confirm the appointment of the new trustee at the AGM.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Yvonne Rendell CITP MBCS
Chair
Dated: 12 December 2023

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity 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 the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of FCA, 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 that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4 the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

FCA
Ormerod Rutter Limited
Chartered Accountants

Dated: 12 December 2023

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	-	-	-	878	-	878
Charitable activities	4	66,993	307,193	374,186	137,477	182,844	320,321
Other trading activities	7	2,135	-	2,135	1,745	-	1,745
Investments	5	267	-	267	2	-	2
Total income		69,395	307,193	376,588	140,102	182,844	322,946
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	8	134,097	166,742	300,839	102,599	77,776	180,375
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(64,702)	140,451	75,749	37,503	105,068	142,571
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		123,797	129,075	252,872	86,294	24,006	110,300
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		59,095	269,526	328,621	123,797	129,074	252,871

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**13**		9,913		13,309
Current assets					
Debtors	**14**	2,071		1,938	
Cash at bank and in hand		324,766		246,863	
		326,837		248,801	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**15**	(8,129)		(9,239)	
Net current assets			318,708		239,562
Total assets less current liabilities			328,621		252,871
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**17**		269,526		129,074
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	**18**	29,500		14,000	
General unrestricted funds		29,595		109,797	
			59,095		123,797
			328,621		252,871

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the 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 company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 12 December 2023

Andrew Hopkins
Treasurer

Company Registration No. 05814032

1 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

2 Accounting policies

Charity information

Bromsgrove And Redditch Network is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Community House, 103 Easemore Road, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 8EY.

2.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as effective from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

2.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

2.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

2 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

2.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computer equipment	3 year straight line
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

2.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

2.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

2.9 Taxation

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

2.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

3 Donations and legacies

	Total	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Government grants - furlough income	-	878
	-	878

4 Charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income within charitable activities	374,186	320,321
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	66,993	137,477
Restricted funds	307,193	182,844
	374,186	320,321

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Deposit account interest	267	2

6 Material other income

During the year, the charity received funds of £8,580 from Redditch Borough Council and Bromsgrove District Council for running Community Clean Up and Social Prescriber schemes, as well as from Bromsgrove Pride relating to their activities. These funds are classed as managed funds by the charity and are held by Bromsgrove and Redditch Network, the balance in the remaining funds account at the year end is £23,824. Both the income and the corresponding expenditure relating to managed grants has been excluded from the statement of financial activities.

7 Other trading activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Memberships	2,135	1,745

8 Charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	189,133	93,306
Depreciation	3,395	4,526
Office costs	7,786	7,960
Insurance	2,174	2,140
Project costs	97,465	67,658
Sundries	214	1,988
Loan interest (minibus)	-	41
	300,167	177,619
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	672	2,756
	300,839	180,375
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	134,097	102,599
Restricted funds	166,742	77,776
	300,839	180,375

9 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2023	2022	Basis of allocation
	£	£	£	£	
Staff costs	-	-	-	2,152	Financial oversight and board meetings
Independent examiners fee	-	672	672	604	Governance
	-	672	672	2,756	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	-	672	672	2,756	

Governance/Support costs includes payments to the auditors of £672 (2022 - £604) for independent examiners fees.

10 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

11 Independent examiner's remuneration

The analysis of independent examiner's remuneration is as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent examination of the charity's annual accounts	672	604

12 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Staff	8	6

Employment costs	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	175,595	91,809
Social security costs	8,595	1,549
Other pension costs	4,943	2,100
	189,133	95,458

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2022	361	34,975	35,336
At 31 March 2023	361	34,975	35,336
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2022	271	21,757	22,028
Depreciation charged in the year	90	3,305	3,395
At 31 March 2023	361	25,062	25,423
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2023	-	9,913	9,913
At 31 March 2022	91	13,218	13,309

14 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	-	189
Prepayments and accrued income	2,071	1,749
	2,071	1,938

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security	4,502	5,144
Other creditors	2,973	3,495
Accruals and deferred income	654	600
	8,129	9,239

16 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity contributes to defined contribution pension schemes for all qualifying employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £4,943 (2022 - £2,100).

17 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 April 2022	Movement in funds: Incoming resources	Movement in funds: Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bromsgrove District Council	-	1,945	(1,945)	-
Redditch Borough Council - Community Builder Grant	128,875	99,339	(94,938)	133,276
Arts Council England	-	185,000	(48,750)	136,250
Baron Davenport	-	1,500	(1,500)	-
National Association of Voluntary and Community Action	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Worcestershire County Council	-	14,109	(14,109)	-
ASDA Community Foundation	200	300	(500)	-
	129,075	307,193	(166,742)	269,526

Redditch Borough Council (Community Builder) funding to deliver asset based community development.

Arts Council England funding to support the CPP project relating to Redditch Reimagined.

18 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds: Incoming resources	Balance at 1 April 2022	Movement in funds: Incoming resources	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Minibus fund	14,000	14,000	15,500	29,500
	14,000	14,000	15,500	29,500

Funding for the purchase of a minibus to be used within the charity.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	9,913	-	9,913
Current assets/(liabilities)	44,522	274,186	318,708
	54,435	274,186	328,621

20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1122980

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1122980

Company Registration No. 05814032 (England and Wales)

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT AND INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs K Jones Mr J Cochrane Ms J Morris Mrs Y Rendell Mrs F Mitchell Dr B Costello Mr A Hopkins
Secretary	Mr G P Roskell
Charity number	1122980
Company number	05814032
Registered office	Community House 103 Easemore Road Redditch Worcestershire B98 8EY
Independent examiner	Garry Rutter The Oakley Kidderminster Road Droitwich Worcestershire WR9 9AY
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank plc Nine Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

CONTENTS

	Page
Chair's report	1
Trustees' report	3 - 5
Independent examiner's report	6
Statement of financial activities	7
Balance sheet	8 - 9
Notes to the accounts	10 - 18

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

As we have gradually come out of the pandemic, 2021-2022 has been a year of growth and change for BARN. In April 21, we had the good news that the BURT (Bromsgrove Urban and Rural Transport) contract had been won for the next 5 years with a possible extension to 7 years. Usage of the BURT service has continued to recover and is now back in operation 5 days a week, although still not at pre-pandemic levels. BARN has continued to provide support to charities and community groups across the Redditch and Bromsgrove areas, including being a key partner in the Support Bromsgrove partnership, which came together during the pandemic, but now helps with broader issues such as the cost of living.

BARN is involved in two other exciting new projects. We are delivering the ABCD (Asset Based Community Development) initiative in Redditch, where communities' strengths are built on, rather than being defined by their deficits. We successfully recruited the Abbeydale Community Builder during the year and recruited another for Woodrow shortly after. BARN is also the fundholder for the Reimagine Redditch – Creative People and Places project, starting in April 22 and going on for three years. In addition, we are managing the distribution of grants from the Social Prescribing Community Fund on behalf of Councils.

Because the BARN management have been successful in procuring the above projects, the financial position of the charity is secure for the next few years. We are grateful to a range of organisations, companies and foundations that have provided funding over the year. We continue to work closely with Redditch BC and Bromsgrove DC and their support and funding for parts of our work continues to be welcome.

During the year, we were sorry to see the Deputy Chief Executive, Susan Roberts resign, but pleased to welcome Ann Dallison to the post. Our network meetings for BARN members have continued in a hybrid form, allowing people to use Zoom to attend the meetings from home, if they couldn't get to a face to face meeting. Board meetings have also taken place in a hybrid form.

I would like to thank all our members, volunteers, trustees and staff for their support, hard work and commitment over the last 12 months. As part of our governance arrangements, we regularly review the skills base of our trustees to ensure effective experience and knowledge exists within our trustee body and those skills have been extremely valuable to help us through the year. We maintain an up to date risk management register and review our financial position at each meeting.

Now that we are hopefully starting to wave goodbye to the pandemic, we look forward to how BARN can continue its role in supporting volunteers, voluntary organisations and communities in 2022/23.

Y Rendell

.....

Yvonne Rendell CITP MBCS

Chair

Dated: 12/12/22

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2 to the accounts and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as effective from 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

Charitable objectives

To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the communities in the areas of Bromsgrove and Redditch local authority areas, in particular the advancement of education, protection of health, relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

Significant activities

Bromsgrove and Redditch Network (BARN) is a network supporting volunteers, voluntary organisations and communities across Bromsgrove and Redditch.

BARN is the local Council for Voluntary Service, and also runs the Volunteer Centre for Bromsgrove and Redditch and a range of local community projects. We represent the local voluntary sector, support local communities, and help with networking, information, funding and volunteering. Where we see a gap in provision we try to help through delivery or partnerships. 2022 marks its 25th year supporting the communities of Bromsgrove and Redditch.

Network support activities

BARN has a broad range of Bromsgrove, Redditch and countywide groups as members, more than 90 across the area. Network meetings have remained a popular way to support for the sector by providing an opportunity for VCS colleagues to meet each other and share information, and once allowed these transitioned to a hybrid model, allowing for both face to face and virtual particpation. The **Funding Portal** continues to be really useful to our members, and the funding digests that are sent out.

2021 was a year of change following the height of the pandemic, and BARN's links between the public, private and voluntary and community sectors continued to prove vital. During the year BARN continued to work with other Councils for Voluntary Service and Volunteer Centres across Worcestershire to strengthen the voice of the grassroots VCS through Worcestershire Community Action Network (WeCAN) and share best practice. As Redditch is a non-constituent authority in the West Midlands Combined Authority we also work with other CVSs in the region representing the local voluntary sector to the Authority.

Volunteer Centre

We remain one of only two accredited Volunteer Centres in Worcestershire, and we continue to promote volunteering and help match volunteers with appropriate opportunities. Our Volunteer Managers' Forums offers a chance for volunteer managers to come together to share their experience.

We continue to develop projects to build on the experience of the Volunteer Centre. Our **Skills for Work** volunteering helps residents across Bromsgrove and Redditch use volunteering as a stepping stone into employment, boosting confidence, gaining experience, learning new skills, and after stalling due to the pandemic numbers began to rise once more. Our **Live.Grow.Succeed.** project encourages more young people to volunteer, and its dedicated website livegrowsucceed.org hosts young people's volunteering stories, although the pandemic has delayed any expansion of this.

The Volunteer Centre has been at the centre of the local community's response to the pandemic, and this year marked the transition from the first surge of volunteers to more sustained volunteering. Number dropped considerably though as a result of the ending of furlough and COVID volunteering fatigue.

Community Action activities

BURT (Bromsgrove Urban and Rural Transport) is a community transport minibus in Bromsgrove for those who can't get about on their own. 2021 saw the minibus back in service (with extra precautions in place) in response to growing demand from clients, after being suspended in the previous year during the height of the pandemic. We continue welfare calls to ensure all our passengers are supported, even those who have returned to travel.

In Bromsgrove we continue to coordinate the **Support Bromsgrove** partnership that came together as a result of COVID, and the resources on the website supportbromsgrove.com that continues to help the Bromsgrove community. In 2022 broader resources to respond to cost of living pressures were developed.

A major new project began with BARN leading a consortium to deliver Asset Based Community Development in Redditch. The project employs three community builders to support people to initiate and take ownership of activities in their communities. Planning has also started for **Reimagine Redditch**, a three year Arts Council England funded project in Redditch which begins in April 2022. BARN is the fundholder for the project, and will employ the staff team.

BARN continues administering Community House, where BARN is based. A lively community hall and building, its longer term future is in serious doubt as a result of local Council plans to sell the site and reduce their portfolio of community buildings across the District. The hall's activities have broadly returned to pre-pandemic levels.

The support from our partners and funders, and the contributions of Redditch Borough Council, Bromsgrove District Council, the two local strategic partnerships, continue to be vital to BARN and the work it does. The strength of these partnerships was pivotal to the way that voluntary and statutory sector organisations came together so quickly in response to the pandemic, and it is hoped this can be built upon.

BARN's success has been, as always, reliant on the hard work and dedication of its members, trustees, staff and volunteers. Coming out of the pandemic and transitioning to a changed world has once again proven how vital BARN's role is, supporting the voluntary and community sector across Bromsgrove and Redditch, and its communities.

Public benefit

In setting the objectives, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education.

Achievements and performance

Financial review

During the year the charity made a net surplus of £142,571 (2021 - net surplus of £77,249).

At the year end the charity had net assets of £252,871 (2021 - net assets of £110,300).

Reserves policy

The trustees consider that unrestricted reserves be held at a level approximately equal to between 1 and 3 months expenditure in order to be able to cover day to day running costs in the unlikely event that future incoming resources are either delayed or unduly cease.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a private company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs K Jones
Mr J Cochrane
Mr G Taylor-Smith (Resigned 1 June 2022)
Ms J Morris
Mrs Y Rendell
Mrs F Mitchell
Dr B Costello
Mr A Hopkins

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
Trustees can co-opt new trustees, members must vote to confirm the appointment of the new trustee at the AGM.

Risk management
The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities
The Trustees, who are also the directors of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Y Rendell
.....
Yvonne Rendell CITP MBCS
Chair
Dated: 12/12/22

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity 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 the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of FCA, 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 that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4 the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Garry Rutter

FCA
Ormerod Rutter Limited
Chartered Accountants
The Oakley
Kidderminster Road
Droitwich
Worcestershire
WR9 9AY

Dated: .....

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	878	-	878	7,757	-	7,757
Charitable activities	4	137,477	182,844	320,321	65,695	177,363	243,058
Other trading activities	7	1,745	-	1,745	1,970	-	1,970
Investments	5	2	-	2	-	-	-
Total income		140,102	182,844	322,946	75,422	177,363	252,785
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	8	102,599	77,776	180,375	6,288	169,248	175,536
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		37,503	105,068	142,571	69,134	8,115	77,249
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		86,294	24,006	110,300	17,160	15,891	33,051
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		123,797	129,074	252,871	86,294	24,006	110,300

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**13**		13,309		17,835
Current assets					
Debtors	**14**	1,938		2,043	
Cash at bank and in hand		246,863		98,661	
		248,801		100,704	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**15**	(9,239)		(8,239)	
Net current assets			239,562		92,465
Total assets less current liabilities			252,871		110,300
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**18**		129,074		24,006
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	**19**	14,000		-	
General unrestricted funds		109,797		86,294	
			123,797		86,294
			252,871		110,300

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the 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 company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 12/12/22

Andrew Hopkins
Treasurer

Company Registration No. 05814032

1 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

2 Accounting policies

Charity information

Bromsgrove And Redditch Network is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Community House, 103 Easemore Road, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 8EY.

2.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as effective from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

2.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

2.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

2 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

2.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computer equipment	3 year straight line
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

2.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

2.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

2.9 Taxation

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

2.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Government grants - furlough income	878	7,757
	878	7,757

4 Charitable activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Income within charitable activities	320,321	243,058
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	137,477	65,695
Restricted funds	182,844	177,363
	320,321	243,058
For the year ended 31 March 2021		
Unrestricted funds	65,695	
Restricted funds	177,363	
	243,058	

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Deposit account interest	2	-

6 Material other income

During the year, the charity received funds of £111,837 from Redditch Borough Council and Bromsgrove District Council for running Community Clean Up and Social Prescriber schemes, as well as from Bromsgrove Pride relating to their activities. These funds are classed as managed funds by the charity and are held by Bromsgrove and Redditch Network, the balance in the remaining funds account at the year end is £39,357.

7 Other trading activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Memberships	1,745	1,970

8 Charitable activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs	93,306	76,342
Depreciation	4,526	5,995
Office costs	7,960	4,025
Insurance	2,140	339
Project costs	67,658	85,072
Sundries	1,988	675
Loan interest (minibus)	41	491
	177,619	172,939
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	2,756	2,597
	180,375	175,536
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	102,599	6,288
Restricted funds	77,776	169,248
	180,375	175,536
For the year ended 31 March 2021		
Unrestricted funds	6,288	
Restricted funds	169,248	
	175,536	

9 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2022	2021	Basis of allocation
	£	£	£	£	
Staff costs	-	2,152	2,152	2,031	Financial oversight and board meetings
Independent examiners fee	-	604	604	566	Governance
	-	2,756	2,756	2,597	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	-	2,756	2,756	2,597	

Governance/Support costs includes payments to the auditors of £604 (2021 - £566) for independent examiners fees.

10 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

11 Independent examiner's remuneration

The analysis of independent examiner's remuneration is as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent examination of the charity's annual accounts	604	566

12 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Staff	6	6

Employment costs	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	91,809	76,131
Social security costs	1,549	1,053
Other pension costs	2,100	1,189
	95,458	78,373

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2021	361	34,975	35,336
At 31 March 2022	361	34,975	35,336
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2021	150	17,351	17,501
Depreciation charged in the year	120	4,406	4,526
At 31 March 2022	270	21,757	22,027
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2022	91	13,218	13,309
At 31 March 2021	211	17,624	17,835

14 Debtors

	2022	2021
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Trade debtors	189	190
Prepayments and accrued income	1,749	1,853
	1,938	2,043

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Borrowings	-	3,103
Other taxation and social security	5,144	3,156
Other creditors	3,495	1,408
Accruals and deferred income	600	572
	9,239	8,239

16 Loans and overdrafts

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other loans	-	3,103
Payable within one year	-	3,103

17 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity contributes to defined contribution pension schemes for all qualifying employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £2,100 (2021 - £1,189).

18 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

		Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Bromsgrove District Council	1,613	500	(2,113)	-
Redditch Borough Council	5,585	7,172	(12,757)	-
Redditch Borough Council - Community Builder Grant	-	145,000	(27,295)	117,705
Central England Co-Operative Limited	-	250	(250)	-
National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	-
DFT Main	-	317	(317)	-
North Worcestershire Basement Project	-	720	(720)	-
Zurich Community Trust	900	-	(900)	-
Worcestershire County Council	9,677	14,365	(24,312)	-
Worcestershire Community Fund	-	5,300	(5,300)	-
Heart of England Community Foundation	-	1,000	(1,000)	-
NAVCA	-	1,500	(1,500)	-
Schroder Charitable Trust	1,250	-	(1,250)	-
Groundworks UK	2,478	250	(2,728)	-
The Eveson Trust	1,670	-	(1,670)	-
Severn Trent Recovery Fund	833	-	(833)	-
Sobell Foundation	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Asda Foundation	-	200	-	200
	24,006	182,844	(88,945)	117,905

Redditch Borough Council (Community Builder) funding to deliver asset based community development.

ASDA Community Foundation contributed to the running of the community minibus service.

19 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		Movement in funds	
	Incoming resources	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Minibus fund	-	-	14,000	14,000
	-	-	14,000	14,000

Funding for the purchase of a minibus to be used within the charity.

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	13,309	-	13,309
Current assets/(liabilities)	110,488	129,074	239,562
	123,797	129,074	252,871

21 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1122980

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1122980

Company Registration No. 05814032 (England and Wales)

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT AND INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs K Jones Mr J Cochrane Mr G Taylor-Smith Ms J Morris Mrs Y Rendell Mrs F Mitchell Dr B Costello Mr A Hopkins
Secretary	Mr G P Roskell
Charity number	1122980
Company number	05814032
Registered office	Community House 103 Easemore Road Redditch Worcestershire B98 8EY
Independent examiner	Garry Rutter The Oakley Kidderminster Road Droitwich Worcestershire WR9 9AY
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank plc Nine Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

CONTENTS

	Page
Chair's report	1
Trustees' report	2 - 5
Independent examiner's report	6
Statement of financial activities	7
Balance sheet	8 - 9
Notes to the accounts	10 - 19

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2020-2021 has been a year like no other. The pandemic has meant the voluntary and community sector has had to support communities and clients more than ever before. BARN has continued to provide support to charities and community groups across the Redditch and Bromsgrove area, but in completely different ways. BARN has helped coordinate the Support Bromsgrove partnership, which has helped the Bromsgrove community for more than a year now, including managing a £100,000 Lottery grant. It has also helped distribute £120,000 of Winter Grants for Worcestershire County Council.

I would like to thank all our members, volunteers, trustees and staff for their support, hard work and commitment over the last 12 months. As part of our governance arrangements, we regularly review the skills base of our trustees to ensure effective experience and knowledge exists within our trustee body and those skills have been extremely valuable to help us through the year. We maintain an up to date risk management register and review our financial position at each meeting and this year have also been reviewing the implications of the pandemic on our work.

Covid 19 restrictions affected the work that we do and the way that we delivered it. Home working has become a part of all our lives and meetings have been mostly held virtually. Our largest community project, BURT (Bromsgrove Urban and Rural Transport) was suspended for a while, but is now running again. Our network meetings have remained popular and have become hybrid. The Volunteer Centre has also proved invaluable during the pandemic, bringing in many new volunteers, but is now trying to transition back to pre-pandemic volunteering practices – our Skills for Work and young people's programmes will take a while to recover.

The financial position of the charity is secure, although the issue of the removal of the rent rebate by Redditch BC for Community House, where we are based, is a continuing concern. The BARN management team have been successful in a range of new funding grants and bids to help its work during the pandemic, which has helped secure the charity's future. We are grateful to a range of organisations, companies and foundations that have provided funding over the year. We continue to work closely with Redditch BC and Bromsgrove DC and their support and funding for parts of our work continues to be welcome.

As we look to our emergence from the pandemic, we look forward to how BARN can continue its role in supporting volunteers, voluntary organisations and communities in 2021.

Y Rendell

Yvonne Rendell CITP MBCS
Chair

Dated: 1 December 2021

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as effective from 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

Charitable objectives

To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the communities in the areas of Bromsgrove and Redditch local authority areas, in particular the advancement of education, protection of health, relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

Significant activities

Bromsgrove and Redditch Network (BARN) is a network supporting volunteers, voluntary organisations and communities across Bromsgrove and Redditch.

BARN is the local Council for Voluntary Service, and also runs the Volunteer Centre for Bromsgrove and Redditch. We represent the local voluntary sector, support local communities, and help with networking, information, funding and volunteering. Where we see a gap in provision we try to help through delivery or partnerships.

Network support activities

BARN has a broad range of Bromsgrove, Redditch and countywide groups as members, more than 90 across the area. Network meetings have remained a popular way to support the sector by providing an opportunity for VCS colleagues to meet each other and share information, and these moved online when COVID-19 hit. **The Funding Portal** continues to be really useful to our members, particularly the funding digests that we send out.

2020 was an extraordinary year, and BARN's links between the public, private and voluntary and community sectors proved particularly essential during the pandemic (as can be seen by the community activities below). During the year BARN continued to work with other Councils for Voluntary Service and Volunteer Centres across Worcestershire to strengthen the voice of the grassroots VCS through Worcestershire Community Action Network (WeCAN). As Redditch is a non-constituent authority in the West Midlands Combined Authority we also work with other CVSs in the region representing the local voluntary sector to the Authority.

Volunteer Centre

We remain one of only two accredited Volunteer Centres in Worcestershire, and we continue to promote volunteering and help match volunteers with appropriate opportunities. Our Volunteer Managers' Forums offers a chance for volunteer managers to come together to share their experience.

We continue to develop projects to build on the experience of the Volunteer Centre. Our **Skills for Work** volunteering helps residents across Bromsgrove and Redditch that want to get back into work use volunteering as a stepping stone, boosting confidence, gaining experience, learning new skills. Our **Live.Grow.Succeed**. project also carried on, encouraging more young people to volunteer, and its dedicated website livegrowsucceed.org hosts young people's volunteering stories. Although both of these projects were stalled by the pandemic numbers are starting to increase once more.

The Volunteer Centre was at the centre of the local community's response to the pandemic, processing as many volunteers in a fortnight as we would normally do in four months.

Community Action activities

BURT (Bromsgrove Urban and Rural Transport) is a community transport minibus in Bromsgrove for those who can't get about on their own. After continuing success the service was temporarily suspended in March 2020 as COVID 19 swept the country, and most of our clients self-isolated. We began welfare calls to ensure all our passengers were supported, and the service has slowly resumed with additional COVID 19 safety measures in place.

This was not the only impact of the pandemic on BARN's activities. BARN was at the forefront of the voluntary sector response, encouraging partnership responses to an unprecedented situation. We distributed a £120,000 Winter Grant fund on behalf of Worcestershire County Council. In Bromsgrove we coordinated the **Support Bromsgrove** partnership and the resources on the website supportbromsgrove.com that continues to help the Bromsgrove community. As part of this we managed the £100,000 National Lottery Community Fund grant for Bromsgrove, and the partnership has continued.

BARN was the official Census Support Centre for both Bromsgrove and Redditch, supporting clients to complete the census digitally with face to face or remote support at its base at Community House and at Bromsgrove and Redditch Libraries.

BARN continues administering Community House, where BARN is based. A lively community hall and building, its longer term future is still uncertain as a result of local Council changes to support for community buildings. The hall's activities were also suspended when the pandemic hit, but later resumed with precautions in place. Most groups have now returned.

The support from our partners and funders, and the contributions of Redditch Borough Council, Bromsgrove District Council, the two local strategic partnerships and the National Lottery through its funding continue to be vital to BARN. The strength of these partnerships was pivotal to the way that voluntary and statutory sector organisations came together so quickly in response to the pandemic at the end of the year. It also proved the essential contribution our members, trustees, staff and volunteers continue to make.

Our main focus, as always, remains the support of the voluntary and community sector across Bromsgrove and Redditch. The end of the year and the beginning of the impact of the pandemic proved how essential our work is when communities need support.

Public benefit
In setting the objectives, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education.

Achievements and performance
Financial review
During the year the charity made a net surplus of £77,249 (2020 - net surplus of £7,972).

At the year end the charity had net assets of £110,300 (2020 - net assets of £33,051).

Reserves policy
The trustees consider that unrestricted reserves be held at a level approximately equal to between 1 and 3 months expenditure in order to be able to cover day to day running costs in the unlikely event that future incoming resources are either delayed or unduly cease.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a private company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr M Hill (Resigned 28 September 2020)
Mrs K Jones
Mr J Cochrane
Mr G Taylor-Smith
Ms J Morris
Mrs Y Rendell
Mrs F Mitchell
Dr B Costello
Mr A Hopkins

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees can co-opt new trustees, members must vote to confirm the appointment of the new trustee at the AGM.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Yvonne Rendell CITP MBCS
Chair
Dated: 16 December 2021

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bromsgrove And Redditch Network (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity 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 the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of FCA, 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 that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4 the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Garry Rutter

FCA
Ormerod Rutter Limited
Chartered Accountants
The Oakley
Kidderminster Road
Droitwich
Worcestershire
WR9 9AY

Dated: 22 December 2021

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	7,757	-	7,757	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	65,695	177,363	243,058	48,280	69,710	117,990
Other trading activities	5	1,970	-	1,970	1,755	-	1,755
Total income		75,422	177,363	252,785	50,035	69,710	119,745
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	7	6,288	169,248	175,536	47,454	64,319	111,773
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		69,134	8,115	77,249	2,581	5,391	7,972
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		17,160	15,891	33,051	14,579	10,500	25,079
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		86,294	24,006	110,300	17,160	15,891	33,051

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH NETWORK

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**12**		17,835		23,830
Current assets					
Debtors	**13**	2,043		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		98,661		24,026	
		100,704		24,026	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**15**	(8,239)		(11,701)	
Net current assets			92,465		12,325
Total assets less current liabilities			110,300		36,155
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	**16**		-		(3,104)
Net assets			110,300		33,051
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**18**		24,006		15,891
Unrestricted funds			86,294		17,160
			110,300		33,051

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the 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 company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 16 December 2021

Andrew Hopkins
Treasurer

Company Registration No. 05814032

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Bromsgrove And Redditch Network is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Community House, 103 Easemore Road, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 8EY.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as effective from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computer equipment	3 year straight line
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Taxation

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

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2021	2020
	£	£
Government grants - furlough income	7,757	-
	7,757	-

4 Charitable activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Income within charitable activities	243,058	117,990
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	65,695	48,280
Restricted funds	177,363	69,710
	243,058	117,990
For the year ended 31 March 2020		
Unrestricted funds	48,280	
Restricted funds	69,710	
	117,990	

5 Other trading activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Memberships	1,970	1,755

6 Material other income

During the year, the charity received funds from Worcestershire County Council of £147,317 (including a management fee of £14,732) relating to the delivery of the Winter Grant Scheme 2020. These funds were to provide support to vulnerable households and families particularly affected by the pandemic throughout the winter period. Other than the management fee, the grant was not considered to be normal income of the charity and therefore, both the income and the corresponding expenditure has been excluded from the statement of financial activities.

7 Charitable activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	76,342	74,352
Depreciation	5,995	7,863
Office costs	4,025	6,758
Insurance	339	2,302
Project costs	85,072	15,275
Sundries	675	474
Advertising and marketing	-	402
Loan interest (minibus)	491	1,023
	172,939	108,449
Share of support costs (see note 8)	-	919
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	2,597	2,405
	175,536	111,773
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	6,288	47,454
Restricted funds	169,248	64,319
	175,536	111,773
For the year ended 31 March 2020		
Unrestricted funds	47,454	
Restricted funds	64,319	
	111,773	

8 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2021	2020	Basis of allocation
	£	£	£	£	
Staff costs	-	2,031	2,031	2,760	Financial oversight and board meetings
Independent examiners fee	-	566	566	564	Governance
	-	2,597	2,597	3,324	
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	-	2,597	2,597	3,324	

Governance/Support costs includes payments to the auditors of £566 (2020 - £564) for independent examiners fees.

9 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

10 Independent examiner's remuneration

The analysis of independent examiner's remuneration is as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Independent examination of the charity's annual accounts	566	564

11 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Staff	6	6

Employment costs	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	76,131	74,632
Social security costs	1,053	1,258
Other pension costs	1,189	1,222
	78,373	77,112

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2020	361	34,975	35,336
At 31 March 2021	361	34,975	35,336
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2020	30	11,476	11,506
Depreciation charged in the year	120	5,875	5,995
At 31 March 2021	150	17,351	17,501
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2021	211	17,624	17,835
At 31 March 2020	331	23,499	23,830

13 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	190	-
Prepayments and accrued income	1,853	-
	2,043	-

14 Loans and overdrafts

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other loans	3,103	12,045
Payable within one year	3,103	8,941
Payable after one year	-	3,104

The long-term loan is unsecured. Interest is charged at a rate of 6.5% per annum.

The loan was taken out over 3 years from Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) bank in order to fund the purchase of a minibus.

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Borrowings	3,103	8,941
Other taxation and social security	3,156	1,074
Other creditors	1,408	1,122
Accruals and deferred income	572	564
	8,239	11,701

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Borrowings	-	3,104

17 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity contributes to defined contribution pension schemes for all qualifying employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £1,189 (2020 - £1,222).

18 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

		Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 April 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
Bromsgrove District Council	6,466	-	(4,853)	1,613
Redditch Borough Council	5,615	4,710	(4,740)	5,585
Edgar Lawley	1,500	-	(1,500)	-
National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	-	100,000	(100,000)	-
Asda Foundation	-	352	(352)	-
Zurich Community Trust	900	-	-	900
PTC - CCLORS	-	11,258	(11,258)	-
Worcestershire County Council	900	18,009	(9,232)	9,677
Young Solutions	-	4,000	(4,000)	-
Worcestershire Community Fund	-	7,680	(7,680)	-
Heart of England Community Foundation	510	-	(510)	-
NAVCA	-	3,000	(3,000)	-
Schroder Charitable Trust	-	2,500	(1,250)	1,250
NWEDR	-	842	(842)	-
Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP	-	1,056	(1,056)	-
Groundworks UK	-	1,000	(1,000)	-
Awards for All	-	9,978	(7,500)	2,478
The Eveson Trust	-	5,000	(3,330)	1,670
Worcestershire Community Transport Consortium	-	350	(350)	-
Sobell Foundation	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Severn Trent Recovery Fund	-	2,000	(1,167)	833
Department for Transport	-	628	(628)	-
	15,891	177,363	(169,248)	24,006

18 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

Bromsgrove District Council funding is to run a Community Clean Up grants scheme.

Redditch Borough Council funding is to run a Community Clean Up grants scheme and Volunteer Centre activities in Redditch.

Zurich Community Trust contributed to the running of the community minibus service.

Worcestershire County Council contributed to the running of the community minibus service.

Schroder Charitable Trust contributed to the running of the Volunteer Centre.

Awards for all contributed to running VCS support activities.

The Eveson Trust contributed to the running of the community minibus service.

Severn Trent Recovery Fund contributed to the running of the community minibus service.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	17,835	-	17,835
Current assets/(liabilities)	68,459	24,006	92,465
	86,294	24,006	110,300

20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2020 - none).