

ASPIE LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1145351

Details

Other names	ASPIE LTD, ASPIE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07666773
Registered	2012-01-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Aspie Limited Vesta Tilley House Lowesmoor Worcester Worcestershire WR1 2RS
Phone	0190527825
Email	admin@wits-endweb.co.uk
Website	www.aspie.org.uk

Activities

Objects: The assistance of adults with Asperger's Syndrome (known as aspies) in the city of Worcester and surrounding areas to lead lives less disabled by the condition, thereby benefitting them, their family and friends but not exclusively. Providing an environment in which aspies are given the opportunity to: ? Understand and accept their neurological difference ? Gain confidence and improve communication skills ? Build a network of support in the skills required for independent living ? Access suitable education and training courses and develop employment application skills. To provide autism specific in-house and online counselling services to help relieve depression and crisis in persons under the age of 18.

Activities: ASPIE provides a social setting, support and psychological/counselling services for adults with Asperger's /autism at our centre, a safe haven open twice weekly, 52 weeks of the year, where they feel welcome and accepted, engaging in various discussions, games, workshops, quizzes etc to rebuild confidence and self-worth enabling them to achieve their aims and the social inclusion they long for.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Amateur Sport, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN PRACTICE WORCESTER AND SURROUNDING AREAS
- Worcestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£83,425	£106,172	-	-
2023-12-31	£91,101	£81,676	-	-
2022-12-31	£59,955	£73,713	-	-
2021-12-31	£122,899	£72,985	-	-
2020-12-31	£76,621	£58,138	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Julia Elizabeth Micklewright	Chair	2014-04-30
Caren Richards		2024-07-13
DEREK CHARLES RAWLINS		2025-10-11
ELIZABETH ANN GREEN		2015-07-28

ASPIE LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1145351

Accounts

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024
for
ASPIE LIMITED**

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

ASPIE LIMITED

Contents of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

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ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Founded by an Asperger adult, ASPIE was registered as a company limited by guarantee in June 2011 and achieved charity status in January 2012. ASPIE operates as a social, support and therapy group providing vital services and is a lifeline to adults who live with the complexities of Asperger's, now categorized as Level 1 autism. Despite no longer being a separate diagnosis, we continue to use the term Asperger's as it remains a more apt description of the traits and characteristics of the majority of individuals we support.

The purpose of the charity is to assist adults with Aspergers (known as aspies) in the City of Worcester and surrounding areas to lead lives less disabled by the condition by providing an environment in which they are given the opportunity to:

- Gain confidence and improve communication skills.
- Build a network of support in the skills required for independent living.
- Access suitable education and training courses
- Develop employment application skills

The aims are to reduce isolation self-harm, suicide, sectioning and hospitalisation to improve our growing membership's quality of life and prospects by increasing their confidence and self-worth through varied activities, workshops and mentoring overseen by a small, dedicated team. In-house autism specific counselling, pre- and post-diagnosis and for a range of other debilitating issues help avert depression and crisis.

Our centre in Worcester is a safe haven where Asperger adults can drop the mask they wear in the outside world and find acceptance, friendship and support to increase their self-esteem and motivation to achieve the social inclusion, education/employment and independent living opportunities they long for.

We continued to provide vital but un-commissioned services in the form of constant and stable support and therapy twice weekly, 52 weeks of the year at our centre. Adults think that when they receive a diagnosis it will lead to medication and access to services to lead the lives they choose but this is rarely the case. Worcestershire has an NHS adult autism assessment and diagnostic service but because of the huge backlog (January 2025 with 1,842 adults on an 18-20 month waiting list) it is diagnosis only, no pre- or post-diagnostic support. The commissioned support service directs adults to ASPIE for our autism specific counselling.

Long waiting lists exacerbate mental health and relationship issues, poor sleeping patterns, disordered eating, social isolation and suicidal ideation, increasing the burden on NHS costs. We work in close co-operation with both the above organisations by assisting individuals to access a diagnosis and providing psychological support and other services to those in limbo on that waiting list and then post- diagnosis to help accept the diagnosis and adjust.

Our focus during 2024 continued to be preserving the lives of Asperger adults, not able to make sense of the world in normal times, but still experiencing repercussions from the pandemic's lockdowns and service disruptions which disproportionately impacted on autistics leading to severe mental health issues, burgeoning numbers seeking diagnosis but reduced access to services and worsening health inequalities for the most vulnerable.

Immediate Support

We do not have a referral system or waiting list because when someone is highly distressed, they need urgent attention. The support we give, whether it's at ASPIE in person or online is immediate. With the number of pleas for help from members and families increasing, we worked harder than ever to ensure their survival from welfare cuts, concerns about knife crime and worries about global unrest.

Achievement of public benefit

Since 2011 ASPIE has provided vital services and is a lifeline to adults who live with the complexities of Asperger's. They learn or improve social and communication skills, enabling them to move more comfortably through everyday life. Regular attendance preserves life, increases acceptance of their condition, and improves confidence and motivation towards remaining in or returning to education, training, employment and achieving individual and collective goals. The benefit to the individuals themselves, their families and society, from increased numbers in employment and reduced NHS costs because of the services we provided, is immeasurable.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The trustees confirm that the charity has complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance on public benefit when reviewing its aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

What is Asperger's

Asperger's is a high anxiety, lifelong condition. It is a neurological difference. People with Asperger's process information differently, think differently and learn differently frequently leading to being misunderstood, isolated and disadvantaged, missing out in education and employment opportunities because they are different. Additional difficulties are the co-occurring conditions, such as depression, dyspraxia, dyslexia, OCD etc., and the sensory issues which impede their daily functioning and quality of life.

Because Aspies are different (unable to communicate easily, sometimes seeming awkward, difficult and clumsy) they often encounter numerous problems and are usually bullied throughout childhood, teens and beyond. Many have never been able to 'fit in' - not always realising why they are different. The result is they become withdrawn and isolated - unable to cope with everyday living even though they are intelligent and long for acceptance, employment and independent living.

The Need - The Autism Act was the first ever disability-specific law recognising the needs of adults on the autistic spectrum and their families. The implementation of the act however by local authorities and health bodies in providing adequate and appropriate services is still slow, with little understanding of the complexities of Asperger's/autism, the co-occurring conditions that accompany it and the sensory issues which make life extremely difficult for those with the condition.

There is still a disappointing lack of understanding of the effort and immense courage it takes adults with Asperger's to cope in what is, to them, an alien world, but who can, with appropriate support, make a valuable contribution to society.

Professor Simon Baron-Cohen Director of Cambridge University's Autism Research Centre

"Adults with Asperger Syndrome often suffer secondary depression due to social isolation, loneliness, social exclusion, lack of community services, under-achievement and unemployment. Their depression and risk of suicide are preventable with the appropriate support. This study should be a wakeup call for the urgent need for high quality services to prevent the tragic waste of even a single life."

www.cam.ac.uk/.../adults-with-asperger-syndrome-at-greater-risk-of-suicide

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Membership

Facing an increased demand for our services from members and from individuals and families directed to us by the diagnostic service, the NHS Mental Health Teams, Crisis teams, Hospitals, Talking Therapies, GPs, social workers etc., we continued our two strands of operation - opening face-to-face twice weekly with an average of 80 members (not all the same ones) aged 18 to 80 from all over Worcestershire and the West Midlands attending.

Our second strand, Online ASPIE had 162 members in touch daily. Counselling and mentoring support continued online for those too vulnerable to leave their homes, not able to access other services because they are thin on the ground. Or unable to get to ASPIE for face-to-face consultations because of work or study commitments.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

How have we supported our members this year?

By continuing to provide a welcoming environment at our centre, a light and airy building with a variety of rooms for various activities including 3 counselling rooms and importantly, a quiet room.

These activities include:

- Weekly social, support and therapy group where 65 members aged 18+ from all walks of life can meet with other adults with the condition, share experiences and find friendship and acceptance, twice weekly, 52 weeks of the year for socialising, peer support, playing board games, card games, poker, pool, computer/ internet access, etc., eating together, all designed to encourage engagement. It is the reassurance that we will be here, same time, same place, same people and the laidback environment which banishes debilitating anxiety so allowing members to breathe and do things together with like-minded others.
- improving social and communication skills of Asperger adults by increasing their understanding of the neurotypical world. What comes naturally to neurotypicals and not aspies, what it's OK to say and do, realizing the consequences of their actions, learning to allocate priorities and managing time, personal care and, because of their vulnerability, avoiding exploitation etc., - all designed to help them cope better with relationships and everyday living.
- Autism specific psychological/counselling sessions pre and post diagnosis and for a range of background traumas to help avert depression and crisis.
- Group Art Therapy -for those members who find it difficult to describe feelings and emotions (alexithymia) and struggle with interpreting tone of voice and facial expressions. Through art, they can express themselves visually in a way which is comfortable and meaningful to them.
- Drama Group allows the quietest of members to come out of their shells giving them a chance to use their imagination allowing them to open their minds to new characters and adventures
- Sport - our football club ASPIE Avengers to promote healthy lifestyle and inclusion, giving Asperger adults the opportunity to play with others like them. We now have two teams. They play in the Sandwell Inclusion League and the Three Counties Ability Counts League and have won many accolades. Judo improves co-ordination and teaches self-defence techniques. Cricket - members competed in Worcestershire Cricket Foundation's match at New Road on 4 September, winning all matches much to the delight of the players and supporters.
- CAB advisor with us on Wednesday afternoons because we are aware of the hardship many members experience and the difficulties in accessing benefits they are eligible for.
- Advocacy because our members think and communicate rather stiltedly, they often have difficulty when dealing with outside services whose frontline staff have had no specific autism awareness training. To help members towards the independence they long for, we, by acting as a go-between or interpreter, provide one-to-one autism specific mentoring in accessing a diagnosis, training and employment opportunities, ironing out employment difficulties, and other problems so preventing depression and averting crisis.
- Emotional support and practical solutions at the end of a 'phone to Asperger adults, distressed parents/family members/carers giving much needed relief enabling them to carry on coping.

Our activities and autism specific counselling help distract from catastrophising and we kept afloat:

- Members in limbo on an 18-20 month waiting list for an autism diagnosis including a higher percentage of young women and increasing numbers of adults in their 40s, 50, 60s.
- Others received post-diagnostic support to help them make sense of the diagnosis, deal with the shock and the sense of loss of how their lives might have been, learn coping mechanisms to adjust and move on with their lives.
- Students so as to avoid the trauma of dropping out of higher education.
- Young teenagers, home schooled (because of lack of support in mainstream schools) not able to cope with college but needing to learn to re-engage.
- Members experiencing problems in the workplace and burnout because of lack of understanding of autism by line managers.
- Partners where one is on the spectrum and one isn't. The one who is, unable to show or demonstrate affection spontaneously and the neurotypical one feeling rebuffed and rejected. When they have children on the spectrum and problems in schooling, the burden of coping for the whole family can become intolerable resulting in family breakdown.
- Others, through bereavement and when a relative has taken their own life with the added heartache of not being able to say goodbye.
- Dealing with the grief of the untimely deaths of members.
- Members in need of specialised treatments but refused by providers who do not understand autism.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Our Results

The results of ASPIE's existence are heart-warming and adults who throughout life have never been able to 'fit in' continue, even in these difficult times to:

- Report acceptance of themselves and their condition, reduced meltdowns, reduced depression, anxiety and self-harm.
- Have a sense of belonging, something they have never experienced before.
- Take part in ASPIE's varied activities, form friendships and meet up together inside and outside the group.
- Have improved confidence and self-esteem resulting in increased motivation into volunteering, apprenticeships and employment, independent living and enjoying cultural pursuits in the community the rest of us take for granted.
- Learn strategies to overcome resorting to drugs and alcohol and/or becoming victims of crime.

In addition to the above:

- Approximately 60 members were helped to remain or enter into education, volunteering, apprenticeships and employment, some through the DWP's Pioneer Project
- Aspie Avengers Blue and Red teams were successful in Divisions 1 and 2 of the Three Counties Ability Counts League celebrated at ASPIE with a presentation of medals and trophies for the players, families and members.
- Members enjoyed their third annual holiday to Cornwall, others to Majorca and Greece, continuing steps towards independence for those who have not previously had friends to holiday with and/or not been outside the UK.
- We celebrated our 13th Birthday and then Halloween with decorations for both organised by members with spooky decorations for the latter plus buffets, fancy dress and raffles
- The Christmas period is difficult for many on the spectrum with the hype, pressure to attend family gatherings with loud and excitable relatives, food they don't fancy and a dislike of hugging by grannies and aunts, so our Christmas party arranged by members was well attended and a great success - again with buffets, quizzes, pool tournaments etc.
- We opened Christmas Day (and New Year's Day, both being Wednesdays)

Campaigning and Raising Awareness

It is important to us to raise awareness and understanding of Asperger's and the profile of ASPIE to enable us to reach out to the many more adults and parents in need of support:

- We attended Worcestershire County Council's Autism Partnership meetings to give Asperger specific input into implementation of statutory guidance under The Autism Act
- ASPIE was listed as a contributor to the Buckland Autism Employment Survey <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-buckland-review-of-autism-employment-report-and--employement-report-and-recommendations>
- We invited and received visits from Public Health Worcester, the ICB, The High Sheriff of Worcestershire, Mrs Louise Hewett and The Mayor of Worcester, Cllr Mel Allcott
- In July, our Art Therapy Group participated in Lights, Camera, Paint Art Charity Trail
- In December they decorated and entered an ASPIE tree at Worcester Cathedral's Christmas Festival

Summary

ASPIE, independent and maintained without statutory funding, has become a community. Our success is because we are different in that we were founded by the late Sarah Micklewright, diagnosed when adult with Asperger's, who recognised along with the complexities of the condition, the need to promote the intelligence, focus and decency and the longing for acceptance, inclusion and employment of adults on the autistic spectrum, the necessity of a permanent base because of their need for constancy and routine and in-house psychological support to repair their shattered lives. Despite her own vulnerability, Sarah was fiercely protective of members and encouraged them to aspire to whatever it is they wish to achieve in life and not be inhibited by those who do not understand. The sense of belonging this engenders, which many of them have never experienced before, enables them, at their own pace, to get their lives back on track. As an organisation, ASPIE is 'virtually if not entirely unique as may be observed from the heartfelt enquiries and pleas for assistance received not only from individuals and families in the Midlands but throughout the UK'.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Unrestricted incoming resources for the year increased to £53,976 from £50,735. Unrestricted resources expended increased, to £78,808 from £48,781. The net unrestricted outgoing resources for the year after transfers between funds amounted to £24,393 (2023 - net unrestricted incoming resources of £3,662). The total unrestricted funds carried forward at the year end amounted to £11,590, compared to £135,983 in 2023.

Restricted incoming resources for the year decreased to £29,449 from £40,366, and resources expended decreased to £27,277 from £32,283. Net restricted incoming resources for the year after transfers between funds amounted to £1,646 (2023 - net incoming resources of £5,763). The total restricted fund balances decreased to £24,036 from £22,390.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the trustees to maintain unrestricted free reserves excluding fixed assets at a level sufficient to ensure the operation of the service for a minimum of 4 months.

Unrestricted free reserves (unrestricted funds less tangible fixed assets) at 31 December 2024 amounted to £107,864 (2023 - £130,631).

The trustees were cautious with regards to spending reserves during the Covid-19 pandemic, hence the increased level of reserves from previous years. However, the trustees have reviewed the policy in the year and:

- recognise the importance of the counselling service in particular to members, the trustees also aim to hold sufficient reserves to be able to offer counselling services to members for a period of 12 months. This in the unfortunate event of closure, would allow members to still have some access to support whilst transitioning to a life without ASPIE. Therefore, the Counselling designated fund recognises this cost of approximately £30,000 a year.
- recognise that a large level of administration and fundraising applications are completed on a voluntary basis by trustees and other helpers, the need for a fixed member of staff to take on this role in the future has been highlighted. This may open up further opportunities for ASPIE's members, such as increased fundraising opportunities allowing more activities to take place and full-time staffing may allow increased opening hours of ASPIE.

With this in mind, free reserves of the charity, excluding funds for a designated purpose, are considered to be £47,864.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Future Development

- 1 Recruitment of management and admin staff to help us keep pace with increased demand for our services
- 2 Opening up an extra day to help meet the demand from increasing numbers of adults being diagnosed and individuals and families directed to us by the NHS diagnostic service, Autism West Midlands, crisis teams, mental health teams, GPs, social prescribers, Talking Therapies etc
- 3 Expansion of our autism specific psychological/counselling/mentoring services to autistic adults to get them through cocktails of isolation, delays in diagnosis, job losses, benefits hold-ups, medication mix-ups, family breakdowns, legal skirmishes, bereavement, suicide attempts and other traumas.
- 4 Increased partnership working with other Worcestershire charities and voluntary organisations, often at a loss to understand those on the spectrum.
- 5 Supporting members to rejoin or stay in education, volunteering and employment plus participating in Getting People Back to work programmes
- 6 Our football teams ASPIE AVENGERS Red and ASPIE AVENGERS Blue will continue to train 51 weeks of the year, taking part in the 3 Counties Ability Counts League and the Sandwell Inclusion League matches.
- 7 Expansion of Group Art Therapy, Art Exhibitions and continuation of our Drama Group
- 8 Members are planning fundraising activities in the community to promote ASPIE and raise awareness and understanding of Asperger's in line with our ethos.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its memorandum and articles of association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

The charity is managed by its board of trustees, who are individuals with a direct interest in the provision of services for adults with Asperger's Syndrome, or who have the skills to assist them. They meet every three months.

ASPIE LIMITED

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The trustees regularly undertake risk assessments and have identified the major risk areas for the charity within finances, staffing, premises, health and safety, legal issues, publicity, systems and standards. Procedures have been established to manage these risks and these are periodically reviewed to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

The charity carried public liability insurance.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07666773 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1145351

Registered office

Vesta Tilley House
Lowesmoor
Worcestershire
WR1 2RS

Trustees

Mrs J E Micklewright BEM
Miss E Green
Mr R Allsup (resigned 8.7.24)
Mr K R Norton (resigned 26.6.24)
Ms C Richards Trustee (appointed 13.7.24)

Company Secretary

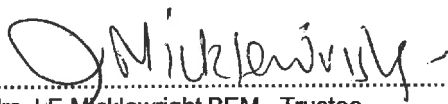
Miss E Green

Independent Examiner

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 4/7/25 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs J E Micklewright BEM - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
ASPIE LIMITED**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of ASPIE LIMITED ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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



Melissa Jean Godwin ACCA

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

Date: 08.07.25

ASPIE LIMITED

**Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		24,940	25,895	50,835	54,569
Charitable activities	4				
Charitable Activities		22,799	3,554	26,353	26,014
Other trading activities	2	3,559	-	3,559	9,355
Investment income	3	2,678	-	2,678	1,163
Total		53,976	29,449	83,425	91,101
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		1,087	-	1,087	612
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable Activities		77,808	27,277	105,085	81,064
Total		78,895	27,277	106,172	81,676
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(24,919)	2,172	(22,747)	9,425
Transfers between funds	16	526	(526)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(24,393)	1,646	(22,747)	9,425
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		135,983	22,390	158,373	148,948
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		111,590	24,036	135,626	158,373

The notes form part of these financial statements

ASPIE LIMITED

**Balance Sheet
31st December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	3,726	260	3,986	5,677
Investments	11	45,523	-	45,523	43,334
		<u>49,249</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>49,509</u>	<u>49,011</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	1,659	-	1,659	11,458
Cash at bank and in hand		67,292	23,776	91,068	100,406
		<u>68,951</u>	<u>23,776</u>	<u>92,727</u>	<u>111,864</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(2,610)	-	(2,610)	(2,502)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>66,341</u>	<u>23,776</u>	<u>90,117</u>	<u>109,362</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		115,590	24,036	139,626	158,373
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES	15	(4,000)	-	(4,000)	-
NET ASSETS		<u>111,590</u>	<u>24,036</u>	<u>135,626</u>	<u>158,373</u>
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				111,590	135,983
Restricted funds				24,036	22,390
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>135,626</u>	<u>158,373</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2024.

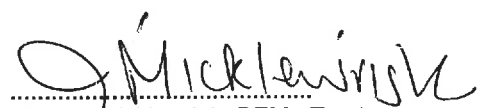
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

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


Mrs J E Micklewright BEM - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

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

INCOME

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

Rental income is recognised in line with the periods to which such income relates, up to the extent that is probable that such income is recoverable. Where recoverability of rental income is in doubt, such income is instead recognised on a cash basis.

The Charities SORP states that where the conditions attached to a grant are within the charity's control and there is sufficient evidence those conditions may be met, then the incoming resources should be recognised as incoming resource. Where uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet conditions within its control, the grant should be deferred as a liability until certainty exists that the conditions imposed can be met.

EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

RAISING FUNDS

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Charitable activities costs include all the costs of running the charity on a day to day basis including premises costs.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 10% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £100 are not capitalised.

TAXATION

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

FUND ACCOUNTING

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

DONATED SERVICES

Donated facilities and services when received, provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably, on the basis of the value that the charity would pay in the open market for an alternative item that would provide a benefit to the charity equivalent to the donated service. Where the value of the gift cannot be measured reliably, no provision is included within the accounts.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised when the charity becomes party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts where there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic Financial Assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Basic Financial Liabilities

Basic Financial liabilities, including trade and other payables, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of future receipts, discounted at a market rate of interest. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of the operations from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction cost.

UNLISTED INVESTMENTS

Unlisted investments are recorded at cost less provisions for impairment.

OPERATING LEASES

Operating lease expenditure is recognised on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising and sponsorship	507	1,275
Rent	1,849	7,506
Sale of goods	1,203	574
	<u>3,559</u>	<u>9,355</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Interest on investment	<u>2,678</u>	<u>1,163</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024 Charitable Activities	2023 Total activities
	£	£
Membership fees	17,298	15,297
ASPIE AVENGERS football team	3,554	5,457
Counselling fees	5,501	5,260
	<u>26,353</u>	<u>26,014</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £
Charitable Activities	
	<u>105,085</u>

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation - owned assets	2,760	2,603
Independent examiner's fees	2,604	2,502
Other accountancy fees not in relation to independent examination	168	61
	<u>5,532</u>	<u>5,166</u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No remuneration or benefits have been paid to any trustee during the current or prior year.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

One trustee has been reimbursed expenses of £13 during the year for stationery purchased (2023: £60).

8. STAFF COSTS

The charity had no employees in the year (2023 - Nil) and as a result there were no staff costs.

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	26,170	28,399	54,569
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	15,297	10,717	26,014
Other trading activities	8,105	1,250	9,355
Investment income	1,163	-	1,163
Total	<u>50,735</u>	<u>40,366</u>	<u>91,101</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	612	-	612

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	48,781	32,283	81,064
Total	<u>49,393</u>	<u>32,283</u>	<u>81,676</u>
NET INCOME	1,342	8,083	9,425
Transfers between funds	2,320	(2,320)	-
Net movement in funds	<u>3,662</u>	<u>5,763</u>	<u>9,425</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	132,321	16,627	148,948
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>135,983</u></u>	<u><u>22,390</u></u>	<u><u>158,373</u></u>

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st January 2024	9,468	8,961	18,429
Additions	-	1,069	1,069
Disposals	(1,128)	(309)	(1,437)
At 31st December 2024	<u>8,340</u>	<u>9,721</u>	<u>18,061</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2024	6,419	6,333	12,752
Charge for year	551	2,209	2,760
Eliminated on disposal	(1,128)	(309)	(1,437)
At 31st December 2024	<u>5,842</u>	<u>8,233</u>	<u>14,075</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2024	<u><u>2,498</u></u>	<u><u>1,488</u></u>	<u><u>3,986</u></u>
At 31st December 2023	<u><u>3,049</u></u>	<u><u>2,628</u></u>	<u><u>5,677</u></u>

11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Unlisted investment bonds £
COST LESS IMPAIRMENT	
At 1st January 2024	43,334
Additions	2,189
At 31st December 2024	<u>45,523</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2024	<u><u>45,523</u></u>
At 31st December 2023	<u><u>43,334</u></u>

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	789	702
Accrued income	870	10,756
	<u>1,659</u>	<u>11,458</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accrued expenses	2,610	2,502
	<u>2,610</u>	<u>2,502</u>

14. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Within one year	18,334	16,667
	<u>18,334</u>	<u>16,667</u>

15. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Provisions	4,000	-
	<u>4,000</u>	<u>-</u>

As at 31 December 2024 the charity had a legal dispute outstanding regarding an employment matter, this was fully settled on 21 January 2025 for the sum of £4,000.

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24	Net	Transfers	At
	£	movement	between	31.12.24
		in funds	funds	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	62,233	(24,919)	14,276	51,590
Counselling Fund	28,750	-	1,250	30,000
Future Plans Fund	45,000	-	(15,000)	30,000
	<u>135,983</u>	<u>(24,919)</u>	<u>526</u>	<u>111,590</u>
Restricted funds				
Computer & Equipment	526	-	(526)	-
ASPIE AVENGERS	11,814	(1,602)	-	10,212
Awards For All	1,680	8,320	-	10,000
Worcester City Council	325	(65)	-	260
Counselling Fund	6,792	(6,792)	-	-
Sports Equipment Fund	1,253	2,000	-	3,253
Art Therapy Fund	-	311	-	311
	<u>22,390</u>	<u>2,172</u>	<u>(526)</u>	<u>24,036</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>158,373</u>	<u>(22,747)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>135,626</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	53,976	(78,895)	(24,919)
Restricted funds			
ASPIE AVENGERS	3,555	(5,157)	(1,602)
Awards For All	20,000	(11,680)	8,320
Worcester City Council	-	(65)	(65)
Counselling Fund	1,250	(8,042)	(6,792)
Sports Equipment Fund	2,000	-	2,000
Admin Support Fund	2,000	(2,000)	-
Art Therapy Fund	644	(333)	311
	<u>29,449</u>	<u>(27,277)</u>	<u>2,172</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>83,425</u>	<u>(106,172)</u>	<u>(22,747)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	74,821	1,342	(13,930)	62,233
Counselling Fund	27,500	-	1,250	28,750
Future Plans Fund	30,000	-	15,000	45,000
	<u>132,321</u>	<u>1,342</u>	<u>2,320</u>	<u>135,983</u>
Restricted funds				
Computer & Equipment	501	2,345	(2,320)	526
ASPIE AVENGERS	7,614	4,200	-	11,814
Refurbishment Fund	500	(500)	-	-
Awards For All	-	1,680	-	1,680
Worcester City Council	390	(65)	-	325
Counselling Fund	5,740	1,052	-	6,792
Community Event Fund	45	(45)	-	-
Sports Equipment Fund	1,253	-	-	1,253
Community Support Fund	584	(584)	-	-
	<u>16,627</u>	<u>8,083</u>	<u>(2,320)</u>	<u>22,390</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>148,948</u>	<u>9,425</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>158,373</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	50,735	(49,393)	1,342
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	2,400	(55)	2,345
ASPIE AVENGERS	13,206	(9,006)	4,200
Refurbishment Fund	-	(500)	(500)
Awards For All	10,000	(8,320)	1,680
Worcester City Council	-	(65)	(65)
Counselling Fund	14,760	(13,708)	1,052
Community Event Fund	-	(45)	(45)
Community Support Fund	-	(584)	(584)
	<u>40,366</u>	<u>(32,283)</u>	<u>8,083</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>91,101</u>	<u>(81,676)</u>	<u>9,425</u>

Designated Funds

The Counselling Fund was created to recognise the need for counselling services to be available for ASPIE members for a minimum period of 12 months in the unfortunate situation that ASPIE should ever close.

The Future Plans Fund represents the estimated cost of a future employed administration role. It is the aim of the trustees to secure the longevity of ASPIE by creating an employed role to deal with some of the day-to-day management of ASPIE.

Restricted Funds

The Computer and Equipment fund represents grants and donations specifically made for the purchase of computers equipment.

The ASPIE AVENGERS' fund represents grants & sponsorship received to help fund the cost of attending matches and the hiring of training facilities.

The Refurbishment Fund represents a grant received towards internal redecoration and the replacement of older computer equipment.

The Awards for All Fund represents a grant received from The National Lottery Community Fund towards the provision of counselling and running of the premises to provide these services.

The Worcester City Council Fund represents a grant received for new seating in the reception area.

The Counselling Fund represents grants received for the provision of counselling and increased support required following the impacts of the COVID pandemic, and grants received to operate a premises for the provision of these services.

The Community Event Fund represents a grant received from Worcester Lottery to provide a community event.

The Sports Equipment Fund represents grants received for purchase of recreational sports equipment.

The Community Support Fund represents a grant received from the National Grid to continue provision of services over the festive period.

The Admin Support Fund represents a grant received from the Saintbury Trust to fund the additional costs of additional administration assistance.

The Art Therapy Fund represents a grant received to support the Art Therapy Group ran by ASPIE, to support purchase of supplies and equipment.

TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

During the year the charity purchased new computer equipment funded from the Computer Equipment Fund. On purchase, £526 of the equipment cost was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds.

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS - continued

During the year £15,000 was transferred from the Future Plans Fund to the General Fund to recognise a movement on the designated fund. The balance in the Future Plans Fund at the year end was £30,000 (2023: £45,000).

During the year £1,250 was transferred from the General Fund to the Counselling Fund to recognise a movement on the designated fund, due to uplift in counselling costs and needs. The balance in the Counselling Fund at the year end was £30,000 (2023: £28,750).

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, income received from trustees totalled £1,770 (2023: £1,815). This included donations of £825 (2023: £750), Membership Fees of £825 (2023: £1,075) and Rent of £120 (2023: £20).

ASPIE LIMITED

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants and donations	45,741	49,288
Gift aid	294	481
Donated counselling services	4,800	4,800
	50,835	54,569
Other trading activities		
Fundraising and sponsorship	507	1,275
Rent	1,849	7,506
Sale of goods	1,203	574
	3,559	9,355
Investment income		
Interest on investment	2,678	1,163
Charitable activities		
Membership fees	17,298	15,297
ASPIE AVENGERS football team	3,554	5,457
Counselling fees	5,501	5,260
	26,353	26,014
Total incoming resources	83,425	91,101
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Grant application consultant	1,087	612
Charitable activities		
Rent, rates & water	22,204	21,389
Insurance	381	438
Heat and light	4,710	5,784
Publicity costs	517	-
Sundries	188	314
Counselling costs	28,413	22,788
Computer and internet costs	2,724	1,378
Repairs and maintenance	1,464	2,576
Depreciation	2,760	2,603
TV licence	166	159
ASPIE Avengers football team	4,668	5,546
Independent examiner's fee	2,772	2,563
Office expenses	5,514	3,192
Professional fees	1,680	-
Event costs	-	1,046
Support workers	9,424	11,288
Admin support	17,500	-
	105,085	81,064
Total resources expended	106,172	81,676
Net (expenditure)/income	(22,747)	9,425

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

ASPIE LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1145351

Accounts

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023
for
ASPIE LIMITED**

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

ASPIE LIMITED

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

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ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Founded by an Asperger adult, ASPIE was registered as a company limited by guarantee in June 2011 and achieved charity status in January 2012. ASPIE operates as a social, support and therapy group providing vital services and is a lifeline to adults who live with the complexities of Asperger's, now categorised as Level 1 autism. Despite no longer being a separate diagnosis, we continue to use the term Asperger's as it remains a more apt description of the traits and characteristics of the majority of individuals we support.

The purpose of the charity is to assist adults with Asperger's (known as Aspies) in the City of Worcester and surrounding areas to lead lives less disabled by the condition by providing an environment in which they are given the opportunity to:

- Gain confidence and improve communication skills.
- Build a network of support in the skills required for independent living.
- Access suitable education and training courses and develop employment application skills.

The aims are to reduce isolation, self-harm, suicide, sectioning and hospitalisation to improve our growing membership's quality of life and prospects by increasing their confidence and self-worth through varied activities, workshops and mentoring overseen by a small, dedicated team. In-house autism specific counselling, pre- and post-diagnosis and for a range of other debilitating issues help avert depression and crisis.

Our centre in Worcester is a safe haven where Asperger adults can drop the mask they wear in the outside world and find acceptance, friendship and support to reduce isolation, depression and self-harm and increase their self-worth and confidence to achieve the social inclusion, education and employment opportunities they long for.

We continued to provide vital but uncommissioned services in the form of continuous and stable support and therapy twice weekly, 52 weeks of the year, at our centre in Worcester. Adults think that when they receive a diagnosis it will lead to medication and access to services to lead the lives they chose but this is rarely the case. Worcestershire has an NHS adult autism assessment and diagnostic service but because of the huge backlog with 1,446 people on a 14-18 month waiting list **it is diagnosis only**, no pre- or post-diagnostic support. The commissioned support service is accessed by one's GP and restricted to 8 sessions post-diagnosis but no **in-depth autism specific therapy** is provided.

Long waiting lists exacerbate mental health and relationship issues, poor sleeping patterns, disordered eating, social isolation, and suicidal ideation increasing the burden on NHS costs. We work in close co-operation with both the above organisations, by assisting individuals access a diagnosis, providing psychological support and other services to those in limbo on that waiting list, and then post diagnosis support to help accept the diagnosis and adjust.

Our focus during 2023 continued to be preserving the lives of Asperger adults, not able to make sense of the world in normal times, hit so much harder by the pandemic's damage to psychological health, the economy / education / employment / lack of care services, further exacerbated by the cost of living crisis and chaos caused by the NHS, civil service, education and transport strikes.

Immediate Support

We do not have a referral system or waiting list because when someone is highly distressed, they need urgent attention. The support we give, whether it's at ASPIE in person or online is immediate. With the number of pleas for help from members and families increasing, we worked harder in helping them survive these harrowing times, giving support, hope and motivation for a better future.

Achievement of public benefit

Since 2011 ASPIE has provided vital services and is a lifeline to adults who live with the complexities of Asperger's. They learn or improve social and communication skills, enabling them to move more comfortably through everyday life. Regular attendance preserves life, increases acceptance of their condition, and improves confidence and motivation towards remaining in or returning to education, training, employment and achieving individual and collective goals. The benefit to the individuals themselves, their families and society, from increased numbers in employment and reduced NHS costs because of the services we provided, is immeasurable.

The trustees confirm that the charity has complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance on public benefit when reviewing its aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

What is Asperger's

Asperger's is a high anxiety, lifelong condition. It is a neurological difference. People with Asperger's process information differently, think differently and learn differently frequently leading to being misunderstood, isolated and disadvantaged, missing out in education and employment opportunities because they are different. Additional difficulties are the co-occurring conditions, such as depression, dyspraxia, dyslexia, OCD etc., and the sensory issues which impede their daily functioning and quality of life.

'Aspie' is an affectionate name for a person with Asperger's or on the autistic spectrum.

Because Aspies are different (unable to communicate easily, sometimes seeming awkward, difficult and clumsy) they often encounter numerous problems and are usually bullied throughout childhood, teens and beyond. Many have never been able to 'fit in' - not always realising why they are different. The result is they become withdrawn and isolated - unable to cope with everyday living even though they are intelligent and long for acceptance, employment and independent living.

The Autism Act 2009

The Autism Act 2009 was the first ever disability-specific law recognising the needs of adults on the autistic spectrum and their families. The implementation of the act however by local authorities and health bodies in providing adequate and appropriate services is still slow, with little understanding of the complexities of Asperger's/autism, the co-occurring conditions that accompany it and the sensory issues which make life extremely difficult for those with the condition.

There is a disappointing lack of understanding of the effort and immense courage it takes adults with Asperger's to cope in what is, to them, an alien world, but who can, with appropriate support, make a valuable contribution to society.

Professor Simon Baron-Cohen Director of Cambridge University's Autism Research Centre "Adults with Asperger Syndrome often suffer secondary depression due to social isolation, loneliness, social exclusion, lack of community services, under-achievement and unemployment. Their depression and risk of suicide are preventable with the appropriate support. This study should be a wakeup call for the urgent need for high quality services to prevent the tragic waste of even a single life'.

www.cam.ac.uk/research/news/adults-with-asperger-syndrome-at-greater-risk-of-suicidal-thoughts

In normal times research shows:

- One person in 45 thought to be on the autistic spectrum.
- 79% of people on the autistic spectrum feel socially isolated.
- **Many people with autism will not reach their 40th birthday.**
- People with autism without a learning disability are 9 times more likely to die by suicide than the general public.
- Autistic women are 13 times more likely to die by suicide.
- **Only 16% of people on the autistic spectrum are in full-time paid employment.**
- Graduates with a social/ASD condition are less likely to be in permanent employment.
- **At all levels, graduates with a social/ASD condition are most likely to be carrying out voluntary work.**

Recent studies show:

- 62% of individuals on the autistic spectrum had difficulty making GP appointments by telephone.
- 56% reported a fear of not being understood by their GP
- 53% found it hard to communicate with their doctor
- 150,000 and 500,000 people aged 20 to 49 years-old may be autistic but undiagnosed and between 250,000 and 600,000 people over 50 may be undiagnosed: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/news/2023/jun/number-autistic-people-england-may-be-twice-high-previously-thought>
- **At the end of December 2023, 1446 adults on Worcestershire/Herefordshire's Asperger/autism waiting list of 440 days!**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Membership

Facing an increased demand for our services from members and from individuals and families directed to us by the diagnostic service, the NHS Mental Health Teams, Crisis teams, Hospitals, Talking Therapies, GPs, social workers etc., we continued our two strands of operation - opening face-to-face twice weekly with an average of 60 members (not all the same ones) aged 18 to 77 from all over Worcestershire and the West Midlands attending.

Our second strand, Online ASPIE had 147 members in touch daily. Counselling and mentoring support continued online for those too vulnerable to leave their homes, not able to access other services because many are still not up and running, or unable to get to ASPIE for face-to-face consultations because of work or study commitments.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

How have we supported our members this year?

We opened every Wednesday 1-9 and Saturday afternoons 1-5 for socialising, playing board games, card games, poker. etc., and eating together, all designed to encourage engagement and improve social and interacting skills. It is the reassurance that we will be here, same time, same place, same people and the laidback environment which banishes debilitating anxiety so allowing members to breathe and do things together with like-minded others.

We improved social and communication skills of Asperger adults by increasing their understanding of the neurotypical world, what comes naturally to neurotypicals and not aspies, what it's OK to say and do, realising the consequences of their actions, learning to allocate priorities and managing time, personal care and because of their vulnerability, avoiding exploitation etc., - all designed to help them cope better with relationships and everyday living.

We provided trauma intervention work via the use of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy following the Tony Attwood model, Emotional Freedom Techniques and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for members, parents, spouses, partners, with a focus on anxiety reduction and developing coping mechanisms as preventative measures against depression and worse and family breakdown.

We expanded Members' horizons by networking with Worcestershire County Council, Worcester City Council, The Family Psychologist, provider of the adult Asperger diagnostic service, Worcester Community Trust, The Princes Trust, UK Cyber Security Forum, Autism West Midlands, and enlightened local employers who collectively provide courses on volunteering, training, back-to-work skills and employment; Worcestershire Football Association and Disability Sport Worcester; Housing Associations for independent living skills

We met the increased demand from members and non-members for therapy and guidance through the aftermath of psychological damage caused by lockdown's cocktail of enforced isolation, delays in diagnosis, job losses, loss of homes, benefits holdups, medication mix-ups, family breakdowns, legal skirmishes, bereavements and other traumas. There's no quick fix, each individual needs ongoing counselling and mentoring tailored to their neurological difference plus step-by-step practical support to overcome each of these challenges.

We alleviated anxiety for many adults on Worcestershire's Adult Asperger waiting list - diagnosis is vital to those in crisis. It enables adults with the condition to understand why they are as they are and can be a passport to better health, social inclusion, improved employment prospects and supported living. To some the diagnosis is a relief, others can take longer to come to terms with it and some resent the diagnosis.

We supported an increasing number of adults who are being diagnosed in their forties, fifties and sixties only just discovering why they are as they are, coming to terms and making sense of what's gone before but so often dealing with the heartache of marriage/partnership breakups, loss of job, the family home and having to start again with little money coming in.

We acted as advocates for our members as a 'go between' or interpreter, providing one-to-one autism specific mentoring in accessing a diagnosis, training and employment opportunities, ironing out employment difficulties, benefits, debt, family breakdowns, sorting out housing, homelessness, tenancy conditions and other problems etc, so preventing and averting crisis. This is a critical service to ensure members are able to maintain their independence.

Our football Club, ASPIE AVENGERS, promoted healthy lifestyle and inclusion, giving Asperger adults the opportunity to play with others who understand them. There are now 24 players and we have two teams. They continue to play in the Three Counties Ability Counts League and the Sandwell Inclusion League. They have won many accolades and were again successful in winning the Three Counties Ability Counts League 2022/23. Friendlies for new players were arranged with Droitwich, Evesham and Kingswinford Pan Disability teams. Other members have joined Worcester Judo Club to improve co-ordination at the same time learning self-defence techniques.

We are still dealing with the effects of Covid-19 lockdowns where some members lost their jobs, had to give up their flats and return to live with parents or relatives, far from ideal for them losing their hard-won independence. Many Asperger college and university students already at breaking point struggling to cope with higher education following the disruption to their education from lockdowns, were then disrupted again, this time by staff strikes. We recognised these struggles and:

- Supported Asperger adults experiencing meltdowns, psychotic episodes, eating disorders and suicide attempts.
- Supported members after hospitalisation.
- Supported other adults, employed but off sick, suffering from burnout because of unfair practices by employers.
- Were there for members in need of specialized treatment but refused by providers who do not understand autism
- Provided emotional support and practical solutions at any time at the end of a phone, countrywide to Asperger adults and distressed parents/family members/carers, giving them much needed relief, which enables them to carry on coping.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Our Results

The results of ASPIE's existence are heart-warming and adults who throughout life have never been able to 'fit in' continue, even in these difficult times to:

- Report acceptance of themselves and their condition, reduced meltdowns, reduced depression, anxiety and self-harm.
- Have a sense of belonging, something they have never experienced before.
- Take part in ASPIE's varied activities, form friendships and meet up together inside and outside the group.
- Have improved confidence and self-esteem resulting in increased motivation into volunteering, apprenticeships and employment, independent living and enjoying cultural pursuits in the community the rest of us take for granted.
- Learn strategies to overcome resorting to drugs and alcohol and/or becoming victims of crime.

In addition to the above:

- Approximately 60 members were helped to remain or enter into employment, education and volunteering
- Members continue to make friendships inside and outside the group.
- Members organised holidays to Majorca and Cornwall, a big step towards independence for those who have not been outside the UK or not previously had friends to holidays with
- We celebrated our 12th Birthday and then Halloween with decorations for both organised by members with bats and spider decorations for the latter plus buffets, fancy dress and raffles
- The festive period can be very difficult for aspies with the hype, pressure to attend family gatherings with loud and excitable relatives, food they don't fancy and a dislike of hugging by grannies and aunts, so our Christmas party was well attended and a great success - again with buffets, quizzes, pool tournaments etc.

Raising Awareness

It is important to us to raise awareness and understanding of Asperger's and the profile of ASPIE to enable us to reach out to the many more adults and parents in need of support:

- Julia Micklewright attended the Autism Partnership Group meetings at Worcestershire County Council to give Asperger specific input into implementation of statutory guidance under The Autism Act 2009.
- In April we were contacted by San Francisco journalist and featured in Guardian article 'They tried to wipe out Asperger's'
<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2023/apr/16/they-tried-to-wipe-it-out-the-problem-with-talking-about-a>
- Twelve members contributed to Worcestershire County Council's Autism Strategy Survey - results collated by one of our counsellors
- Members contributed to Worcestershire Acute Hospital Trust's survey on how autistic patients are treated in hospital
- Members worked with Herefordshire & Worcestershire ICB's survey into improving access to medical care.
- On 5 April we were visited by Mayor of Worcester, Cllr. Adrian Gregson
- In May our football club ASPIE Avengers were supported by Tesco's Community Fund
- In July we were visited by High Sheriff of Worcestershire, Mrs Louise Hewitt.
- On 25 October we were visited by Mayor of Worcester, Cllr Louis Stephen.
- In December, our professional football coaches, facilitators, Dale and Sam received the High Sheriff's Award for their special contribution to ASPIE and attended her special Celebration Event at Henry Sandon Hall.
- We were pleased to be invited, for our experience and expertise, to take part in Sir Robert Buckland's, Autism Employment Survey and being acknowledged as a contributor.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-buckland-review-of-autism-employment-report-and-recommendations>

Summary

ASPIE, independent and maintained without statutory funding, has become a community. Our success is because we are different in that we were founded by the late Sarah Micklewright, diagnosed as an adult with Asperger's, who recognized, along with the complexities of the condition, the need to promote the intelligence, focus and decency along with the longing for acceptance, inclusion and employment of adults on the autistic spectrum, the necessity of a permanent base because of their need for constancy and routine and in-house psychological support to repair their shattered lives. Despite her own vulnerability Sarah was fiercely protective of members and encouraged them to aspire to whatever it is they want to achieve in life and not be inhibited by those who do not understand. The sense of belonging this engenders, which many of them have never experienced before, enables them, at their own pace, to get their lives back on track. As an organisation ASPIE 'is virtually if not entirely unique as may be observed from the heartfelt enquiries and pleas for assistance received not only from individuals and families in the Midlands but throughout the UK'.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Unrestricted incoming resources for the year decreased to £50,735 from £41,338. Unrestricted resources expended increased, to £49,393 from £31,655. The net unrestricted outgoing resources for the year after transfers between funds amounted to £3,662 (2022 - net unrestricted incoming resources of £14,248). The total unrestricted funds carried forward at the year end amounted to £135,983, compared to £132,32 in 2022.

Restricted incoming resources for the year increased to £40,366 from £18,617, and resources expended decreased to £32,283 from £42,057. Net restricted incoming resources for the year after transfers between funds amounted to £5,763 (2021 - net outgoing resources of £28,006). The total restricted fund balances increased to £22,390 from £16,627.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the trustees to maintain unrestricted free reserves excluding fixed assets at a level sufficient to ensure the operation of the service for a minimum of 4 months.

Unrestricted free reserves (unrestricted funds less tangible fixed assets) at 31 December 2023 amounted to £130,631 (2022 - £127,062).

The trustees were cautious with regards to spending reserves during the Covid-19 pandemic, hence the increased level of reserves from previous years. However, the trustees have reviewed the policy in the year and:

- recognise the importance of the counselling service in particular to members, the trustees also aim to hold sufficient reserves to be able to offer counselling services to members for a period of 12 months. This in the unfortunate event of closure, would allow members to still have some access to support whilst transitioning to a life without ASPIE. Therefore, the Counselling designated fund recognises this cost of approximately £28,750 a year.
- recognise that a large level of administration and fundraising applications are completed on a voluntary basis by trustees and other helpers, the need for a fixed member of staff to take on this role in the future has been highlighted. This may open up further opportunities for ASPIE's members, such as increased fundraising opportunities allowing more activities to take place and full-time staffing may allow increased opening hours of ASPIE.

With this in mind, free reserves of the charity, excluding funds for a designated purpose, are considered to be £56,881.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Future Development

- 1 Recruitment of a Deputy Chief Executive to help us keep pace with increased demand for our services, gradually taking over the management and planning to ensure sustainability
- 2 Expansion of our autism specific psychological/counselling/mentoring services to meet the needs of individuals and families directed to us by the NHS diagnostic service, Hospitals, Mental Health teams, Crisis Teams, GPs, social prescribers.
- 3 Opening up extra days to provide workshops in increasing social and interacting skills, CV and employment skills, accessing benefits (to which those on the spectrum are entitled but have little success in claiming) nutrition and self-care
- 4 Increased partnership working with other Worcestershire charities and voluntary organisations, often at a loss to understand those on the spectrum.
- 5 Rolling out our unique Asperger Awareness Training
- 6 ASPIE members, following cyber security training for the neurodiverse by Dr Emma Philpott will continue to be employed, having their working hours increased
- 7 Our football teams ASPIE AVENGERS Red and ASPIE AVENGERS Blue will continue to train 51 weeks of the year, taking part in the 3 Counties Ability Counts League and the Sandwell Inclusion League matches
- 8 We shall continue to seek new ideas and skills in fundraising and events to promote ASPIE and raise awareness and understanding of Asperger's in line with our ethos.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its memorandum and articles of association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The charity is managed by its board of trustees, who are individuals with a direct interest in the provision of services for adults with Asperger's Syndrome, or who have the skills to assist them. They meet every three months.

Risk management

The trustees regularly undertake risk assessments and have identified the major risk areas for the charity within finances, staffing, premises, health and safety, legal issues, publicity, systems and standards. Procedures have been established to manage these risks and these are periodically reviewed to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

The charity carried public liability insurance.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07666773 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1145351

Registered office

Vesta Tilley House
Lowesmoor
Worcestershire
WR1 2RS

Trustees

Mrs J E Micklewright BEM
Miss E Green
Mr R Allsup
Mr K R Norton

Company Secretary

Miss E Green

Independent Examiner

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29/5/24..... and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs J E Micklewright BEM - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
ASPIE LIMITED**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of ASPIE LIMITED ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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



Melissa Jean Godwin ACCA

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

Date: 12.06.24.....

ASPIE LIMITED

**Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		26,170	28,399	54,569	31,080
Charitable activities	4				
Charitable Activities		15,297	10,717	26,014	25,760
Other trading activities	2	8,105	1,250	9,355	2,690
Investment income	3	1,163	-	1,163	425
Total		50,735	40,366	91,101	59,955
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		612	-	612	623
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable Activities		48,781	32,283	81,064	73,090
Total		49,393	32,283	81,676	73,713
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		1,342	8,083	9,425	(13,758)
Transfers between funds	15	2,320	(2,320)	-	-
Net movement in funds		3,662	5,763	9,425	(13,758)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		132,321	16,627	148,948	162,706
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		135,983	22,390	158,373	148,948

The notes form part of these financial statements

ASPIE LIMITED

**Balance Sheet
31st December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	5,352	325	5,677	5,704
Investments	11	43,334	-	43,334	42,377
		<u>48,686</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>49,011</u>	<u>48,081</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	11,083	375	11,458	1,142
Cash at bank and in hand		78,716	21,690	100,406	104,012
		<u>89,799</u>	<u>22,065</u>	<u>111,864</u>	<u>105,154</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(2,502)	-	(2,502)	(4,287)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>87,297</u>	<u>22,065</u>	<u>109,362</u>	<u>100,867</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>135,983</u>	<u>22,390</u>	<u>158,373</u>	<u>148,948</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>135,983</u>	<u>22,390</u>	<u>158,373</u>	<u>148,948</u>
FUNDS	15				
Unrestricted funds				135,983	132,321
Restricted funds				22,390	16,627
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>158,373</u>	<u>148,948</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2023.

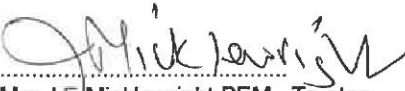
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 29/3/24 and were signed on its behalf by:


Mrs J E Micklewright BEM - Trustee

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

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

INCOME

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

Rental income is recognised in line with the periods to which such income relates, up to the extent that is probable that such income is recoverable. Where recoverability of rental income is in doubt, such income is instead recognised on a cash basis.

The Charities SORP states that where the conditions attached to a grant are within the charity's control and there is sufficient evidence those conditions may be met, then the incoming resources should be recognised as incoming resource. Where uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet conditions within its control, the grant should be deferred as a liability until certainty exists that the conditions imposed can be met.

EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

RAISING FUNDS

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Charitable activities costs include all the costs of running the charity on a day to day basis including premises costs.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 10% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £100 are not capitalised.

TAXATION

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

FUND ACCOUNTING

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

DONATED SERVICES

Donated facilities and services when received, provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably, on the basis of the value that the charity would pay in the open market for an alternative item that would provide a benefit to the charity equivalent to the donated service. Where the value of the gift cannot be measured reliably, no provision is included within the accounts.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised when the charity becomes party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts where there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic Financial Assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Basic Financial Liabilities

Basic Financial liabilities, including trade and other payables, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of future receipts, discounted at a market rate of interest. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of the operations from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction cost.

UNLISTED INVESTMENTS

Unlisted investments are recorded at cost less provisions for impairment.

OPERATING LEASES

Operating lease expenditure is recognised on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fundraising and sponsorship	1,275	130
Rent	7,506	2,271
Sale of goods	574	289
	<u>9,355</u>	<u>2,690</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Interest on investment	<u>1,163</u>	<u>425</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2023 Charitable Activities	2022 Total activities
	£	£
Membership fees	15,297	9,902
ASPIE AVENGERS football team	5,457	7,824
Counselling fees	5,260	8,034
	<u>26,014</u>	<u>25,760</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £
Charitable Activities	
	<u>81,064</u>

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation - owned assets	2,603	1,960
Independent examiner's fees	2,502	2,382
Other accountancy fees not in relation to independent examination	61	49
	<u>5,166</u>	<u>4,391</u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No trustee has received any remuneration in connection with the duties of a trustee.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

One trustee has been reimbursed expenses of £60 during the year for computer software (2022: None).

8. STAFF COSTS

The charity had no employees in the year (2022 - Nil) and as a result there were no staff costs.

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	24,141	6,939	31,080
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	14,082	11,678	25,760
Other trading activities	2,690	-	2,690
Investment income	425	-	425
Total	<u>41,338</u>	<u>18,617</u>	<u>59,955</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	623	-	623

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	31,033	42,057	73,090
Total	<u>31,656</u>	<u>42,057</u>	<u>73,713</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	9,682	(23,440)	(13,758)
Transfers between funds	4,566	(4,566)	-
Net movement in funds	<u>14,248</u>	<u>(28,006)</u>	<u>(13,758)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	118,073	44,633	162,706
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>132,321</u>	<u>16,627</u>	<u>148,948</u>

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st January 2023	9,212	6,641	15,853
Additions	256	2,320	2,576
At 31st December 2023	<u>9,468</u>	<u>8,961</u>	<u>18,429</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2023	5,665	4,484	10,149
Charge for year	754	1,849	2,603
At 31st December 2023	<u>6,419</u>	<u>6,333</u>	<u>12,752</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2023	<u>3,049</u>	<u>2,628</u>	<u>5,677</u>
At 31st December 2022	<u>3,547</u>	<u>2,157</u>	<u>5,704</u>

11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Unlisted investment bonds £
COST LESS IMPAIRMENT	
At 1st January 2023	42,377
Additions	957
At 31st December 2023	<u>43,334</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2023	<u>43,334</u>
At 31st December 2022	<u>42,377</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	340
Prepayments	702	627
Accrued income	10,756	175
	<u>11,458</u>	<u>1,142</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deposits held	-	1,625
Accrued expenses	2,502	2,662
	<u>2,502</u>	<u>4,287</u>

14. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Within one year	<u>16,667</u>	<u>15,834</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.23	Net	Transfers	At
	£	movement	between	31.12.23
		in funds	funds	£
		£	£	
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	74,821	1,342	(13,930)	62,233
Counselling Fund	27,500	-	1,250	28,750
Future Plans Fund	30,000	-	15,000	45,000
	<u>132,321</u>	<u>1,342</u>	<u>2,320</u>	<u>135,983</u>
Restricted funds				
Computer & Equipment	501	2,345	(2,320)	526
ASPIE AVENGERS	7,614	4,200	-	11,814
Refurbishment Fund	500	(500)	-	-
Awards For All	-	1,680	-	1,680
Worcester City Council	390	(65)	-	325
Counselling Fund	5,740	1,052	-	6,792
Community Event Fund	45	(45)	-	-
Sports Equipment Fund	1,253	-	-	1,253
Community Support Fund	584	(584)	-	-
	<u>16,627</u>	<u>8,083</u>	<u>(2,320)</u>	<u>22,390</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>148,948</u>	<u>9,425</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>158,373</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	50,735	(49,393)	1,342
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	2,400	(55)	2,345
ASPIE AVENGERS	13,206	(9,006)	4,200
Refurbishment Fund	-	(500)	(500)
Awards For All	10,000	(8,320)	1,680
Worcester City Council	-	(65)	(65)
Counselling Fund	14,760	(13,708)	1,052
Community Event Fund	-	(45)	(45)
Community Support Fund	-	(584)	(584)
	<u>40,366</u>	<u>(32,283)</u>	<u>8,083</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>91,101</u>	<u>(81,676)</u>	<u>9,425</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	118,073	9,682	(52,934)	74,821
Counselling Fund	-	-	27,500	27,500
Future Plans Fund	-	-	30,000	30,000
	<u>118,073</u>	<u>9,682</u>	<u>4,566</u>	<u>132,321</u>
Restricted funds				
Computer & Equipment	672	328	(499)	501
ASPIE AVENGERS	8,004	(390)	-	7,614
Refurbishment Fund	880	(380)	-	500
Worcester City Council	455	(65)	-	390
Counselling Fund	30,122	(24,382)	-	5,740
CCTV Equipment Fund	2,500	-	(2,500)	-
Community Event Fund	2,000	(1,955)	-	45
Sports Equipment Fund	-	2,820	(1,567)	1,253
Community Support Fund	-	584	-	584
	<u>44,633</u>	<u>(23,440)</u>	<u>(4,566)</u>	<u>16,627</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>162,706</u>	<u>(13,758)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>148,948</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	41,338	(31,656)	9,682
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	499	(171)	328
ASPIE AVENGERS	7,824	(8,214)	(390)
Refurbishment Fund	500	(880)	(380)
Worcester City Council	-	(65)	(65)
Counselling Fund	5,974	(30,356)	(24,382)
Community Event Fund	-	(1,955)	(1,955)
Sports Equipment Fund	2,820	-	2,820
Community Support Fund	1,000	(416)	584
	<u>18,617</u>	<u>(42,057)</u>	<u>(23,440)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>59,955</u>	<u>(73,713)</u>	<u>(13,758)</u>

Designated Funds

The Counselling Fund was created to recognise the need for counselling services to be available for ASPIE members for a minimum period of 12 months in the unfortunate situation that ASPIE should ever close.

The Future Plans Fund represents the estimated cost of the individual hired post year-end. It is the aim of the trustees to secure the longevity of ASPIE by creating an employed role to deal with some of the day-to-day management of ASPIE.

Restricted Funds

The Computer and Equipment fund represents grants and donations specifically made for the purchase of computers equipment.

The ASPIE AVENGERS' fund represents grants & sponsorship received to help fund the cost of attending matches and the hiring of training facilities.

The Refurbishment Fund represents a grant received towards internal redecoration and the replacement of older computer equipment.

The Awards for All Fund represents a grant received from The National Lottery Community Fund towards the provision of counselling and running of the premises to provide these services.

The Worcester City Council Fund represents a grant received for new seating in the reception area.

The Counselling Fund represents grants received for the provision of counselling and increased support required following the impacts of the COVID pandemic, and grants received to operate a premises for the provision of these services.

The Community Event Fund represents a grant received from Worcester Lottery to provide a community event.

The Sports Equipment Fund represents grants received for purchase of recreational sports equipment.

The Community Support Fund represents a grant received from the National Grid to continue provision of services over the festive period.

TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

During the year the charity purchased new computer equipment funded from the Computer Equipment Fund. On purchase, the value of the equipment was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds, being £2,320.

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, income received from trustees totalled £1,815 (2022: £1,245). This included donations of £720 (2022: £600), Membership Fees of £1,075 (2022: £520) and Rent of £20 (2022: £125).

ASPIE LIMITED

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants and donations	49,288	30,719
Gift aid	481	361
Donated counselling services	4,800	-
	<u>54,569</u>	<u>31,080</u>
Other trading activities		
Fundraising and sponsorship	1,275	130
Rent	7,506	2,271
Sale of goods	574	289
	<u>9,355</u>	<u>2,690</u>
Investment income		
Interest on investment	1,163	425
Charitable activities		
Membership fees	15,297	9,902
ASPIE AVENGERS football team	5,457	7,824
Counselling fees	5,260	8,034
	<u>26,014</u>	<u>25,760</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>91,101</u>	<u>59,955</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Grant application consultant	612	623
Charitable activities		
Rent, rates & water	21,389	20,870
Insurance	438	491
Heat and light	5,784	6,860
Publicity costs	-	724
Sundries	314	132
Counselling costs	22,788	15,218
Computer and internet costs	1,378	1,273
Repairs and maintenance	2,576	3,339
Depreciation	2,603	1,961
TV licence	159	159
ASPIE Avengers football team	5,546	8,214
Independent examiner's fee	2,563	2,431
Office expenses	3,192	2,896
Event costs	1,046	1,095
Support workers	11,288	7,427
	<u>81,064</u>	<u>73,090</u>
Total resources expended	<u>81,676</u>	<u>73,713</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>9,425</u>	<u>(13,758)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

ASPIE LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1145351

Accounts

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022
for
ASPIE LIMITED**

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

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ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Founded by an Asperger adult, ASPIE was registered as a company limited by guarantee in June 2011 and achieved charity status in January 2012. ASPIE operates as a social, support and therapy group providing vital services and is a lifeline to adults who live with the complexities of Asperger's.

The purpose of the charity is to assist adults with Asperger's (known as Aspies) in the City of Worcester and surrounding areas to lead lives less disabled by the condition by providing an environment in which they are given the opportunity to:

- Gain confidence and improve communication skills.
- Build a network of support in the skills required for independent living.
- Access suitable education and training courses and develop employment application skills.

The aims are to reduce isolation, self-harm, suicide, sectioning and hospitalisation to improve our growing members' quality of life and prospects by increasing their confidence and self-worth through varied activities, workshops and mentoring overseen by a small, dedicated team. In-house autism specific counselling, pre- and post-diagnosis and for a range of other debilitating issues help avert depression and crisis.

Our centre in Worcester is a safe haven where Asperger adults can drop the mask they wear in the outside world and find acceptance, friendship and support to reduce isolation, depression and self-harm and increase their self-worth and confidence to achieve the social inclusion, education and employment opportunities they long for.

Our focus during 2022 continued to be preserving the lives of Asperger adults, not able to make sense of the world in normal times, hit so much harder hit by the pandemic's backlash on the economy / education / employment / lack of care Services, still suffering the after-effects of isolation and disruption caused by the lockdowns and further exacerbated by the cost of living crisis and chaos caused by the NHS, civil service, education and transport strikes.

Immediate Support

We do not have a referral system or waiting list because when someone is highly distressed, they need urgent attention. The support we give, whether it's at ASPIE in person or online is immediate. With the number of pleas for help from members and families increasing, we worked harder in helping them survive these harrowing times, giving support, hope and motivation for a better future.

Achievement of public benefit

Since 2011 ASPIE has provided vital services and is a lifeline to adults who live with the complexities of Asperger's. They learn or improve social and communication skills, enabling them to move more comfortably through everyday life. Regular attendance preserves life, increases acceptance of their condition, and improves confidence and motivation towards remaining in or returning to education, training, employment and achieving individual and collective goals. The benefit to the individuals themselves, their families and society, from increased numbers in employment and reduced NHS costs because of the services we provided is immeasurable.

The trustees confirm that the charity has complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance on public benefit when reviewing its aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

What is Asperger's

Asperger's, part of the autistic spectrum is a high anxiety, lifelong condition. It is a neurological difference. People with Asperger's process information differently, think differently and learn differently frequently leading to being misunderstood, isolated and disadvantaged, missing out in education and employment opportunities because they are different. Additional difficulties are the co-occurring conditions, such as depression, dyspraxia, dyslexia, OCD etc., and the sensory issues which impede their daily functioning and quality of life.

'Aspie' is an affectionate name for a person with Asperger's.

Because Aspies are different (unable to communicate easily, sometimes seeming awkward, difficult and clumsy) they often encounter numerous problems and are usually bullied throughout childhood, teens and beyond. Many have never been able to 'fit in', - not always realising why they are different. The result is they become withdrawn and isolated - unable to cope with everyday living even though they are intelligent and long for acceptance, employment and independent living.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Autism Act 2009

The Autism Act 2009 was the first ever disability-specific law recognising the needs of adults on the autistic spectrum and their families. The implementation of the act however by local authorities and health bodies in providing adequate and appropriate services is still slow, with little understanding of the complexities of Asperger's, the co-occurring conditions that accompany it and the sensory issues which make life extremely difficult for those with the condition.

There is a disappointing lack of understanding of the effort and immense courage it takes adults with Asperger's to cope in what is, to them, an alien world, but who can, with appropriate support, make a valuable contribution to society.

Professor Simon Baron-Cohen Director of Cambridge University's Autism Research Centre "Adults with Asperger Syndrome often suffer secondary depression due to social isolation, loneliness, social exclusion, lack of community services, under-achievement and unemployment. Their depression and risk of suicide are preventable with the appropriate support. This study should be a wakeup call for the urgent need for high quality services to prevent the tragic waste of even a single life'.

www.cam.ac.uk/research/news/adults-with-asperger-syndrome-at-greater-risk-of-suicidal-thoughts

In normal times research shows:

- One person in 45 thought to be on the autistic spectrum.
- 79% of people on the autistic spectrum feel socially isolated.
- **Many people with autism will not reach their 40th birthday.**
- People with autism without a learning disability are 9 times more likely to die by suicide than the general public.
- Autistic women are 13 times more likely to die by suicide.
- **Only 16% of people on the autistic spectrum are in full-time paid employment.**
- Graduates with a social/ASD condition are less likely to be in permanent employment.
- **At all levels, graduates with a social/ASD condition are most likely to be carrying out voluntary work.**

There are currently around 130,000 people awaiting an assessment!

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/autism-diagnosis-wait-delays-nhs-patients-b2318470.html>

Diagnosis is vital to those in crisis. It enables adults with the condition to understand why they are as they are and is a passport to better health, social inclusion, improved employment prospects and supported living. To some the diagnosis is a relief, others can take longer to come to terms with it and some resent the diagnosis.

The NHS provider of adult autism diagnosis for Worcestershire and Herefordshire is now concentrating on the 14 month backlog and no longer provide support to adults to help them understand their diagnosis. The newly commissioned support service refers people to us for our autism specific counselling.

Long waiting lists can significantly impact on both the individual and their family's ability to function normally, and the incident of mental health and relationship issues developing is high. For the individual, these issues can manifest themselves in several ways, for example, poor sleeping patterns, interrupted learning, disordered eating, social isolation, depression, and suicidal ideation.

ASPIE's in-house psychological service and counselling and other services provide support and understanding to enable members and their families to cope.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Membership

Facing an increased demand for our services from members and from individuals and families directed to us by the diagnostic service, the NHS, Mental Health Teams, Crisis teams, Healthy Minds, GPs, social workers etc., we continued our two strands of operation - opening face-to-face twice weekly with an average of 60 members (not all the same ones) aged 18 to 77 from all over Worcestershire and the West Midlands attending.

Our second strand, Online ASPIE had 130 members in touch daily. Counselling and mentoring support continued online for those too vulnerable to leave their homes, not able to access other services because many are still not up and running, or unable to get to ASPIE for face-to-face consultations because of work or study commitments.

How have we supported our members this year?

We opened every Wednesday 1-9 and Saturday afternoons 1-5 for socialising, playing board games, card games, poker. etc., and eating together, all designed to encourage engagement and improve social and interacting skills. It is the reassurance that we will be here, same time, same place, same people and the laidback environment which banishes debilitating anxiety so allowing members to breathe, socialize and do things together with like-minded others.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

We improved social and communication skills of Asperger adults by increasing their understanding of the neurotypical world, what comes naturally to neurotypicals and not aspies, what it's OK to say and do, realising the consequences of their actions, learning to allocate priorities and managing time, personal care and because of their vulnerability, avoiding exploitation etc., - all designed to help them cope better with relationships and everyday living.

We provided trauma intervention work via the use of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy following the Tony Attwood model, Emotional Freedom Techniques and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for members, parents', spouses, partners with a focus on anxiety reduction and developing coping mechanisms as preventative measures against depression and worse and family breakdown.

We expanded Members' horizons by networking with Worcestershire County Council, Worcester City Council, The Family Psychologist, provider of the adult Asperger diagnostic service, Worcester Community Trust, The Princes Trust, UK Cyber Security Forum, Autism West Midlands, and enlightened local employers who collectively provide courses on volunteering, training, back-to-work skills and employment; Worcestershire Football Association and Disability Sport Worcester; Sanctuary and Advance Housing for independent living skills.

We met the increased demand from members and non-members for therapy and guidance through the confusion and psychological damage caused by lockdown's cocktail of enforced isolation, delays in diagnosis, job losses, loss of homes, benefits holdups, medication mix-ups, family breakdowns, bereavements and other traumas. There's no quick fix, each individual needs ongoing counselling and mentoring tailored to their neurological difference plus step-by-step practical support to overcome each of these challenges.

We alleviated anxiety for many adults on Worcestershire's Adult Autism/Asperger waiting list - diagnosis is vital to those in crisis. It enables adults with the condition to understand why they are as they are and is a passport to better health, social inclusion, improved employment prospect and supported living. To some the diagnosis is a relief, others can take longer to come to terms with it and some resent the diagnosis.

We supported an increasing number of adults who are being diagnosed in their forties, fifties and sixties only just discovering why they are as they are, coming to terms and making sense of what's gone before but so often dealing with the heartache of marriage/partnership breakups, loss of job, the family home and having to start again with little money coming in.

We acted as advocates for our members as a 'go between' or interpreter, providing one-to-one autism specific mentoring in accessing a diagnosis, training and employment opportunities, ironing out employment difficulties, benefits, debt, family breakdowns, sorting out housing, homelessness, tenancy conditions and other problems etc, so preventing and averting crisis. This is a critical service to ensure members are able to maintain their independence.

Our football team ASPIE AVENGERS promoted healthy lifestyle and inclusion, giving Asperger adults the opportunity to play with others who understand them. There are now 24 players in the team. They have won many accolades and repeated their 2018 success in winning the Three Counties Ability Counts League and the Sandwell Inclusion League again this year. We also offered Judo sessions with Worcester Judo Club to improve co-ordination at the same time learning self-defence techniques.

We are still feeling the effects of Covid-19 lockdowns where some members lost their jobs, had to give up their flats and return to live with parents or relatives, far from ideal for them losing their hard-won independence. Many Asperger college and university students already at breaking point struggling to cope with higher education following the disruption to their education from lockdowns, were then disrupted again, this time by staff strikes. We recognised this struggle and:

- Supported Asperger adults experiencing meltdowns, psychotic episodes, eating disorders and suicide attempts.
- Supported members after hospitalisation.
- Supported other adults, employed but off sick, suffering from burnout because of unfair practices by employers.
- Provide emotional support and practical solutions at any time at the end of a phone to Asperger adults and distressed parents/family members/carers, giving them much needed relief, which enables them to carry on coping.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Our Results

The results of ASPIE's existence are heart-warming and adults who throughout life have never been able to 'fit in' continue, even in these difficult times to:

- Report acceptance of themselves and their condition, reduced meltdowns, reduced depression, anxiety and self-harm.
- Have a sense of belonging, something they have never experienced before.
- Take part in ASPIE's varied activities, form friendships and meet up together inside and outside the group.
- Have improved confidence and self-esteem resulting in increased motivation into volunteering, apprenticeships and employment, independent living and enjoying cultural pursuits in the community the rest of us take for granted.
- Learn strategies to overcome resorting to drugs and alcohol and/or becoming victims of crime.
- A member initiated a Halloween party, pizza buffet plus bats, spiders and spiders web decorations, fancy dress and raffle all of which helped to increase his organizational skills.
- The festive period can be very difficult for aspies with the hype, pressure to attend family gatherings with loud and excitable relatives, food they don't fancy and a dislike of hugging by grannies and aunts, so our Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve parties were well attended and great successes - again with buffets, quizzes, pool tournaments etc.

In addition to the above:

- Approximately 30 members were helped to remain in employment.
- Two members had their employment made permanent.
- One has become a Master of Science.
- Another, after completing cyber security training for the neurodiverse has been taken on.

Raising Awareness

It is important to us to raise awareness and understanding of Asperger's and the profile of ASPIE to enable us to reach out to the many more adults and parents in need of support:

- Julia Micklewright attended the Autism Partnership Group meetings at Worcestershire County Council to give Asperger specific input into implementation of statutory guidance under The Autism Act 2009.
- Julia Micklewright delivered training sessions in An Insight into Asperger's to local and further afield organisations.
- The Mayor of Worcester, Cllr Stephen Hodgson chose ASPIE as one of his charities of the year for 2021-2022.
- We had an OPEN DAY at Vesta Tilley House on Saturday 28th May 2022 to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We invited the Mayor and Mayoress of Worcester (who chose us as one of their Mayoral charities). They attended and so did the High Sheriff, Andrew Manning-Cox. Later in the year we received his award for our work in the Community.
- We celebrated our 11th birthday with a party, quizzes and games. Our MP, Robin Walker, sent us a Happy Birthday message circulated on social media.

Summary

ASPIE, independent and maintained without statutory funding, has become a community. Our success is because we are different in that we were founded by the late Sarah Micklewright, diagnosed as an adult with Asperger's who recognized, along with the complexities of the condition, the need to promote the intelligence, focus and decency along with the longing for acceptance, inclusion and employment of adults on the autistic spectrum, the necessity of a permanent base because of their need for constancy and routine and in-house psychological support to repair their shattered lives. Despite her own vulnerability Sarah was fiercely protective of members and encouraged them to aspire to whatever it is they want to achieve in life and not be inhibited by those who do not understand. The sense of belonging this engenders, which many of them have never experienced before, enables them, at their own pace, to get their lives back on track. As an organisation ASPIE 'is virtually if not entirely unique as may be observed from the heartfelt enquiries and pleas for assistance received not only from individuals and families in the Midlands but throughout the UK'.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Unrestricted incoming resources for the year decreased to £41,338 from £45,084. Unrestricted resources expended also decreased, to £31,655 from £32,135. The net unrestricted incoming resources for the year after transfers between funds amounted to £14,248 (2021 - £12,949). The total unrestricted funds carried forward at the year end amounted to £132,321, compared to £118,073 in 2021.

Restricted incoming resources for the year decreased to £18,617 from £77,815, and resources expended increased to £42,057 from £40,850. Net restricted outgoing resources for the year after transfers between funds amounted to £28,006 (2021 - net incoming resources of £36,965). The total restricted fund balances decreased to £16,627 from £44,633.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the trustees to maintain unrestricted free reserves excluding fixed assets at a level sufficient to ensure the operation of the service for a minimum of 4 months.

Unrestricted free reserves (unrestricted funds less tangible fixed assets) at 31 December 2022 amounted to £127,062 (2021 - £116,219).

The trustees were cautious with regards to spending reserves during the Covid-19 pandemic, hence the increased level of reserves from previous years. However, the trustees have reviewed the policy in the year and:

- recognise the importance of the counselling service in particular to members, the trustees also aim to hold sufficient reserves to be able to offer counselling services to members for a period of 12 months. This in the unfortunate event of closure, would allow members to still have some access to support whilst transitioning to a life without ASPIE. Therefore, a new designated fund has been created to recognise this cost of approximately £27,500 a year.
- recognise that a large level of administration and fundraising applications are completed on a voluntary basis by trustees and other helpers, the need for a fixed member of staff to take on this role in the future has been highlighted. This may open up further opportunities for ASPIE's members, such as increased fundraising opportunities allowing more activities to take place and full-time staffing may allow increased opening hours of ASPIE.

With this in mind, free reserves of the charity, excluding funds for a designated purpose, are considered to be £69,562. With budgeted costs for the year ended 31 December 2023 totalling £86,747, the reserves noted only cover 9 months expenditure. Whilst the trustees are grateful for support to date and recognise that their policy is met, highlight that income is lower than it has been for a significant number of years, and the need for increased funding to allow ASPIE to continue its invaluable service for years to come exists.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Future Development

- 1 Expanding and extending our activities and services, to alongside our counselling, repair the ongoing devastating effects of the lockdowns and the chaos of rising costs in fuel, food and other living costs, reduced medical services and transport strikes.
- 2 Expansion of our autism specific counselling and mentoring services to meet the needs of families and individuals directed to us by the NHS, Mental Health Teams, Healthy Minds, The Crisis Team, social prescribers, the NHS and social and support workers.
- 3 Rolling out our unique Autism Awareness Training programme.
- 4 ASPIE members, following training with cyber security expert Dr Emma Philpott and being employed by her company UK Cyber Security Forum CIC having their working hours increased.
- 5 Our football team ASPIE AVENGERS continuing to train and take part in the 3 Counties Ability Counts League and The Sandwell Inclusion League matches.
- 6 We shall continue to seek new ideas and skills particularly in fundraising and events to promote ASPIE and raise awareness and understanding of Asperger's in line with our ethos.

Fundraising Goals

It is of course the aim of the trustees to secure the future for ASPIE to enable it to continue providing its invaluable service for many years to come. At present trustees are exploring funding options to create a full-time position to assist with the day-to-day management of the charity and allow ASPIE to continue to develop and provide the best support for its members. A designated fund has been created to recognise available funding for this for year one, but further funding to allow this to be a longer-term position is needed to create security for the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its memorandum and articles of association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

The charity is managed by its board of trustees, who are individuals with a direct interest in the provision of services for adults with Asperger's Syndrome, or who have the skills to assist them. They meet every three months.

ASPIE LIMITED

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The trustees regularly undertake risk assessments and have identified the major risk areas for the charity within finances, staffing, premises, health and safety, legal issues, publicity, systems and standards. Procedures have been established to manage these risks and these are periodically reviewed to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

The charity carried public liability insurance.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07666773 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1145351

Registered office

Vesta Tilley House
Lowesmoor
Worcestershire
WR1 2RS

Trustees

Mrs J E Micklewright BEM
Miss E Green
Mr R Allsup
Mrs E J Hawkes (resigned 20.8.22)
Mr K R Norton (appointed 9.11.22)

Company Secretary

Miss E Green

Independent Examiner

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on..... and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mrs J E Micklewright BEM - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
ASPIE LIMITED**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of ASPIE LIMITED ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Rob Richards FCA CTA FCCA

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

Date:

ASPIE LIMITED

**Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	24,141	10,793	34,934	103,926
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable Activities		14,082	7,824	21,906	14,603
Other trading activities	3	2,690	-	2,690	3,877
Investment income	4	425	-	425	493
Total		41,338	18,617	59,955	122,899
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		623	-	623	4,668
Charitable activities	6				
Charitable Activities		31,033	42,057	73,090	68,317
Total		31,656	42,057	73,713	72,985
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		9,682	(23,440)	(13,758)	49,914
Transfers between funds	16	4,566	(4,566)	-	-
Net movement in funds		14,248	(28,006)	(13,758)	49,914
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		118,073	44,633	162,706	112,792
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		132,321	16,627	148,948	162,706

The notes form part of these financial statements

ASPIE LIMITED

**Balance Sheet
31st December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	5,259	445	5,704	2,534
Investments	12	42,377	-	42,377	41,937
		<u>47,636</u>	<u>445</u>	<u>48,081</u>	<u>44,471</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	1,142	-	1,142	9,417
Cash at bank		87,550	16,462	104,012	114,422
		<u>88,692</u>	<u>16,462</u>	<u>105,154</u>	<u>123,839</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(4,007)	(280)	(4,287)	(5,604)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>84,685</u>	<u>16,182</u>	<u>100,867</u>	<u>118,235</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>132,321</u>	<u>16,627</u>	<u>148,948</u>	<u>162,706</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>132,321</u>	<u>16,627</u>	<u>148,948</u>	<u>162,706</u>
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				132,321	118,073
Restricted funds				16,627	44,633
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>148,948</u>	<u>162,706</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

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

.....
Mrs J E Micklewright BEM - Trustee

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

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

INCOME

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

Rental income is recognised in line with the periods to which such income relates, up to the extent that is probable that such income is recoverable. Where recoverability of rental income is in doubt, such income is instead recognised on a cash basis.

The Charities SORP states that where the conditions attached to a grant are within the charity's control and there is sufficient evidence those conditions may be met, then the incoming resources should be recognised as incoming resource. Where uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet conditions within its control, the grant should be deferred as a liability until certainty exists that the conditions imposed can be met.

EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

RAISING FUNDS

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Charitable activities costs include all the costs of running the charity on a day to day basis including premises costs.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 10% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £100 are not capitalised.

TAXATION

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

FUND ACCOUNTING

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

Financial instruments are recognised when the charity becomes party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts where there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic Financial Assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Basic Financial Liabilities

Basic Financial liabilities, including trade and other payables, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of future receipts, discounted at a market rate of interest. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of the operations from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction cost.

UNLISTED INVESTMENTS

Unlisted investments are recorded at cost less provisions for impairment.

OPERATING LEASES

Operating lease expenditure is recognised on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Grants and donations	34,573	103,550
Gift aid	361	376
	34,934	103,926

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fundraising events	130	78
Rent	2,271	3,575
Sale of goods	289	224
	2,690	3,877

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest on investment	425	493
		

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	Charitable Activities	Total activities
	£	£
Membership fees	9,902	7,292
ASPIE AVENGERS football team	7,824	2,911
Counselling fees	4,180	4,400
	<u>21,906</u>	<u>14,603</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £
Charitable Activities	
	<u>73,090</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	1,960	870
Independent examiner's fees	2,382	2,628
Other accountancy fees not in relation to independent examination	49	49
	<u>49</u>	<u>49</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No trustee has received any remuneration in connection with the duties of a trustee, however one trustee has received remuneration for provision of counselling services as disclosed in note 17.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2022 nor for the year ended 31st December 2021.

9. STAFF COSTS

The charity had no employees in the year (2020 - Nil) and as a result there were no staff costs.

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	29,022	74,904	103,926
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	11,692	2,911	14,603
Other trading activities	3,877	-	3,877
Investment income	493	-	493
	<u>45,084</u>	<u>77,815</u>	<u>122,899</u>
Total			

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	4,668	-	4,668
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	27,467	40,850	68,317
Total	<u>32,135</u>	<u>40,850</u>	<u>72,985</u>
NET INCOME	12,949	36,965	49,914
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	105,124	7,668	112,792
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>118,073</u>	<u>44,633</u>	<u>162,706</u>

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st January 2022	7,316	3,407	10,723
Additions	1,896	3,234	5,130
At 31st December 2022	<u>9,212</u>	<u>6,641</u>	<u>15,853</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2022	4,782	3,407	8,189
Charge for year	883	1,077	1,960
At 31st December 2022	<u>5,665</u>	<u>4,484</u>	<u>10,149</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2022	<u>3,547</u>	<u>2,157</u>	<u>5,704</u>
At 31st December 2021	<u>2,534</u>	-	<u>2,534</u>

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Unlisted investment bonds £
COST LESS IMPAIRMENT	
At 1st January 2022	41,937
Additions	440
At 31st December 2022	<u>42,377</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2022	<u>42,377</u>
At 31st December 2021	<u>41,937</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	340	-
Prepayments	627	637
Accrued income	175	8,780
	<u>1,142</u>	<u>9,417</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deposits held	1,625	1,625
Accrued expenses	2,662	3,979
	<u>4,287</u>	<u>5,604</u>

15. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Within one year	<u>15,834</u>	<u>15,833</u>

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.12.22
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	118,073	9,682	(52,934)	74,821
Counselling Fund	-	-	27,500	27,500
Future Plans Fund	-	-	30,000	30,000
	<u>118,073</u>	<u>9,682</u>	<u>4,566</u>	<u>132,321</u>
Restricted funds				
Computer & Equipment	672	328	(499)	501
ASPIE AVENGERS	8,004	(390)	-	7,614
Refurbishment Fund	880	(380)	-	500
Worcester City Council	455	(65)	-	390
Counselling Fund	30,122	(24,382)	-	5,740
CCTV Equipment Fund	2,500	-	(2,500)	-
Community Event Fund	2,000	(1,955)	-	45
Sports Equipment Fund	-	2,820	(1,567)	1,253
Community Support Fund	-	584	-	584
	<u>44,633</u>	<u>(23,440)</u>	<u>(4,566)</u>	<u>16,627</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>162,706</u>	<u>(13,758)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>148,948</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	41,338	(31,656)	9,682
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	499	(171)	328
ASPIE AVENGERS	7,824	(8,214)	(390)
Refurbishment Fund	500	(880)	(380)
Worcester City Council	-	(65)	(65)
Counselling Fund	5,974	(30,356)	(24,382)
Community Event Fund	-	(1,955)	(1,955)
Sports Equipment Fund	2,820	-	2,820
Community Support Fund	1,000	(416)	584
	<u>18,617</u>	<u>(42,057)</u>	<u>(23,440)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>59,955</u>	<u>(73,713)</u>	<u>(13,758)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	105,124	12,949	118,073
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	1,054	(382)	672
ASPIE AVENGERS	2,194	5,810	8,004
Refurbishment Fund	880	-	880
Worcester City Council	520	(65)	455
Counselling Fund	3,020	27,102	30,122
CCTV Equipment Fund	-	2,500	2,500
Community Event Fund	-	2,000	2,000
	<u>7,668</u>	<u>36,965</u>	<u>44,633</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>112,792</u>	<u>49,914</u>	<u>162,706</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	45,084	(32,135)	12,949
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	1	(383)	(382)
ASPIE AVENGERS	15,932	(10,122)	5,810
Worcester City Council	-	(65)	(65)
Counselling Fund	57,382	(30,280)	27,102
CCTV Equipment Fund	2,500	-	2,500
Community Event Fund	2,000	-	2,000
	<u>77,815</u>	<u>(40,850)</u>	<u>36,965</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>122,899</u>	<u>(72,985)</u>	<u>49,914</u>

Designated Funds

The Counselling Fund was created in the year to recognise the need for counselling services to be available for ASPIE members for a minimum period of 12 months in the unfortunate situation that ASPIE should ever close.

The Future Plans Fund was formed in the year to provide for an estimated one-year salary cost of a full-time administrator/ fundraiser for the charity. It is the aim of the trustees to secure the longevity of ASPIE by creating an employed role to deal with some of the day-to-day management of ASPIE.

Restricted Funds

The Computer and Equipment fund represents grants and donations specifically made for the purchase of computers equipment.

The ASPIE AVENGERS' fund represents grants & sponsorship received to help fund the cost of attending matches and the hiring of training facilities.

The Refurbishment Fund represents a grant received towards internal redecoration and the replacement of older computer equipment.

The Worcester City Council Fund represents a grant received for new seating in the reception area.

The Counselling Fund represents grants received for the provision of counselling and increased support required following the impacts of the COVID pandemic, and grants received to operate a premises for the provision of these services.

The Community Event Fund represents a grant received from Worcester Lottery to provide a community event.

The CCTV Fund represents a grant received from the Rowlands Trust to purchase capital equipment.

The Sports Equipment Fund represents grants received for purchase of recreational sports equipment.

The Community Support Fund represents a grant received from the National Grid to continue provision of services over the festive period.

TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

During the year the charity purchased a pool table funded from the Sports Equipment Fund. On purchase, the value of the equipment was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds, being £1,567.

During the year the charity purchased CCTV equipment funded from the CCTV Fund. On purchase, the value of the equipment was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds, being £2,500.

During the year the charity purchased Printer/Scanning equipment funded from the Computer and Equipment Fund. On purchase, the value of the equipment was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds, being £499.

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS - continued

The total transfers from restricted funds to unrestricted funds being £4,566.

During the year two new designated funds were formed as noted in the funds note above, to create these funds (Counselling Fund and Future Plans Fund) £57,500 was transferred from unrestricted to designated funds.

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Mrs E J Hawkes, who was a trustee of the charity for the period until 31 August 2022, received £10,744 (2021: £12,723) during the 8 months to the end of August 2022, in respect of services provided as a counsellor.

During the year, income received from trustees totalled £1,245 (2021: £1,019). This included donations of £600 (2021: £720), Membership Fees of £520 (2021: £299) and Rent of £125 (2021: £0).

ASPIE LIMITED

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

	2022 £	2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants and donations	34,573	103,550
Gift aid	361	376
	34,934	103,926
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	130	78
Rent	2,271	3,575
Sale of goods	289	224
	2,690	3,877
Investment income		
Interest on investment	425	493
Charitable activities		
Membership fees	9,902	7,292
ASPIE AVENGERS football team	7,824	2,911
Counselling fees	4,180	4,400
	21,906	14,603
Total incoming resources	59,955	122,899
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Grant application consultant	623	4,668
Charitable activities		
Rent, rates & water	20,870	20,995
Insurance	491	222
Heat and light	6,860	4,059
Telephone	-	50
Publicity costs	724	109
Sundries	132	94
Professional fees	22,645	21,933
Computer and internet costs	1,273	1,144
Repairs and maintenance	3,339	3,278
Depreciation	1,961	870
TV licence	159	159
ASPIE Avengers football team	8,214	10,122
Independent examiner's fee	2,431	2,677
Office expenses	2,896	2,605
Event costs	1,095	-
	73,090	68,317
Total resources expended	73,713	72,985
Net (expenditure)/income	(13,758)	49,914

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

ASPIE LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1145351

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07666773 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1145351

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021
for
ASPIE LIMITED

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

ASPIE LIMITED

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

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ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Background

Asperger's Syndrome, part of the autistic spectrum is a high anxiety, lifelong condition. It is a neurological difference. People with Asperger's process information differently, think differently and learn differently frequently leading to being misunderstood, isolated and disadvantaged, missing out in education and employment opportunities because they are different. Additional difficulties are the accompanying co-occurring conditions, such as depression, dyspraxia, dyslexia, OCD etc and the sensory issues which impede their daily functioning and quality of life.

'Aspie' is an affectionate name for a person with Asperger's.

Because people with Asperger's are different (unable to communicate easily, sometimes seeming awkward, difficult and clumsy) they often encounter numerous problems and are usually bullied throughout childhood, teens and beyond. Many have never been able to fit in, not always realising why they are different. The result is they become withdrawn and isolated - unable to cope with everyday living even though they are intelligent and long for acceptance, employment and independent living.

The Autism Act 2009 was the first ever disability-specific law recognising the needs of adults on the autistic spectrum and their families but implementation of the act by local authorities and health bodies in providing adequate and appropriate services is slow with little understanding of the complexities of Asperger's, the co-occurring conditions that accompany it, plus the sensory issues which make life extremely difficult for those with the condition. There is a disappointing lack of understanding of the effort and immense courage it takes adults with Asperger's to cope in what is, to them, an alien world.

Although not intrinsically associated with Asperger's, mental health issues are very common. Adults with Asperger's often suffer secondary depression due to bullying, social isolation, loneliness, social exclusion, lack of understanding in society, vulnerability, lack of community services, underachievement, unemployment and underemployment. A 2016 study has also shown that people on the autistic spectrum who do not have a learning disability are 9 times more likely to die by suicide than the general population. Mental health consequences of the Covid-19 crisis including suicidal behaviour are likely to be present for a long time and peak later than the actual pandemic.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The purpose of the charity is to assist adults with Asperger's (known as Aspies) in the City of Worcester and surrounding areas to lead lives less disabled by the condition by providing an environment in which they are given the opportunity to:

- Gain confidence and improve communication skills
- Build a network of support in the skills required for independent living
- Access suitable education and training courses and develop employment application skills

The aims are to reduce isolation, self-harm, suicide, sectioning and hospitalisation to improve the quality of life and prospects of our growing membership by increasing their confidence and self-worth through varied activities, workshops and mentoring overseen by a small, dedicated team. Immediate inhouse autism specific counselling, pre and post-diagnosis and for a range of other debilitating issues help avert depression and crisis.

Achievement of public benefit

Adults with Asperger's are encouraged to learn or improve social and communication skills, enabling them to move more comfortably through everyday life. Regular attendance at the group has shown to lead to reduced isolation, anxiety, depression and self-harm and increased acceptance of their condition, confidence and motivation towards remaining in or returning to education, training, employment and achieving individual and collective goals. The benefit to the individuals themselves, their families and society as a whole, is immeasurable.

ASPIE recognises the vulnerability of adults with Asperger's and is dedicated to supporting members from Worcester and surrounding areas by providing a safe, permanent and relaxed environment with a variety of self-led activities, courses and consultations overseen by a small, dedicated team. This reduces their isolation and instils for the first time a sense of social belonging and inclusion that is vital for emotional wellbeing and survival. Without a sense of belonging, depression and loss of self-worth are intensified depleting motivation and ability to fulfil one's basic needs.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

2021 was quite an eventful year for ASPIE. The Mayor of Worcester, Cllr Stephen Hodgson chose us as one of his charities and our Chair, Julia Micklewright was awarded the BEM for Services to People with Asperger's, both invaluable in raising the profile of ASPIE and awareness of Asperger's. And we celebrated our 10th birthday in September. With Covid restrictions still in place and subject to change, we arranged a low-key birthday celebration, Tenpin bowling at Perdisswell Leisure Centre. Twenty-five of us attended, important in helping everyone to feel confident out in the community and enjoyed by all of us. A skittles and darts buffet was arranged at Christmas with similar numbers attending.

We were also faced with the shock of finding new premises, not easy when we need several rooms for various activities, counselling rooms, a comfortable atmosphere and essentially based in the centre of Worcester for easy access from all parts of the UK.

After casting our net far and wide we did it. We found Vesta Tilley House. It was a big task, preparing members to cope with change, the actual move and getting everything sorted out but we all worked together, finishing the last week in October in Sansome Walk and opening the next in Vesta Tilley House. There's still stuff to do here but it's working and having a lot more space and bigger rooms means more members can be with each other or find smaller spaces for art, music and other interests and a quiet room in which to chill. We benefit from being closer to Worcester Judo Club and to KGV where ASPIE AVENGERS FC train, and different eateries for a variety of cuisines!

We continued our two strands of operation opening face-to-face every Wednesday 1-9pm and Saturday afternoons 1-5pm (including Boxing Day because it was a Saturday) with an average of 50 members (not all the same ones) aged 18 to 77 from all over Worcestershire and the West Midlands attending on Wednesdays. Our Saturday afternoons are not so well attended but there is a need as weekends can be very difficult for those who live alone.

Our second strand, Online ASPIE had 78 members in touch daily. Counselling and mentoring support continued online for those too vulnerable to leave their homes, not able to access services because many are still not up and running, or unable to get to ASPIE for face-to-face consultations because of work or study commitments.

At all times our focus was continuing to support, face to face and online, increasing numbers of adults and their families seeking us out for our autism specific services and crisis counselling to get them through the bewilderment and damage caused by the aftereffects of Covid's isolation and restriction of freedom.

Activities included:

- " Weekly social, support and therapy Group where members aged 18+ from all walks of life can meet with other adults with the condition, share experiences and find friendship and acceptance.
- " Meeting increased demand from members and non-members for therapy and guidance through the confusion and psychological damage caused by lockdown's cocktail of enforced isolation, delays in diagnosis, job losses, loss of homes, benefit holdups, medication mix-ups, family breakups, bereavements and other traumas. There's no quick fix, each individual needs ongoing counselling and mentoring tailored to their neurological difference plus step-by-step practical support to overcome each of these challenges.
- " Improving social and communication skills of Asperger adults by increasing their understanding of the neurotypical world, what comes naturally to neurotypicals and not aspies, what it's OK to say and do, realising the consequences of their actions, learning to allocate priorities and managing time, personal care and because of their vulnerability, avoiding exploitation etc., - all designed to help them cope better with relationships and everyday living.
- " Trauma intervention work via the use of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy following the Tony Attwood model, Emotional Freedom Techniques and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for members, parents' spouses, partners with a focus on anxiety reduction and developing coping mechanisms as preventative measures against depression and worse and family breakdown.
- " Alleviating anxiety for many adults on Worcestershire's Asperger diagnosis waiting list. Diagnosis is vital to those in crisis. It enables adults with the condition to understand why they are as they are and is a passport to better health, social inclusion, improved employment prospects and supported living. To some the diagnosis is a relief, others can take longer to come to terms with it and some resent the diagnosis. ASPIE's in-house psychological service and counselling services provide support and understanding to enable members and their families to cope and learn to adjust at home and in the workplace.
- " Supporting more Asperger college and university students at breaking point struggling to cope with higher education, still having to pay for tuition but not receiving the tuition they expected and paying for accommodation they are not able to live in.
- " Supporting Asperger adults experiencing meltdowns, psychotic episodes, eating disorders and suicide attempts because in lockdown they lost their jobs, had to give up their flats and return to live with parents, far from ideal for them losing their hard-won independence and not ideal for families dysfunctional before Covid-19!
- " Supporting the increasing number of adults being diagnosed in their forties, fifties and sixties only just discovering why they are as they are, coming to terms and making sense of what's gone before but so often dealing with the heartache of marriage/partnership breakups, loss of job, the family home and having to start again with little money coming in.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

" Expanding Members' horizons networking with Worcestershire County Council, Worcester City Council, The Family Psychologist, provider of the adult Asperger diagnostic service; Worcester Community Trust, The Princes Trust, UK Cyber Security Forum and enlightened local employers who provide courses on volunteering, training, back to work skills and employment; Worcestershire Football Association and Disability Sport Worcester; Sanctuary and Advance Housing for independent living skills.

" Advocacy because our members think and communicate rather stiltedly, they often have difficulty when dealing with outside services whose frontline staff have had no specific training in Asperger awareness. To help members towards the independence they long for, we, by acting as a go between or interpreter, provide one-to-one autism specific mentoring in accessing a diagnosis, training and employment opportunities, ironing out employment difficulties, benefits, debt, sorting out housing, homelessness, tenancy conditions and other problems etc so preventing depression and averting crisis.

" Sport our football team ASPIE AVENGERS to promote healthy lifestyle and inclusion, giving young Asperger adults the opportunity to play with others who understand them. They have previously won many accolades playing in the Three Counties Ability Counts League and the Sandwell Inclusion League. Judo sessions with Worcester Judo Club to improve co-ordination plus learning self-defence techniques.

" Emotional support and practical solutions are available at any time at the end of a 'phone to Asperger adults, distressed parents/family members/carers giving much needed relief which enables them to carry on coping.

We do not have a referral system or waiting list because when someone is highly distressed, they need urgent attention. The support we give, whether it's at ASPIE in person or online is immediate. With the number of pleas for help from members and families increasing our focus is in helping them survive these harrowing times and giving support, hope and motivation for a better future.

The results of ASPIE's existence are heart-warming and adults who throughout life have never been able to 'fit in' continue, even in these difficult times to:

- " Report acceptance of themselves and their condition, reduced meltdowns, reduced depression, anxiety and self-harm
- " Have a sense of belonging, something they have never experienced before
- " Take part in ASPIE's varied activities, form friendships and meet up together inside and outside the group
- " Have improved confidence and self-esteem resulting in increased motivation into volunteering, apprenticeships and employment, independent living and enjoying cultural pursuits in the community the rest of us take for granted
- " Learn strategies to overcome resorting to drugs and alcohol and/or becoming victims of crime

ASPIE, independent and maintained without statutory funding, has become a community. Our success is because we are different in that we were founded by the late Sarah Micklewright, diagnosed as an adult with Asperger's who recognized, along with the complexities of the condition, the need to promote the intelligence, focus and decency along with the longing for acceptance, inclusion and employment of adults on the autistic spectrum, the necessity of a permanent base because of their need for constancy and routine and in-house psychological support to repair their shattered lives. Despite her own vulnerability Sarah was fiercely protective of members and encouraged them to aspire to whatever it is they want to achieve in life and not be inhibited by those who do not understand. The sense of belonging this engenders, which many of them have never experienced before, enables them, at their own pace, to get their lives back on track. As an organisation ASPIE 'is virtually if not entirely unique as may be observed from the heartfelt enquiries and pleas for assistance received not only from individuals and families in the Midlands but throughout the UK'.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Unrestricted incoming resources for the year decreased to £45,084 from £63,851. Unrestricted resources expended also decreased, to £32,135 from £45,208. The net incoming resources for the year amounted to £12,949 (2020 - £18,643). The total unrestricted funds carried forward at the year end amounted to £118,073, compared to £105,124 in 2020.

Restricted incoming resources for the year increased to £77,815 from £12,770, and resources expended also increased to £40,850 from £12,930. Net restricted incoming resources for the year amounted to £36,965 (2020 - net outgoing resources of £160). The total restricted fund balances increased to £44,633 from £7,668.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the trustees to maintain unrestricted free reserves excluding fixed assets at a level sufficient to ensure the operation of the service for a minimum of 4 months. Unrestricted free reserves at 31 December 2021 amounted to £74,282 (2020 - £62,388), representing 12.21 months (2020 - 12.88 months expenditure) based on the figures for the year ended 31 December 2021. The trustees have been cautious with regards to spending reserves during the covid-19 pandemic, hence the high free reserves at year end. The trustees will assess the position of the charity once the full effects of the pandemic is known and will adjust reserves policy accordingly.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

- 1 Expanding and extending our activities for our growing membership in our larger premises to repair the long-lasting effects of Covid-19's enforced isolation and restrictions
- 2 Expansion of our autism specific counselling and mentoring services to meet the needs of families and individuals unable to access vital support and therapy from local authorities, the NHS, Mental Health Teams, Healthy Minds, The Crisis Team, social prescribers, and social and support workers
- 3 Rolling out our unique Autism Awareness Training programme
- 4 ASPIE members, following training with cyber security expert Dr Emma Philpott and being employed by her company UK Cyber Security Forum CIC will have their working hours increased. A new training programme starts in March 2022.
- 5 Our football team ASPIE AVENGERS continuing to train and take part in the 3 Counties Ability Counts League and the Sandwell Inclusion League matches
- 6 We shall continue to seek new ideas and skills particularly in fundraising and events to promote ASPIE and raise awareness and understanding of Asperger's in line with our ethos

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its memorandum and articles of association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

The charity is managed by its board of trustees, who are individuals with a direct interest in the provision of services for adults with Asperger's Syndrome, or who have the skills to assist them. They meet on average every six weeks.

Risk management

The trustees regularly undertake risk assessments and have identified the major risk areas for the charity within finances, staffing, premises, health and safety, legal issues, publicity, systems and standards. Procedures have been established to manage these risks and these are periodically reviewed to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

The charity carried public liability insurance.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07666773 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1145351

Registered office

Vesta Tilley House
Lowesmoor
Worcestershire
WR1 2RS

Trustees

Mrs J E Micklewright BEM
Miss E Green
Mr R Allsup
Mrs E J Hawkes (resigned 20.8.22)

Company Secretary

Miss E Green

Independent Examiner

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

ASPIE LIMITED

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

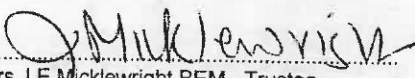
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that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

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

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10/9/2022..... and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Mrs J E Micklewright BEM - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
ASPIE LIMITED**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of ASPIE LIMITED ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

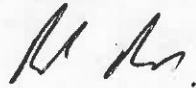
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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



Rob Richards FCA CTA FCCA
The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

Date: 21/9/2022

ASPIE LIMITED

**Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	29,022	74,904	103,926	55,081
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		11,692	2,911	14,603	6,362
Other trading activities	3	3,877	-	3,877	13,951
Investment income	4	493	-	493	654
Other income	6	-	-	-	573
Total		<u>45,084</u>	<u>77,815</u>	<u>122,899</u>	<u>76,621</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		4,668	-	4,668	-
Charitable activities	7				
Charitable Activities		27,467	40,850	68,317	58,138
Total		<u>32,135</u>	<u>40,850</u>	<u>72,985</u>	<u>58,138</u>
NET INCOME		12,949	36,965	49,914	18,483
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		105,124	7,668	112,792	94,309
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>118,073</u>	<u>44,633</u>	<u>162,706</u>	<u>112,792</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

ASPIE LIMITED

**Balance Sheet
31st December 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	1,854	680	2,534	2,404
Investments	13	41,937	-	41,937	41,460
		<u>43,791</u>	<u>680</u>	<u>44,471</u>	<u>43,864</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	14	826	8,591	9,417	3,649
Cash at bank and in hand		79,060	35,362	114,422	68,704
		<u>79,886</u>	<u>43,953</u>	<u>123,839</u>	<u>72,353</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(5,604)	-	(5,604)	(3,425)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>74,282</u>	<u>43,953</u>	<u>118,235</u>	<u>68,928</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>118,073</u>	<u>44,633</u>	<u>162,706</u>	<u>112,792</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>118,073</u>	<u>44,633</u>	<u>162,706</u>	<u>112,792</u>
FUNDS	17				
Unrestricted funds				118,073	105,124
Restricted funds				44,633	7,668
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>162,706</u>	<u>112,792</u>

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

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

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

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


Mrs E Micklewright BEM - Trustee

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

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

INCOME

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

Rental income is recognised in line with the periods to which such income relates, up to the extent that it is probable that such income is recoverable. Where recoverability of rental income is in doubt, such income is instead recognised on a cash basis.

The Charities SORP states that where the conditions attached to a grant are within the charity's control and there is sufficient evidence those conditions may be met, then the incoming resources should be recognised as incoming resource. Where uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet conditions within its control, the grant should be deferred as a liability until certainty exists that the conditions imposed can be met.

EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

RAISING FUNDS

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Charitable activities costs include all the costs of running the charity on a day to day basis including premises costs.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 10% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £100 are not capitalised.

TAXATION

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

FUND ACCOUNTING

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial instruments are recognised when the charity becomes party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts where there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic Financial Assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Basic Financial Liabilities

Basic Financial liabilities, including trade and other payables, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of future receipts, discounted at a market rate of interest. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of the operations from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction cost.

UNLISTED INVESTMENTS

Unlisted investments are recorded at cost less provisions for impairment.

OPERATING LEASES

Operating lease expenditure is recognised on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Grants and donations	103,550	54,816
Gift aid	376	265
	<u>103,926</u>	<u>55,081</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Fundraising events	78	67
Rent	3,575	13,759
Sale of goods	224	125
	<u>3,877</u>	<u>13,951</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021 £	2020 £
Interest on investment	493	654

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	Charitable	Total
	Activities	activities
	£	£
Membership fees	7,292	4,381
ASPIE AVENGERS football team	2,911	661
Counselling fees	4,400	1,320
	<u>14,603</u>	<u>6,362</u>

6. OTHER INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Miscellaneous income	<u>-</u>	<u>573</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct
	Costs
	£
Charitable Activities	
	<u>68,317</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	870	769
Independent examiner's fees	2,628	2,560
Other accountancy fees not in relation to independent examination	<u>49</u>	<u>49</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No trustee has received any remuneration in connection with the duties of a trustee.

Mrs E J Hawkes, a trustee of the charity received £12,723 (2020: £5,616) during the financial year, in respect of services provided as a counsellor.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2021 nor for the year ended 31st December 2020.

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

10. STAFF COSTS

The charity had no employees in the year (2020 - Nil) and as a result there were no staff costs.

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	42,972	12,109	55,081
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	5,701	661	6,362
Other trading activities	13,951	-	13,951
Investment income	654	-	654
Other income	573	-	573
Total	<u>63,851</u>	<u>12,770</u>	<u>76,621</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	45,208	12,930	58,138
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	18,643	(160)	18,483
Transfers between funds	1,800	(1,800)	-
Net movement in funds	<u>20,443</u>	<u>(1,960)</u>	<u>18,483</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	84,681	9,628	94,309
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>105,124</u>	<u>7,668</u>	<u>112,792</u>

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st January 2021	6,316	3,407	9,723
Additions	1,000	-	1,000
At 31st December 2021	<u>7,316</u>	<u>3,407</u>	<u>10,723</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2021	4,124	3,195	7,319
Charge for year	658	212	870
At 31st December 2021	<u>4,782</u>	<u>3,407</u>	<u>8,189</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2021	<u>2,534</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,534</u>
At 31st December 2020	<u>2,192</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>2,404</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

13. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Unlisted investment bonds £
COST LESS IMPAIRMENT	
At 1st January 2021	41,460
Additions	477
At 31st December 2021	41,937
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2021	41,937
At 31st December 2020	41,460

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other debtors	-	3,250
Prepayments	637	226
Accrued income	8,780	173
	9,417	3,649

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deposits held	1,625	1,625
Accrued expenses	3,979	1,800
	5,604	3,425

16. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Within one year	15,833	-

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	105,124	12,949	118,073
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	1,054	(382)	672
ASPIE AVENGERS	2,194	5,810	8,004
Refurbishment Fund	880	-	880
Worcester City Council	520	(65)	455
COVID - Counselling Fund	3,020	27,102	30,122
CCTV Equipment Fund	-	2,500	2,500
Community Event Fund	-	2,000	2,000
	<u>7,668</u>	<u>36,965</u>	<u>44,633</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>112,792</u>	<u>49,914</u>	<u>162,706</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	45,084	(32,135)	12,949
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	1	(383)	(382)
ASPIE AVENGERS	15,932	(10,122)	5,810
Worcester City Council	-	(65)	(65)
COVID - Counselling Fund	57,382	(30,280)	27,102
CCTV Equipment Fund	2,500	-	2,500
Community Event Fund	2,000	-	2,000
	<u>77,815</u>	<u>(40,850)</u>	<u>36,965</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>122,899</u>	<u>(72,985)</u>	<u>49,914</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	84,681	18,643	1,800	105,124
Restricted funds				
Computer & Equipment	1,436	(382)	-	1,054
ASPIE AVENGERS	2,359	(165)	-	2,194
Refurbishment Fund	1,472	(592)	-	880
The Singer Foundation Fund	1,976	(1,976)	-	-
Awards For All	1,800	-	(1,800)	-
Worcester City Council	585	(65)	-	520
COVID - Counselling Fund	-	3,020	-	3,020
	<u>9,628</u>	<u>(160)</u>	<u>(1,800)</u>	<u>7,668</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>94,309</u>	<u>18,483</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,792</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	63,851	(45,208)	18,643
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	-	(382)	(382)
ASPIE AVENGERS	661	(826)	(165)
Refurbishment Fund	-	(592)	(592)
The Singer Foundation Fund	-	(1,976)	(1,976)
Worcester City Council	-	(65)	(65)
COVID - Counselling Fund	12,109	(9,089)	3,020
	<u>12,770</u>	<u>(12,930)</u>	<u>(160)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>76,621</u>	<u>(58,138)</u>	<u>18,483</u>

The Computer and Equipment fund represents grants and donations specifically made for the purchase of computers equipment.

The ASPIE AVENGERS' fund represents grants & sponsorship received to help fund the cost of attending matches and the hiring of training facilities.

The Refurbishment Fund represents a grant received towards internal redecoration and the replacement of older computer equipment.

The Singers Foundation Fund represented a grant received to cover the costs of an additional team member.

The Awards for All Fund was received for the development of an app, to provide coping mechanisms to ASPIE members when not at ASPIE.

The Worcester City Council Fund represents a grant received for new seating in the reception area.

Covid Additional Counselling Fund represents grants received for the provision of extra counselling during the pandemic.

The Community Fund represents a grant received from Worcester Lottery to provide a community event.

The CCTV Fund represents a grant received from the Rowlands Trust to purchase capital equipment.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

ASPIE LIMITED

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants and donations	103,550	54,816
Gift aid	376	265
	<u>103,926</u>	<u>55,081</u>
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	78	67
Rent	3,575	13,759
Sale of goods	224	125
	<u>3,877</u>	<u>13,951</u>
Investment income		
Interest on investment	493	654
Charitable activities		
Membership fees	7,292	4,381
ASPIE AVENGERS football team	2,911	661
Counselling fees	4,400	1,320
	<u>14,603</u>	<u>6,362</u>
Other income		
Miscellaneous income	-	573
Total incoming resources	<u>122,899</u>	<u>76,621</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Grant application consultant	4,668	
Charitable activities		
Rent, rates & water	20,995	28,693
Insurance	222	844
Heat and light	4,059	2,453
Telephone	50	220
Publicity costs	109	154
Sundries	94	1,258
Professional fees	21,933	13,353
Computer and internet costs	1,144	1,064
Repairs and maintenance	3,278	1,589
Depreciation	870	769
TV licence	159	158
ASPIE Avengers football team	10,122	826
Independent examiner's fee	2,677	2,609
Intercompany loan write off	-	1,698
Office expenses	2,605	2,450
	<u>68,317</u>	<u>58,138</u>
Total resources expended	<u>72,985</u>	<u>58,138</u>
Net income	<u>49,914</u>	<u>18,483</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

ASPIE LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1145351

Accounts

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020
for
ASPIE LIMITED**

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

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**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Background

Asperger's Syndrome, part of the autistic spectrum is a high anxiety, lifelong condition. It is a neurological difference. People with Asperger's process information differently, think differently and learn differently frequently leading to being misunderstood, isolated and disadvantaged, missing out in education and employment opportunities because they are different. Additional difficulties are the accompanying co-occurring conditions, such as depression, dyspraxia, dyslexia, OCD etc and the sensory issues which impede their daily functioning and quality of life.

'Aspie' is an affectionate name for a person with Asperger's.

Because people with Asperger's are different (unable to communicate easily, sometimes seeming awkward, difficult and clumsy) they often encounter numerous problems and are usually bullied throughout childhood, teens and beyond. Many have never been able to 'fit in', not always realising why they are different. The result is they become withdrawn and isolated - unable to cope with everyday living even though they are intelligent and long for acceptance, employment and independent living.

The Autism Act 2009 was the first ever disability-specific law recognising the needs of adults on the autistic spectrum and their families but implementation of the act by local authorities and health bodies in providing adequate and appropriate services is slow with little understanding of the complexities of Asperger's, the co-occurring conditions that accompany it, plus the sensory issues which make life extremely difficult for those with the condition. There is a disappointing lack of understanding of the effort and immense courage it takes adults with Asperger's to cope in what is, to them, an alien world.

Although not intrinsically associated with Asperger's, mental health issues are very common. Adults with Asperger's often suffer secondary depression due to bullying, social isolation, loneliness, social exclusion, lack of understanding in society, vulnerability, lack of community services, underachievement, unemployment and underemployment. A 2016 study has also shown that people on the autistic spectrum who do not have a learning disability are 9 times more likely to die by suicide than the general population.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The purpose of the charity is to assist adults with Asperger's (known as Aspies) in the City of Worcester and surrounding areas to lead lives less disabled by the condition by providing an environment in which they are given the opportunity to:

- Gain confidence and improve communication skills
- Build a network of support in the skills required for independent living
- Access suitable education and training courses and develop employment application skills

The aims are to reduce isolation, self-harm, suicide, sectioning and hospitalisation to improve the quality of life and prospects of our growing membership by increasing their confidence and self-worth through varied activities, workshops and mentoring overseen by a small, dedicated team. Immediate inhouse autism specific counselling, pre and post-diagnosis and for a range of other debilitating issues help avert depression and crisis.

Achievement of public benefit

Adults with Asperger's are encouraged to learn or improve social and communication skills, enabling them to move more comfortably through everyday life. Regular attendance at the group has shown to lead to reduced isolation, anxiety, depression and self-harm and increased acceptance of their condition, confidence and motivation towards remaining in or returning to education, training, employment and achieving individual and collective goals. The benefit to the individuals themselves, their families and society as a whole, is immeasurable.

ASPIE recognises the vulnerability of adults with Asperger's and is dedicated to supporting members from Worcester and surrounding areas by providing a safe, permanent and relaxed environment with a variety of self-led activities, courses and consultations overseen by a small, dedicated team. This reduces their isolation and instils for the first time a sense of social belonging and inclusion that is vital for emotional wellbeing and survival. Without a sense of belonging, depression and loss of self-worth are intensified depleting motivation and ability to fulfil one's basic needs.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Until lockdown we opened **every** Wednesday (even if Christmas Day or Boxing Day) since our launch in 2011 with 40 to 50 members (not all the same ones) aged 18 to 77 from all over Worcestershire and the West Midlands attending. We receive on average 2000 hits a month on our website. Our Saturday afternoons are not so well attended but there is a need as weekends can be very difficult for those who live alone.

Pre Covid-19 our activities included:

- **Weekly Social Group** where members aged 18+ from all walks of life can meet with other adults with the condition, share experiences and find friendship and acceptance.
- **Trauma intervention work** via the use of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy following the Tony Attwood model, Emotional Freedom Techniques and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for members, parents' spouses, partners with a focus on anxiety reduction and developing coping mechanisms as preventative measures against depression and worse and family breakdown.
- **Workshops** in understanding the neurotypical world, what comes naturally to neurotypicals and not aspies, improving social skills, how to avoid exploitation etc.
- **Advocacy** because our members think and communicate rather stiltedly, they often have difficulty when dealing with outside services whose frontline staff have had no specific training in Asperger awareness. To help members towards the independence they long for, we, by acting as a go between or interpreter, provide one-to-one autism specific mentoring in accessing a diagnosis, training and employment opportunities, ironing out employment difficulties, benefits, debt, sorting out housing, homelessness, tenancy conditions and other problems etc so preventing depression and averting crisis.
- **Expanding Members' horizons** networking with The Family Psychologist, provider of the adult Asperger diagnostic service; Worcestershire County Council; Worcester City Council; Worcester Community Trust, The Princes Trust, Remploy and enlightened local employers who provide courses on volunteering, training, back to work skills and employment; Worcestershire Football Association and Disability Sport Worcester; Taking part in University of Central Lancashire autism research.
- Football team **ASPIE AVENGERS** to promote healthy lifestyle and inclusion, giving young Asperger adults the opportunity to play with others who understand them. They have previously won many accolades playing in the Three Counties Ability Counts League and the Sandwell Inclusion League
- Alleviating anxiety for many adults on Worcestershire's Asperger diagnosis waiting list. Diagnosis is vital to those in crisis. It enables adults with the condition to understand why they are as they are and is a passport to better health, social inclusion, improved employment prospects and supported living. To some the diagnosis is a relief, others can take longer to come to terms with it and some resent the diagnosis. ASPIE's in-house psychological service and counselling services provide support and understanding to enable members and their families to cope and learn to adjust.
- Emotional support and practical solutions are available at any time at the end of a 'phone to Asperger adults, distressed parents/family members/carers giving much needed relief which enables them to carry on coping.

The results of ASPIE's existence are heart-warming and adults who throughout life have never been able to 'fit in' continue to:

- Report acceptance of themselves and their condition, reduced meltdowns, reduced depression, anxiety and self-harm
- Have a sense of belonging, something they have never experienced before
- Form friendships and meet up together inside and outside the group
- Have improved confidence and self-esteem resulting in increased motivation into volunteering, apprenticeships and employment and enjoying cultural pursuits in the community the rest of us take for granted
- Learn strategies to overcome resorting to drugs and alcohol and/or becoming victims of crime

Covid-19, however shifted the focus to preserving lives but the complexities difficulties of living with Asperger's didn't disappear. With the arrival of the first lockdown and restrictions, knowing full well that Asperger adults have difficulty in adjusting to change at the best of times, we reassured members that although they would not have the security of being able to meet twice weekly, **ASPIE would continue to provide the friendship, support and sense of belonging which is vital in giving them the motivation to stay alive.** We worked harder than ever (with substantially reduced income from sub-letting, car parking and membership fees) as Online ASPIE, holding members together by telephone, text, email, visual chats so that we could see each other and we created a Members Support Group on our Facebook page where we and members logged on every day to socialise and look after each other, setting up new routines, eating and sleeping patterns, virtual tours, new recipes, all designed to banish dark intrusive thoughts and keep them motivated and afloat until we would all be together again.

The intense and frightening media coverage heightened existing fears and created new ones. The abrupt change to every aspect of daily life has thrown and continues to throw Asperger adults who crave routine and certainty in order to be able to function, into turmoil with some, particularly younger ones, teetering towards the edge.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

We knew that more and more members would need regular one-to-one check-ins to help deal with paralysing anxiety and panic so that they could overcome the inability to focus and free them up to manage the enforced isolation, the loss of the security of not being able to meet their friends at ASPIE or their families (devastating to many who live on their own). Our counsellors (known, liked and trusted by the members which is a huge advantage for adults who are not good with strangers) continued to work with members with prevailing issues at all times, by online telephone, text or video chat counselling.

Issues escalated, fears of catching the virus, problems with education, work, family relationships, being afraid to do essential shopping, not always understanding social distancing and queueing, money worries, lack of food through benefit delays, tenancy problems, chronic pain from co-occurring conditions, disruption of services, not knowing how long they would have to remain in enforced isolation, (ironic as ASPIE's purpose is to reduce isolation) and not knowing how to get through dark nights when fears are overwhelming.

The ease of lockdown allowed us to re-open to provide face to face support and therapy on an appointment basis. (Guidelines etc in place for everyone's safety). Human contact is essential to preserve members' sanity but also invaluable to families in crisis seeking us out, some, where a husband or wife has recently been diagnosed with Asperger's and is coming to terms with understanding themselves, their difference, their difficulties in the workplace and friction at home, learning to adjust, or both parents working from home, juggling with minding small children or home schooling, Asperger children shaken up by being sent to school at different time with different teachers and different time tables, then being sent back home again, all very bewildering leading to meltdowns, eating disorders and psychotic episodes and parents tearing their hair out.

Our Online ASPIE, socialising, counselling and mentoring continues as some members and non-members are in severe mental and physical decline, too intimidated and scared to leave their homes, petrified by the new variants, and not able to access any services because with lockdown came a shutdown and not just in statutory but also some voluntary services.

The support we give, whether it's at ASPIE in person or online is immediate - we do not have a referral system or waiting list because when someone is highly distressed, they need urgent attention. The effects of lockdown are having far reaching effects - huge, long lasting psychological damage to many parts of society from the loneliness, restrictions, lack of freedom, uncertainty and insecurity from job losses, the subsequent homelessness and family breakups as well as to education, health and the economy probably causing more harm than Covid-19 itself. With the number of pleas for help from members and families increasing our focus is in helping them survive these harrowing times and giving support, hope and motivation for a better future.

It is important to us to raise awareness and understanding of Asperger's and the profile of ASPIE to enable us to reach out to the many more adults and parents in need of support:

- Julia Micklewright attended the Autism Partnership Group meetings at Worcestershire County Council to give Asperger specific input into implementation of statutory guidance under The Autism Act 2009.
- Two of our counsellors attended the ASSIST training in Suicide Prevention in February 2020
- Emotional support and practical solutions continued to be available at any time at the end of a 'phone to Asperger adults, distressed parents/family members/carers
- We were visited by the Sheriff of Worcester on 15 August 2020
- Our information was supplied to the new intake of students at Worcester University to help Asperger students avoid the trauma of dropping out
- In the community we were supported by Chestnut Community Action, Waitrose Malvern and Waitrose Droitwich
- Julia Micklewright's services to people with Asperger's to be recognised with a BEM in the New Year's Honours List

ASPIE, independent and maintained without statutory funding, has become a community. Our success is because we are different in that we were founded by the late Sarah Micklewright, diagnosed as an adult with Asperger's who recognized, along with the complexities of the condition, the need to promote the intelligence, focus and decency along with the longing for acceptance, inclusion and employment of adults on the autistic spectrum, the necessity of a permanent base because of their need for constancy and routine and in-house psychological support to repair their shattered lives. Despite her own vulnerability Sarah was fiercely protective of members and encouraged them to aspire to whatever it is they want to achieve in life and not be inhibited by those who do not understand. The sense of belonging this engenders, which many of them have never experienced before, enables them, at their own pace, to get their lives back on track. As an organisation ASPIE 'is virtually if not entirely unique as may be observed from the heartfelt enquiries and pleas for assistance received not only from individuals and families in the Midlands but throughout the UK'.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Unrestricted incoming resources for the year increased to £63,851 from £55,054. Whereas unrestricted resources expended decreased, to £45,208 from £56,587. The net incoming resources for the year amounted to £18,643 (2019 - outgoing resources of £1,533). The total unrestricted funds carried forward at the year end amounted to £105,124, compared to £84,681 in 2019.

Restricted incoming resources for the year decreased to £12,770 from £16,574, and resources expended increased to £12,930 from £11,661. Net restricted outgoing resources for the year amounted to £160 (2019 - net incoming resources of £4,913). The total restricted fund balances decreased to £7,668 from £9,628.

ASPIE LIMITED

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the trustees to maintain unrestricted free reserves excluding fixed assets at a level sufficient to ensure the operation of the service for a minimum of 4 months. Unrestricted free reserves at 31 December 2020 amounted to £62,388, representing 16 months expenditure based on the figures for the year ended 31 December 2020.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

- Looking forward to getting back to normal and operating as a social group for our member with face-to-face support and counselling to repair the damage done by Covid-19's enforced isolation and restrictions.

- Our football team ASPIE AVENGERS being able to train again and take part in the 3 Counties Ability Counts League and the Sandwell Inclusion League

- Seven ASPIE members, following their training with cyber security expert Dr Emma Philpott continue to be employed one or two days each week by her company UK Cyber Security Forum CIC and it is anticipated that their working hours will increase. New ASPIE members will have the opportunity to apply for training in cyber security.

- We shall continue to seek new hands-on trustees and volunteers to bring new ideas and skills particularly in fundraising and events to promote ASPIE and raise awareness and understanding of Asperger's in line with our ethos. to ensure continuity.

- Expansion of our autism specific counselling and mentoring services to meet the needs of families and individuals unable to access vital support and therapy from local authorities, the NHS, Healthy Minds, The Crisis Team, social prescribers, the NHS and social and support workers.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

ASPIE Limited is a registered charity, limited by guarantee.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07666773 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1145351

Registered office

26 Sansome Walk
Worcester
WR1 1LX

Trustees

Mrs J E Micklewright
Miss E Green
Mr R Allsup Training and Development Officer
Mrs E J Hawkes (appointed 12.12.20)

Company Secretary

Miss E Green

Independent Examiner

The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

.....
Mrs J E Micklewright - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
ASPIE LIMITED**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of ASPIE LIMITED ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Rob Richards FCA CTA FCCA
The Richards Sandy Partnership
Thorneloe House
25 Barbourne Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 1RU

Date:

ASPIE LIMITED

**Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		42,973	12,109	55,082	39,011
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		5,701	661	6,362	9,739
Other trading activities	2	7,632	-	7,632	15,124
Investment income	3	654	-	654	716
Other income		6,891	-	6,891	7,038
Total		63,851	12,770	76,621	71,628
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	-	-	-	450
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		45,208	12,930	58,138	67,798
Total		45,208	12,930	58,138	68,248
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		18,643	(160)	18,483	3,380
Transfers between funds	12	1,800	(1,800)	-	-
Net movement in funds		20,443	(1,960)	18,483	3,380
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		84,681	9,628	94,309	90,929
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		105,124	7,668	112,792	94,309

The notes form part of these financial statements

ASPIE LIMITED

**Balance Sheet
31st December 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8	1,276	1,128	2,404	2,753
Investments	9	41,460	-	41,460	40,662
		<u>42,736</u>	<u>1,128</u>	<u>43,864</u>	<u>43,415</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	3,649	-	3,649	6,022
Cash at bank and in hand		62,164	6,540	68,704	47,835
		<u>65,813</u>	<u>6,540</u>	<u>72,353</u>	<u>53,857</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(3,425)	-	(3,425)	(2,963)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>62,388</u>	<u>6,540</u>	<u>68,928</u>	<u>50,894</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>105,124</u>	<u>7,668</u>	<u>112,792</u>	<u>94,309</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>105,124</u>	<u>7,668</u>	<u>112,792</u>	<u>94,309</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				105,124	84,681
Restricted funds				7,668	9,628
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>112,792</u>	<u>94,309</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2020.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

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

.....
Mrs J E Micklewright - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

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

INCOME

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

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Where the charity receives donated goods held for resale, the income is recognised when such donated goods are sold and is included within trading income. It is considered impractical to measure the fair value of donated goods held for resale at the time of receipt.

The Charities SORP states that where the conditions attached to a Government grant are within the charity's control and there is sufficient evidence those conditions may be met, then the incoming resources should be recognised as incoming resource. Where uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet conditions within its control, the grant should be deferred as a liability until certainty exists that the conditions imposed can be met.

EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

RAISING FUNDS

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Charitable activities costs include all the costs of running the charity on a day to day basis including premises costs.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 10% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £100 are not capitalised.

TAXATION

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

FUND ACCOUNTING

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

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11' Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised when the charity becomes party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

Financial assets are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts where there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic Financial Assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Basic Financial Liabilities

Basic Financial liabilities, including trade and other payables, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of future receipts, discounted at a market rate of interest. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of the operations from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction cost.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2020	2019
	£	£
Fundraising events	67	-
Rent	7,565	15,124
	<u>7,632</u>	<u>15,124</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2020	2019
	£	£
Interest on investment	654	716
	<u>654</u>	<u>716</u>

4. RAISING FUNDS**INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COSTS**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Fundraising consultant	-	450
	<u>-</u>	<u>450</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2020	2019
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	769	515
	<u>769</u>	<u>515</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The charity paid no staff during the year.

No trustee has received any remuneration in connection with the duties of a trustee.

Mrs E J Hawkes, a trustee of the charity received £5,616 during the financial year, in respect of services provided as a counsellor. Prior to Bill Say's resignation as trustee in 2019, he received £296 in respect of services provided as a counsellor.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2020 nor for the year ended 31st December 2019.

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	23,936	15,075	39,011
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	8,240	1,499	9,739
Other trading activities	15,124	-	15,124
Investment income	716	-	716
Other income	7,038	-	7,038
Total	55,054	16,574	71,628
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	450	-	450
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	56,137	11,661	67,798
Total	56,587	11,661	68,248
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(1,533)	4,913	3,380
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	86,214	4,715	90,929
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	84,681	9,628	94,309

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st January 2020	5,896	3,407	9,303
Additions	420	-	420
At 31st December 2020	6,316	3,407	9,723
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2020	3,567	2,983	6,550
Charge for year	557	212	769
At 31st December 2020	4,124	3,195	7,319
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2020	2,192	212	2,404
At 31st December 2019	2,329	424	2,753

9. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Unlisted investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st January 2020	40,662
Additions	799
Disposals	(1)
At 31st December 2020	41,460
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2020	41,460
At 31st December 2019	40,662

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020 £	2019 £
Other debtors	3,250	3,250
WITS-END WIZARDRY CIC	-	2,228
Prepayments	226	226
Accrued Income	173	318
	3,649	6,022

ASPIE LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020	2019
	£	£
Deposits held	1,625	1,625
Accrued expenses	1,800	1,338
	<u>3,425</u>	<u>2,963</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	84,681	18,643	1,800	105,124
Restricted funds				
Computer & Equipment	1,436	(382)	-	1,054
ASPIE AVENGERS	2,359	(165)	-	2,194
Refurbishment Fund	1,472	(592)	-	880
The Singer Foundation Fund	1,976	(1,976)	-	-
Awards For All	1,800	-	(1,800)	-
Worcester City Council	585	(65)	-	520
COVID - Counselling Fund	-	3,020	-	3,020
	<u>9,628</u>	<u>(160)</u>	<u>(1,800)</u>	<u>7,668</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>94,309</u>	<u>18,483</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,792</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	63,851	(45,208)	18,643
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	-	(382)	(382)
ASPIE AVENGERS	661	(826)	(165)
Refurbishment Fund	-	(592)	(592)
The Singer Foundation Fund	-	(1,976)	(1,976)
Worcester City Council	-	(65)	(65)
COVID - Counselling Fund	12,109	(9,089)	3,020
	<u>12,770</u>	<u>(12,930)</u>	<u>(160)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>76,621</u>	<u>(58,138)</u>	<u>18,483</u>

ASPIE LIMITED

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.19 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	86,214	(1,533)	84,681
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	1,818	(382)	1,436
ASPIE AVENGERS	1,196	1,163	2,359
Refurbishment Fund	1,701	(229)	1,472
The Singer Foundation Fund	-	1,976	1,976
Awards For All	-	1,800	1,800
Worcester City Council	-	585	585
	<u>4,715</u>	<u>4,913</u>	<u>9,628</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>90,929</u>	<u>3,380</u>	<u>94,309</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	55,054	(56,587)	(1,533)
Restricted funds			
Computer & Equipment	-	(382)	(382)
ASPIE AVENGERS	2,874	(1,711)	1,163
Refurbishment Fund	-	(229)	(229)
The Singer Foundation Fund	3,200	(1,224)	1,976
Awards For All	9,850	(8,050)	1,800
Worcester City Council	650	(65)	585
	<u>16,574</u>	<u>(11,661)</u>	<u>4,913</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>71,628</u>	<u>(68,248)</u>	<u>3,380</u>

The Computer and Equipment fund represents grants and donations specifically made for the purchase of computers equipment.

The ASPIE AVENGERS' fund represents grants & sponsorship received to help fund the cost of attending matches and the hiring of training facilities.

The Refurbishment Fund represents a grant received towards internal redecoration and the replacement of older computer equipment.

The Singers Foundation Fund represented a grant received to cover the costs of an additional team member.

The Awards for All Fund was received for the development of an app, to provide coping mechanisms to ASPIE members when not at ASPIE.

The Worcester City Council Fund, represents a grant received for new seating in the reception area.

Covid Additional Counselling Fund, represents grants received for the provision of extra counselling during the pandemic.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

The remaining balance on the Awards For All fund has been transferred to the General fund, following confirmation from Big Lottery that the balance can be used for other charitable purposes.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

J E Micklewright, a trustee of the charity has personally guaranteed payment of the rent of the charity's premises.

ASPIE LIMITED

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020**

	2020 £	2019 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants and donations	54,817	38,641
Gift aid	265	370
	<u>55,082</u>	<u>39,011</u>
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	67	-
Rent	7,565	15,124
	<u>7,632</u>	<u>15,124</u>
Investment income		
Interest on investment	654	716
Charitable activities		
Membership fees	4,381	8,240
ASPIE AVENGERS football team	661	1,499
Counselling Fees	1,320	-
	<u>6,362</u>	<u>9,739</u>
Other income		
Miscellaneous Income	6,891	7,038
	<u>76,621</u>	<u>71,628</u>
Total incoming resources		
	<u>76,621</u>	<u>71,628</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Investment management costs		
Fundraising consultant	-	450
Charitable activities		
Rent, rates & water	28,693	28,806
Insurance	844	840
Heat and light	2,453	3,619
Telephone	220	444
Publicity costs	154	264
Sundries	1,258	885
Professional fees	13,353	10,685
Computer and internet costs	1,064	1,116
Repairs and maintenance	1,589	5,387
Depreciation	769	727
Activity costs	-	8,050
TV licence	158	155
ASPIE Avengers football team	826	1,711
Independent examiner's fee	2,609	2,360
Intercompany loan write off	1,698	-
Office expenses	2,450	2,551
Legal fees	-	198
	<u>58,138</u>	<u>67,798</u>
Total resources expended	<u>58,138</u>	<u>68,248</u>
Net income	<u>18,483</u>	<u>3,380</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements