Embrace (Bedford and District)

England & Wales · Charity number 1156447

Details

Other names	BEDFORD & DISTRICT CEREBRAL PALSY SOCIETY
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2014-03-31
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Embrace 43 Bromham Road Bedford MK40 2AA
Phone	01234351759
Email	info@embrace.org.uk
Website	http://www.embrace.org.uk/

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE TO RELIEVE PERSONS WITH ANY FORM OF CEREBRAL PALSY OR A RELATED DISABILITY BY ASSISTING IN THE CARE, WELFARE, TREATMENT AND EDUCATION OF SUCH PERSONS AND OF THEIR FAMILIES AND CARERS IN THE BEDFORD BOROUGH AND CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE REGIONS BUT WITH POWER FOR THE TRUSTEES TO ASSIST PEOPLE REQUIRING ASSISTANCE OR APPROPRIATE ORGANISATIONS IN THE IMMEDIATELY ADJOINING AREAS IF THEY CONSIDER THIS TO BE APPROPRIATE.NOTHING IN THIS CONSTITUTION SHALL AUTHORISE AN APPLICATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE CIO FOR PURPOSES WHICH ARE NOT CHARITABLE.

Activities: Embrace (formerly BDCPS) is a small charity based in Bedfordshire established since 1954. Our mission is to provide unwavering support to families living with complex disabilities, sharing our knowledge and understanding to empower each individual we encounter along their unique journey.

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Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN THE BEDFORD BOROUGH AND CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
- Bedford
- Central Bedfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£317,704	£376,396	-	-
2024-03-31	£253,459	£346,533	-	-
2023-03-31	£244,980	£292,136	-	-
2022-03-31	£214,681	£247,730	-	-
2021-03-31	£216,673	£232,000	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Paul Lockyer	Chair	2022-11-14
Catherine Weir		2023-11-13
EILEEN SWAISLAND		2014-02-14
LEE MOSTARI		2014-02-14
Natalie Murray		2024-11-11
Rajan Kanda		2021-03-01
SUZANNAH LEE		2014-02-14
Stephen Mortimer		2024-06-10

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Embrace (Bedford and District)

England & Wales - Charity number 1156447

Accounts

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embrace
Unlocking Possibilities, Embracing Life

www.embrace.org.uk
Registered Charity 1156447

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

2024-2025

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A Message from Our Chair

The focus on providing exceptional care and support continues to be at our core. The families and young people we support are our motivation and we continue to be grateful they allow us to be part of their lives. Embrace's staff and volunteers show great energy, commitment and dedication. It is humbling, as chair, to see them in action and hear from our families how they unlock possibilities.

Continuity of our service means so much to our families. Modernising and embracing change are vital to ensure the charity will continue to serve our community so well. This year has seen more new faces on the team. We have also made significant investment in technology and processes behind the scenes. An impressive history of over 70 years of service does not make us complacent. Refreshing and strengthening our foundations allow us to continue to serve for a long time to come.

Our people and our community are our guiding lights. Our commitment to serve is our highest priority.

Paul

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A Message from Our Services Director

Something that really resonates with me this year has been the onboarding of our community fundraiser who has brought people together in support of our cause, raising vital funds while also shining a brighter light on our work locally. With fresh new branding and a more focused social media presence, we've been able to celebrate this achievement more widely and strengthen our connections within the community. Most importantly, this impact means we can continue to support those we serve and look ahead to exploring new and creative ways of offering support in the future.

Jane

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A Message from Our Children's Services Manager

When North Beds Toy Library closed, it felt such a loss - but their trust in us gave the chance to continue its legacy—and this year, our very own toy library turned one! Families save money by borrowing instead of buying costly specialist toys, and they gain peace of mind knowing support is always there. It's wonderful to hear of the excitement to try the next toy, and the next one! I'm passionate about the value of play, yet it can be so easily lost among endless appointments— With the dedication of an amazing volunteer, it's been a real highlight that we've kept this special resource alive, and thriving.

Rose

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Our Vision

Our goal is to extend this transformative support to broader communities, amplifying our reach and positively impacting an increasing number of individuals and families in need.

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The Year in Numbers

Sessions this year **268**

Our Sessions

ace	Adventures	early years Swim	Family Swim
JJ's crew	Knit Nat	Little Music Makers	Little Saplings
Little Sweet Peas	Wellbeing Massage	P/C Breakfast	Skool's Out
stampede	Wellbeing Walks	Workshops	Yoga

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Top 3 Sessions

These are the most amount of sessions hosted

Wellbeing Walks	Skool's Out	Yoga
49 Sessions	34 Sessions	34 Sessions

4590

hours hosting our sessions

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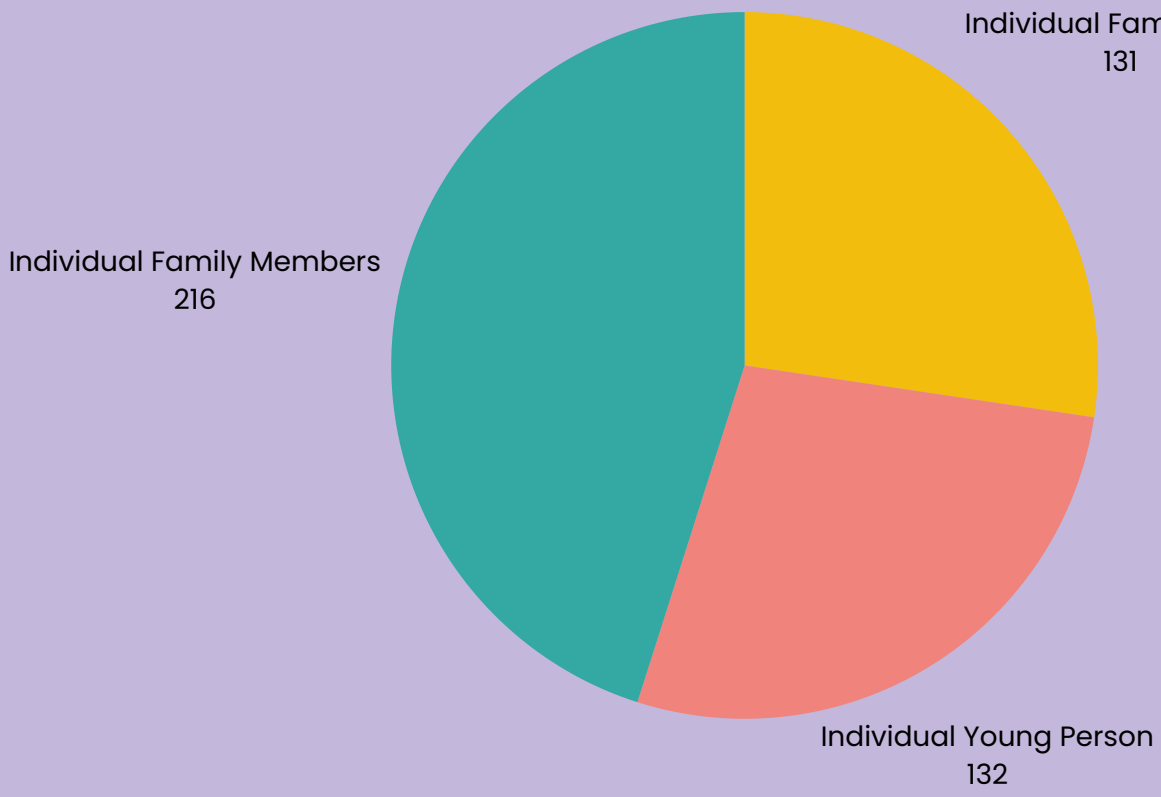
Support Interactions



in our all of our sessions

Helped

90

New People!

What was our reach?

these 90 people were spread across all service areas

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How many other organisations did we work with?

- Spectrum Community Arts
- Bedford Music Hub and Inspiring Music In Central Bedfordshire
- Ridgeway School
- St. Johns School
- Mark Rutherford School
- Bedford Sixth Form
- Bedford College
- Space Camp
- Church of the Transfiguration
- Kempston Hammers Sports and Social Club

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How we used our funds

The Impact

> You helped us to have our say at hospital meetings and be seen as the people that know about our son. At last we felt listened to – thank you for sitting by our side and giving us the confidence to speak up.

> You have got me out of the house. I now am part of a new group of people that get what I am going through.

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The Impact...

> I like seeing my friends and doing fun stuff with them. The staff are kind and help us try lots of new stuff

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The Impact...

> A can't wait for Saturdays when Stampede is on. She can't wait to get out the door quickly enough. We love that she is safe, independent of us and happy

> When we got to the school for swim my boy said the word "Happy" It melted my heart it is such a big thing to hear for us

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The Impact...

> Helping me to understand what my rights are and that I can ask for a carers assessment for me has helped me to ask more questions and more about what help and support we can try to get.

> Joining other families at activities helps my other children to see that we are not an unusual family and my other children have made friends with other siblings where they can share their stories and support each other.

You asked we did

You wanted to continue coming along to activities after the age of 25 so we extended the age range for ACE

You asked for a face to face Knit-Nat craft session to make Christmas decorations to sell at the Embrace Christmas Fair

We delivered a craft session and it was so popular we are hoping to do it again next year.

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Celebration Balls

Our 70th Anniversary Fundraising Ball was the highlight of our community calendar and our most successful community fundraiser to date. It was a joyful evening filled with celebration, music, and laughter, as friends and supporters came together in style to mark this milestone year. Most importantly, thanks to the generosity and spirit of our community, the event raised over £17,000—funds that will make a lasting difference in the work we do.

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Our Young Person's Ball gave young people the chance to design and enjoy a celebration that was truly their own. With their ideas, creativity, and enthusiasm shaping the evening, it became a memorable occasion filled with fun, laughter, and friendship. The event not only offered a special night of joy and connection but also showcased the incredible spirit and talent of our young people.

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Toy Library

This year marked the first anniversary of being gifted the Toy Library, an incredible resource that has quickly become a treasured part of our community. The library offers children and young people the chance to explore a wide range of toys, including many that can be costly within the SEND world. Thanks to the dedication of a wonderful parent/carer volunteer, the Toy Library not only eases financial pressures for families but also creates opportunities for children to play, share, and develop new skills in a supportive and joyful environment.

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Finance

Expenditure:	£376,396
Supporting Young People	£238,323
Running the Charity	£105,503
Raising Funds	£32,570

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Finance

Income	£317,704
Grants	£84,989
Fundraising	£106,237
Local Authorities	£105,748
Subscriptions	£15,349

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Thank yous: To name a few

Grants

Bedford Borough Council, Bedford Giving, BLCF, Central Bedfordshire Council, Gale family, Harpur trust and Panacea.

Fundraising

Ampthill Baptist Church, Bedford Lions, Bedford Rotary Clubs, Benevity, BPL, Chequers Westoning, Cloverdale Café, DHL Express, Easy Fundraising, Gift Aid, Kempston Concert Band, Memory Giving, Potton Charitable Trust, Regular Givers, Service Express Europe, Shortstown Rangers, Social Media Gifting, White Hart Campton

In Kind

Child Development Centre, Kempston Hammers SSC, Transfiguration Church, White Hart Press, Walkers, Runners, Swimmers, Cyclists, Golfers, Climbers and others.

With grateful thanks to all we have worked for, with and all who have supported us!

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Looking Ahead

Looking ahead, we will build on the foundations laid this year by embedding, learning from, and moving forward the work we have begun.

Some of the headline developments that we are aiming towards are,investing in a new CRM system to streamline our internal processes, alongside the recruitment of two dedicated coordinators to strengthen healthcare coordination within Children's Services and oversee the growth of our Family Support Service.

These improvements will free our senior leadership team and trustees to focus on strategy and long-term sustainability, ensuring the charity continues to thrive. Together, these steps not only enhance the support we provide to families but also safeguard the wellbeing of our team, enabling us to deliver even greater impact in the years to come.

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Unlocking Possibilities,
Embracing Life

Want to Get in Touch?

Office Headquarters

Embrace
43 Bromham Road
Bedford
MK40 2AA

Telephone

01234 351759

Email

for general enquiries

info@embrace.org.uk

check out our website

www.embrace.org.uk

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Charity registration number: 1156447

Embrace (Bedford and District)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Community Accounting Plus
Units 1 & 2
North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

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Embrace (Bedford and District)

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Embrace (Bedford and District)

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Paul Lockyer, Chair Eileen Swaisland, Vice Chair Lee Mostari, Treasurer Catherine Weir, Secretary Suzannah Lee Rajan Kanda Claire Broughton-Welsh Elizabeth Noble Natalie Murray Stephen Mortimer
Senior Management Team	Jane Howard White, Services Director
Charity Registration Number	1156447
Principal Office	43 Bromham Road Bedford MK40 2AA
Independent Examiner	Eva Stevens, employee of Community Accounting Plus Units 1 & 2 North West 41 Talbot Street Nottingham NG1 5GL

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Embrace (Bedford and District)

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Trustees and officers

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

Trustees:	Paul Lockyer, Chair
	Eileen Swaisland, Vice Chair
	Lee Mostari, Treasurer
	Catherine Weir, Secretary
	Suzannah Lee
	Rajan Kanda
	Claire Broughton-Welsh
	Elizabeth Noble
	Natalie Murray (appointed 11 November 2024)
	Stephen Mortimer (appointed 10 June 2024)

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is operated under the rules of its CIO - Association constitution adopted 31 March 2014 and most recently amended 29 February 2024.

Governance and management

Embrace (Bedford and District) is also known by its working name Embrace. The name changed from Bedford &District Cerebral Palsy Society (BDCPS) in March 2024. For historical reference, a revised constitution was established, and a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation was registered as charity number 1156447 on 6th April 2014. All operations, contracts and assets of the previous charity number 207386 were transferred to the new charity on this date. Under the terms of the current constitution Trustees are appointed for a tenure of three years and are available for re-selection at the annual AGM. Trustees are appointed based on any skill gaps identified with the aim of improving the effectiveness of the existing board.

Opportunities to join the board are available to all interested in supporting the charity’s objectives as detailed in the constitution. Two references and Disclosure and Barring Service checks, as well as right-to-work checks, are carried out before people take up voluntary or employment opportunities which may bring them into regular contact with vulnerable people.

A comprehensive set of governance and operating policies and procedures has been developed to ensure we manage the charity effectively and give people the best possible service. These are reviewed, updated if necessary and signed off by trustees on a rolling basis. In addition to rigorous safeguarding, selection and development and supervision processes, staff and volunteers are offered a variety of training opportunities.

A service and operations focussed strategic review, involving trustees and staff, is held regularly (last in March 2025). The output of this review is used as a framework for prioritisation and major decision making.

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Trustees meet monthly and senior staff report to these meetings. Sub-groups and committees are allocated to specific areas where more focus than the monthly trustee meetings can provide. This year these sub-groups have been tasked to continue the focus on the charity's strategic plans and sustainability, introducing efficiency measures and supporting infrastructures.

Sub-committees have clear instruction and delegated authority from the trustee board.

Reserves Policy
Reserves are held to help the charity operate effectively. The level of reserves is monitored throughout the year as part of the normal monitoring and budgetary reporting processes. In this way trustees are aware if there is a build-up of excess reserves or if reserves being unexpectedly or rapidly depleted.

There are sufficient unrestricted free cash reserves of £150,000 available to cover four months of the forecast annual budget of £445,000. This is in addition to the restricted and allocated cash we need to maintain our statutory and minimum operating costs.

This decision on these reserves has been carefully considered to ensure that families will remain supported should the charity fail to raise sufficient funds and reluctantly identify a need to cease operating.

Public Benefit
The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales. This report details activities undertaken for public benefit as well as other key details demonstrating the ongoing success and value of the charity.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objects of the CIO are to relieve persons with any form of cerebral palsy or a related disability by assisting in the care, welfare, treatment and education of such persons and of their families and carers in the Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire regions but with power for the trustees to assist people requiring assistance or appropriate organisations in the immediately adjoining areas if they consider this to be appropriate. Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for purposes which are not charitable.

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Embrace (Bedford and District)

Trustees' Report (continued)

Statement of Responsibilities

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

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 09-Nov-25 | 09:49:12 GMT and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:
Paul Lockyer
66AC1CE5CB8649B.....

Paul Lockyer
Trustee

Embrace (Bedford and District)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Embrace (Bedford and District)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Embrace (Bedford and District)
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Embrace (Bedford and District) (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), which is one of the listed bodies.
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

.....

Eva Stevens, BSc, CPFA, employee of Community Accounting Plus
member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)

Units 1 & 2
North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Date:10/11/25

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Embrace (Bedford and District)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	25,000	-	25,000	11,054
Charitable activities	3	121,097	59,989	181,086	160,348
Other trading activities	4	106,237	-	106,237	75,678
Investment income	5	5,381	-	5,381	6,379
Total Income		257,715	59,989	317,704	253,459
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	(32,570)	-	(32,570)	(11,114)
Charitable activities	8	(131,654)	(212,172)	(343,826)	(335,419)
Total Expenditure		(164,224)	(212,172)	(376,396)	(346,533)
Gains/losses on investment assets		10,180	-	10,180	28,689
Net income/(expenditure)		103,671	(152,183)	(48,512)	(64,385)
Gross transfers between funds		(145,003)	145,003	-	-
Net movement in funds		(41,332)	(7,180)	(48,512)	(64,385)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		406,735	11,317	418,052	482,437
Total funds carried forward	19	365,403	4,137	369,540	418,052

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

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 19.

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Embrace (Bedford and District)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	11,054	-	11,054
Charitable activities	3	10,081	150,267	160,348
Other trading activities	4	75,678	-	75,678
Investment income	5	6,379	-	6,379
Total Income		103,192	150,267	253,459
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	(11,114)	-	(11,114)
Charitable activities	8	(56,318)	(279,101)	(335,419)
Total Expenditure		(67,432)	(279,101)	(346,533)
Gains/losses on investment assets		28,689	-	28,689
Net income/(expenditure)		64,449	(128,834)	(64,385)
Gross transfers between funds		(106,136)	106,136	-
Net movement in funds		(41,687)	(22,698)	(64,385)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		448,422	34,015	482,437
Total funds carried forward	19	406,735	11,317	418,052

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Embrace (Bedford and District)

(Registration number: 1156447)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	13	281,043	345,358
Current assets			
Debtors	14	3,909	5,688
Cash at bank and in hand	15	88,484	74,183
		92,393	79,871
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(3,896)	(7,177)
Net current assets		88,497	72,694
Net assets		369,540	418,052
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		4,137	11,317
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		365,403	406,735
Total funds	19	369,540	418,052

The financial statements on pages 6 to 19 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ..... and signed on their behalf by:

07-Nov-25 | 15:01:47 GMT

Signed by:
Lee Mostari
FF2184F3E4974GE.....

Lee Mostari
Trustee

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Embrace (Bedford and District)

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

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation
Embrace (Bedford & District) meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement
Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

Going concern
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income and endowments
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

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

Raising funds

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

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Charitable activities

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

Taxation

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

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

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

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line
Motor vehicles	20% straight line

Fixed asset investments

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

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

Trade debtors

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

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Docusign Envelope ID: B9B15F68-2498-42D6-BE26-652E468027E3

Fund structure

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

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

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. Pension costs charges in the Statement of Financial Activities represent the contributions payable by the charity during the year.

Docusign Envelope ID: B9B15F68-2498-42D6-BE26-652E468027E3

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from companies, trusts and similar proceeds	25,000	25,000	11,054
	25,000	25,000	11,054

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Grants & donations	-	59,989	59,989	150,267
Professional Specialist Service	105,748	-	105,748	100
Subscriptions	15,349	-	15,349	9,981
	121,097	59,989	181,086	160,348

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Fundraising	106,237	106,237	75,678
	106,237	106,237	75,678

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income from dividends;			
Dividends receivable from other listed investments	5,221	5,221	6,271
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	160	160	108
	5,381	5,381	6,379

Docusign Envelope ID: B9B15F68-2498-42D6-BE26-652E468027E3

6 Grants and donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Bedford Borough Council	-	3,000	3,000
The Grand Charity	-	2,500	2,500
The Harpur Trust	-	10,664	10,664
The Panacea Charitable Trust	-	12,500	12,500
The Gale Family Trust	-	2,000	2,000
Potton Charitable Trust	-	12,500	12,500
BPL Global	25,000	-	25,000
Co-op	-	500	500
Beds & Luton Community Foundation	-	16,000	16,000
Sundry donations	-	325	325
	25,000	59,989	84,989

7 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Other costs of generating donations and legacies

	Direct costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies	28,046	28,046	5,673
Investment management costs	4,524	4,524	5,441
	32,570	32,570	11,114

Docusign Envelope ID: B9B15F68-2498-42D6-BE26-652E468027E3

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Accountancy & payroll	3,739	-	3,739	3,594
Insurance	2,875	-	2,875	1,896
IT, software & maintenance	8,192	430	8,622	828
Legal & professional fees	3,301	600	3,901	19,319
Wages, NIC & pensions	79,214	110,059	189,273	192,729
Rent & services	8,172	-	8,172	2,541
Activities & events	1,854	11,835	13,689	14,859
Bank staff salaries	3,710	75,309	79,019	73,969
Communications	1,517	-	1,517	1,208
Equipment	229	1,013	1,242	3,492
Grants & donations awarded	-	1,000	1,000	2,141
Premises hire	327	6,795	7,122	10,599
Printing, postage & stationery	1,074	143	1,217	658
Staff travel & expenses	1,217	1,852	3,069	2,483
Training	98	2,870	2,968	4,086
Volunteer expenses	109	152	261	149
Bank charges	67	-	67	97
Memberships	589	114	703	437
Freelance	14,895	-	14,895	-
Sundry expenditure	475	-	475	334
	131,654	212,172	343,826	335,419

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	248,378	246,386
Social security costs	11,253	11,663
Pension costs	8,661	8,649
	268,292	266,698

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

Docusign Envelope ID: B9B15F68-2498-42D6-BE26-652E468027E3

	2025 No	2024 No
Average number of employees	38	31

7 (2024 - 7) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £8,661 (2024 - £8,649).

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

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £47,755 (2024 - £46,512).

10 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

11 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

12 Taxation

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

Docusign Envelope ID: B9B15F68-2498-42D6-BE26-652E468027E3

13 Fixed asset investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other investments	281,043	345,358

Other investments

	Listed investments	Total
	£	£
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2024	345,358	345,358
Revaluation	10,685	10,685
Disposals	(75,000)	(75,000)
At 31 March 2025	281,043	281,043
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	281,043	281,043
At 31 March 2024	345,358	345,358

14 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	350	3,074
Prepayments	3,559	2,614
	3,909	5,688

15 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash on hand	292	331
Cash at bank	88,192	73,852
	88,484	74,183

Docusign Envelope ID: B9B15F68-2498-42D6-BE26-652E468027E3

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security	1,206	4,254
Other creditors	1,032	1,224
Accruals	1,658	1,699
	3,896	7,177

17 Independent examiner's fees

During the period, the fees payable (excluding VAT) to the charity's independent examiner Community Accounting Plus are analysed as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examination	960	925
Other financial services	1,916	1,890
	2,876	2,815

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted			
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2025 Total funds £
Fixed asset investments	281,043	-	-	281,043
Current assets	(11,744)	100,000	4,137	92,393
Current liabilities	(3,896)	-	-	(3,896)
Total net assets	265,403	100,000	4,137	369,540

	Unrestricted			
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2024 Total funds £
Fixed asset investments	345,358	-	-	345,358
Current assets	(31,446)	100,000	11,317	79,871
Current liabilities	(7,177)	-	-	(7,177)
Total net assets	306,735	100,000	11,317	418,052

Docusign Envelope ID: B9B15F68-2498-42D6-BE26-652E468027E3

19 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General funds	306,735	257,715	(164,224)	(145,003)	10,180	265,403
Designated						
Building fund	100,000	-	-	-	-	100,000
Total unrestricted funds	406,735	257,715	(164,224)	(145,003)	10,180	365,403
Restricted funds						
Young People's Services	-	29,725	(143,869)	114,144	-	-
College's Out	4,197	-	(60)	-	-	4,137
Family Support Services	7,120	30,264	(67,243)	29,859	-	-
Welfare	-	-	(1,000)	1,000	-	-
Total restricted funds	11,317	59,989	(212,172)	145,003	-	4,137
Total funds	418,052	317,704	(376,396)	-	10,180	369,540

The transfer from the General fund to the restricted funds is to cover the deficit on these activities.

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

Young People's Services - wide range of creative activity and life skills clubs, trips and residential experiences, festivals, sports/theatre events and nights out.
College's Out - Held during the Easter and Summer holiday periods. Full days of activity schemes are open to disabled young people aged 18-25 offering a wide range of experiences to help empower young people to achieve, make new friends, try new things and develop life skills.
Family Support Services - Provides information and support for families with local and national contacts for a wide range of topics about CP and other disabilities.
Welfare - Embrace awards grants to individuals and families who need specialist equipment to help them with their condition.

Docusign Envelope ID: B9B15F68-2498-42D6-BE26-652E468027E3

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General funds	348,422	103,192	(67,432)	(106,136)	28,689	306,735
Designated						
Building fund	100,000	-	-	-	-	100,000
Total unrestricted funds	448,422	103,192	(67,432)	(106,136)	28,689	406,735
Restricted						
Young People's Services	20,720	54,840	(179,555)	103,995	-	-
College's Out	6,311	2,000	(4,114)	-	-	4,197
Family Support Services	6,984	93,427	(93,291)	-	-	7,120
Welfare	-	-	(2,141)	2,141	-	-
Total restricted funds	34,015	150,267	(279,101)	106,136	-	11,317
Total funds	482,437	253,459	(346,533)	-	28,689	418,052

Embrace (Bedford and District)

England & Wales - Charity number 1156447

Accounts

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

The MBE for volunteer groups

embrace

Previously Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

Celebrating 70 years 1954-2024

Goodbye

BDCPS

Hello

embrace

2024 has so far been a big year for the charity, as we celebrate our 70th birthday and welcome a long awaited rebrand; transitioning from Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society (or more commonly known to everyone as BDCPS) to our brand new name ‘Embrace’. This special impact report will look back at some of the history of the charity and the impact we have and continue to make in the community. We hope you enjoy!

Message from our Chair

What an incredible year since our last impact report. So much has changed yet so much has stayed the same. The families and young people we work with continue to inspire all of us. Whether you are new or have been with us for a long time you will know how deeply committed we are to providing exceptional care and support.

This report tells the story of our journey from 1954 to 2024 and our new name and branding. We are all very excited about our new modern look, how we hope to attract new supporters and develop an even stronger platform for the future.

Looking forward is important, acknowledging where we are today is also vital. Too many families face challenges with the cost of living and are often frustrated with other services or simply do not know how to manage from day to day. They are struggling to live life their way. We at Embrace aim to be a source of trust. We try help our families find a way.

I pay tribute to our staff and volunteers for their energy, commitment and dedication as they unlock possibilities. Most of all I pay tribute to the families and young people we work with for their trust and for letting us be part of their journey as they embrace life.

Change is happening, rest assured our commitment to serve is constant.

With warmest best wishes

Paul

70 MAGICAL YEARS

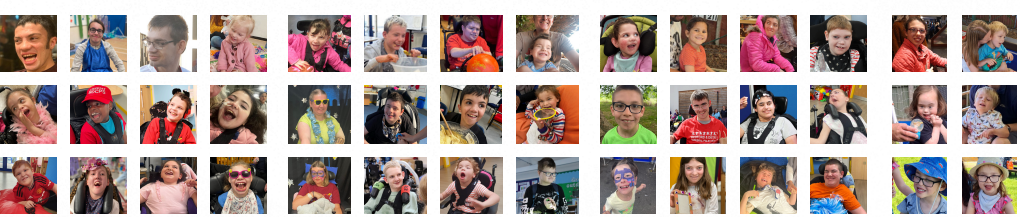
Bedford and District Branch of the National Spastics Society was initially formed in 1954 and later changed to Bedford Spastics Society with the charity number 207386.

Our change to the Bedford and District Cerebral Palsy Society most likely coincided with changes in the national organisations when Scope changed its name in 1994, when the word ‘spastic’ was deemed inappropriate for people with cerebral palsy.

In 2014 we became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with a new charity number 1156447. At this point we adopted the acronym BDCPS and had a refresh of branding and logos.

In 2023, we successfully applied for funding to support a rebranding project that included our families and young people as much as possible. We are grateful to all who provided feedback and participated in our rebranding project, the new name and branding really does reflect all those who participated. Thank you!

With 2024 being our 70th birthday, we have set an ambitious fundraising target of £70,000!

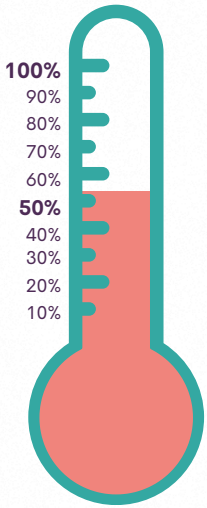


£70,000 FOR 70 YEARS

As we celebrate our 70th year in 2024, we have set a fundraising goal of £70,000. We are over half way to our goal and want to thank everyone who has made this possible either by taking part in a challenge, organising a fundraiser, helping at our fundraiser or showing up in support of it. Your help is greatly appreciated!

embrace 70th

£43,000 so far!



Throughout the year we have been asking people to choose a challenge for themselves around the number 70 and raise a minimum of £70. Our goal is to get 70 people participating in total, and so far we have 42 who have signed up, raising more than £6,000 between them! Among the challenges people have done are:

70 pull ups

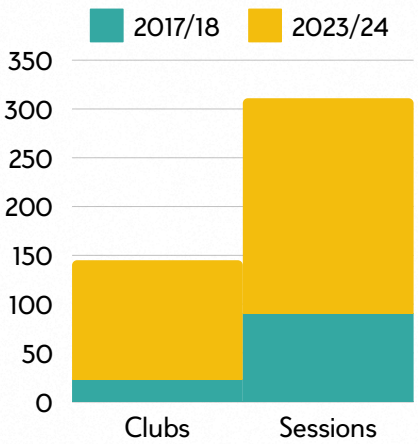
70 litter picks

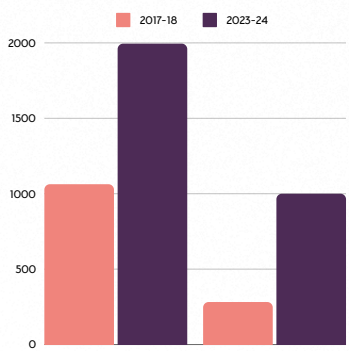
70 cold water dips in 70 days

WHAT WE DO
DOING MORE WITH LESS

Embrace has seen a huge growth in services and members over the past few years.

Since 2017-18 the number of clubs has increased from 9 to 17 and provided over 221 individual sessions last year.

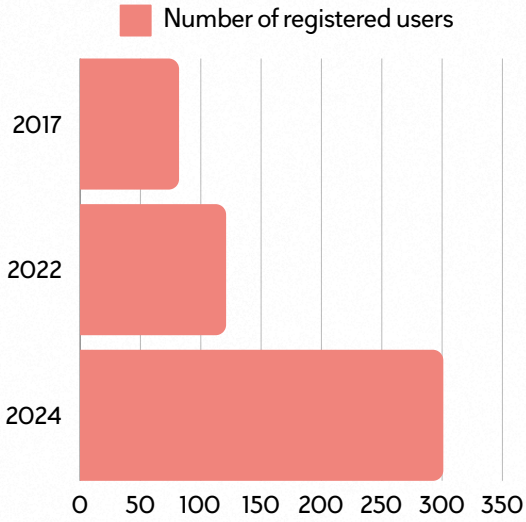




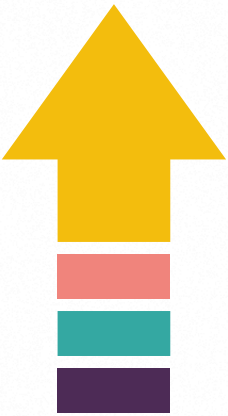
Total Attendances 2017-18 and 2023-24:

But our biggest service growth has been in the Parent Carer Wellbeing: going from 23 sessions in 17/18 to 122 sessions in 2023-4!

REACHING MORE PEOPLE!

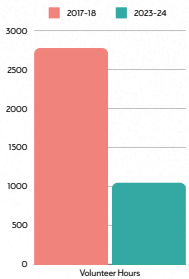


We continue to grow, reaching more and more families. With the introduction of JoinIn, our new booking system, in 2022, our registered users have grown from 82 in 2017, to an amazing 301 in 2024!



This means our registered members have increased by nearly 150%

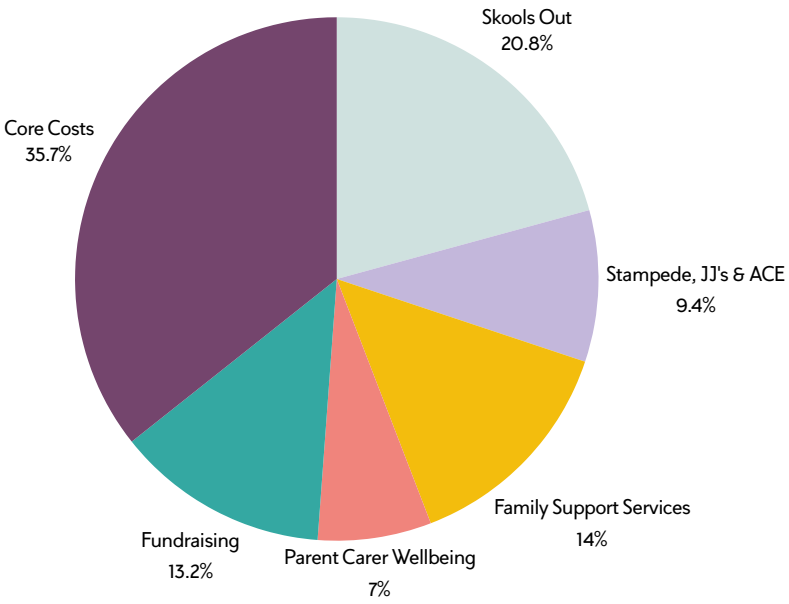
VOLUNTEERS



Since 2017-18 the number of volunteers we have recruited has reduced from 62 to 38 as well as the total hours volunteered.

FUNDRAISING

Costs to keep services running



Next years forecast:

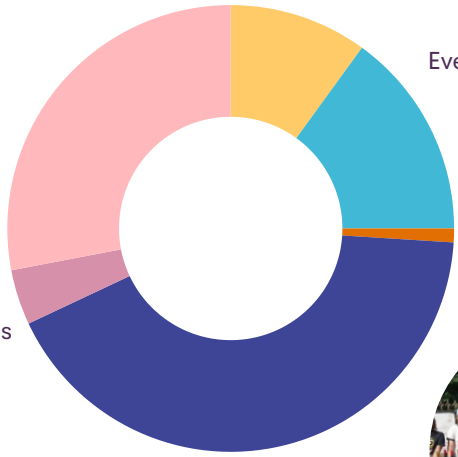
£350,000

WHERE HAS OUR FUNDING COME FROM THIS YEAR?

Trust & Foundation Grants
28%

Individuals
10%

Events & Activities
15%



Other
1%

Selling Goods or Services
4%

Local Authority
42%

HELLO EMBRACE

embrace

Unlocking Possibilities, Embracing Life

Our name has for some time led to confusion for families locally as our name includes cerebral palsy and all our communication includes the line "enabling people with cerebral palsy to live life their way". The full name – Bedford and District Cerebral Palsy Society was outdated, confusing and no longer relevant to the community we serve. The acronym BDCPS that we adopted as an alternative name some years ago is difficult to say, remember and understand.

Gale Family Charity Trust

THE EDGE BRANDS

With the support of a grant from The Gale Family Trust, we started the rebranding project in the autumn of 2023 with a branding specialist who guided us and our service users through a branding process that has culminated in our new name and refreshed branding and look. We are immensely grateful to The Gale Family Trust for the grant to enable this to happen and to Natalie at The Edge Brands for her patient support and guidance.

WHAT OUR PARENT CARERS SAID ABOUT OUR NEW NAME..

Finally, a huge thank you to our families, young people, supporters and everyone who participated in any part of our rebranding project. Our new name and look really reflects what you told us.

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EMBRACE BRAND VALUES

Our Purpose: We believe in something bigger than ourselves, our service users.

Our service users are the heartbeats that guide our purpose and passion. Their resilience, their courage, and their unwavering determination in the face of adversity inspire us daily. We see their challenges as opportunities for growth, their triumphs as shared victories, and their hopes as the guiding light that propels us forward.

We understand that our existence is intertwined with the well-being of our community, our environment, and the world at large. Embracing this broader perspective empowers us to contribute meaningfully, fostering a legacy that extends far beyond our individual lives.

We believe in cultivating a world where empathy, compassion, and collective progress prevail—a world that thrives on the strength of our shared humanity.

Our Vision Is Bright

Our goal is to extend this transformative support to broader communities, amplifying our reach and positively impacting an increasing number of individuals and families in need.

We are Committed

Our mission is to provide unwavering support to families living with disabilities, sharing our knowledge and understanding to empower each individual we encounter along their unique journey. Through guidance and empathy, we aim to uplift families, fostering strength and resilience as they navigate lifes challenges.

WHAT WE DO
YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

Skools Out is our exciting school holiday activity scheme running during the Summer, Easter, and half-term holidays. Designed to keep young minds engaged and active while school is out, we ensure that fun, laughter, and joy are at the heart of our activities.

Skool's Out

With loads of fun activities on and offsite from arts and crafts, sports, climbing, canoeing, bowling, ice skating, trips out, theatre workshops, music therapy, themed days, swimming and so much more! There is nothing we won't try!

Young People

BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Central Bedfordshire

WHAT WE DO
YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

Stampede

Stampede is our vibrant monthly youth club designed for young adventurers aged 5 to 12. Here, children can explore, play, and grow in a joyful, relaxed environment tailored to their unique needs and interests, filled with laughter and high standards of care

JJ's Crew is our dynamic youth club for teenagers aged 13 to 17. It's a space where teens can connect, create, and thrive, surrounded by peers and guided by supportive mentors. We foster an environment where aspirations turn into realities, ensuring everyone feels valued and empowered.

JJ's crew

Central Bedfordshire

Young People

BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

ACE Young People

ACE Unlimited is our pioneering monthly social club for young adults aged 18 and above and Colleges Out is an additional summer club. This innovative program focuses on achievement, creativity, and empowerment. Our dedicated and experienced team helps participants unlock their full potential, making a lasting and positive impact on their lives.

We even made it onto the cover of the local SEND Matters magazine!

I get so excited about going out in the dark. I have no other clubs that meet my needs. Having a night out is what other people my age do lots.

He gets so excited going out in the van of an evening. That's exactly what he should be doing at his age: nights out having fun away from parents. He's always very vocal in a chatty contented way afterwards so although he can't tell us what he did and what he liked, we know he's enjoyed it from the staff reports and his demeanour.

Arranging for the girls to have a girly shopping day in MK yesterday was a wonderful thing to do for two good friends. Embrace have done many wonderful things for her over the years but yesterday's was up there with the best. X

The staff are all very caring and knowledgeable. They genuinely care about the children, young people and families. The activities are varied, engaging and adoptable to include everyone. Thank you!

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Family

Our Family Support Services have evolved to meet the needs of our families. We nurture a compassionate and supportive environment, understanding how isolating it can be to navigate the world of disability. Our honest, genuine approach ensures that every family feels understood and valued.

Our small team of Family Support Workers are trained staff, many who are parent carers themselves. They can provide support, guidance, signposting and many practical tasks, from helping to complete disability benefit forms to supporting at meetings or just being a friendly ear in times of crisis.

Central Bedfordshire

The Wixamtree Trust®
Supporting the communities and people of Bedfordshire

HARPUR TRUST

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Family

early years

Little Sweet Peas

Little Sweet Peas is our weekly group for pre-school children and their parent carers. Enjoying music, stories, and sensory play in a relaxed and informal setting. Our caring and kind staff and volunteers are on hand for cuddles, giving parent carers the chance to chat with our Family Support Workers or simply enjoy a cuppa and lunch with others. This group creates a comfortable and understanding environment where every individual feels reassured and supported.

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Wellbeing

Our Wellbeing Service has grown from a monthly breakfast meeting into a comprehensive suite of sessions known to boost mental health. Join us for Nidra Yoga, art and craft sessions, massage, Sound Baths, walking groups, and more. All parent carers are welcome, regardless of their children's participation in our clubs. Come along for some well-deserved 'me-time,' enjoy a drink and a chat, with our Family Support Workers available if needed. Our sessions are designed to create a relaxed, comfortable, and fun environment where happiness and personal growth are cherished, and our support leaves a lasting positive impact.

The Panacea Charitable Trust

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Family

Family Swim

Family Swim at Embrace offers a fully accessible hydrotherapy pool, equipped with hoists in both the pool and changing areas. We create a nurturing and inclusive environment where every family member, including extended family and carers, feels welcomed and supported.

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY SPORT ENGLAND

Family Days

We offer supported family days, which can include things like family outings to the Zoo or a park. These are for the whole family to attend and join in at your leisure, we will have some staff available to support families if they would like some.

embrace

Unlocking Possibilities, Embracing Life

Society Funding

A sub-committee which considers grants to individuals and families in need of specialist equipment such as wheelchairs or respite breaks.

If you hadn't asked me out for a cuppa I would have been in all day and seen no one

It's like being part of a family. A family that we never wanted to be a part of, but are now eternally grateful for.

Doing something new and different that I would never have had a chance to do otherwise, whilst being able to chat with other mums in an understanding environment and then being able to take home something to show for it!

So relieving to have a safe space to bring him to without having to constantly 'explain'. Love the opportunity to chat with other mums, and meet new people from Embrace too.

It's a great support to have and I always know if I'm feeling lonely I can join in a wellness session that week and have a load of women who will speak to me and be kind and inclusive.

It's an amazing charity and I don't know where we would be without them.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Central Bedfordshire

RIDGEWAY SCHOOL

HARPUR TRUST

Bedford Borough's HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES and FOOD Programme

BPL

THE POTTON CHARITABLE TRUST

THE EDGE BRANDS

charlie's gift

The Wixamtree Trust®
Supporting the communities and people of Bedfordshire

STORAGE KING

BLCF
Bedfordshire & Luton Community Foundation

G
Gale Family Charity Trust

The White Hart Campton

Rotary Club of Milton Keynes Grand Union

DAXTONBURY Festival

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

SPORT ENGLAND

xerox™

The Panacea Charitable Trust

THE CHEQUERS PUB & KITCHEN

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embrace

Unlocking Possibilities, Embracing Life

Registered charity no: 1156447

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With thanks to White Hart Press for printing

Charity registration number: 1156447

Embrace (Bedford and District)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Community Accounting Plus
Units 1 & 2
North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Embrace (Bedford and District)

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Embrace (Bedford and District)

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Paul Lockyer, Chair Eileen Swaisland, Vice Chair Lee Mostari, Treasurer Robert Bunting, Secretary, until 13 November 2023 Suzannah Lee Rajan Kanda Claire Broughton-Welsh Catherine Weir, Secretary, from 13 November 2023 Elizabeth Noble
Senior Management Team	Jane Howard White, Services Director
Charity Registration Number	1156447
Principal Office	43 Bromham Road Bedford MK40 2AA
Independent Examiner	John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus Units 1 & 2 North West 41 Talbot Street Nottingham NG1 5GL

Embrace (Bedford and District)

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees and officers

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

Trustees:	Paul Lockyer, Chair
	Eileen Swaisland, Vice Chair
	Lee Mostari, Treasurer
	Robert Bunting, Secretary, until 13 November 2023
	Suzannah Lee
	Rajan Kanda
	Claire Broughton-Welsh
	Catherine Weir, Secretary, from 13 November 2023 (appointed 13 November 2023)
	Elizabeth Noble (appointed 24 April 2023)
	Lynn Hoppenbrouwers (resigned 13 November 2023)
	Peter Mount (resigned 13 November 2023)

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales. This report details activities undertaken for public benefit as well as other key details demonstrating the ongoing success and value of the charity.

Governance and Management

Embrace (Bedford and District) is also known by its working name Embrace. The name changed from Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society (BDCPS) in March 2024.

For historical reference, a revised constitution was established, and a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation was registered as charity number 1156447 on 6th April 2014. All operations, contracts and assets of the previous charity number 207386 were transferred to the new charity on this date.

Under the terms of the current constitution Trustees are appointed for a tenure of three years and are available for re-selection at the annual AGM.

Trustees are appointed based on any skill gaps identified with the aim of improving the effectiveness of the existing board. Opportunities to join the board are available to all interested in supporting the charity's objectives as detailed in the constitution.

Two references and Disclosure and Barring Service checks, as well as right-to-work checks, are carried out before people take up voluntary or employment opportunities which may bring them into regular contact with vulnerable people.

A comprehensive set of governance and operating policies and procedures has been developed to ensure we manage the charity effectively and give people the best possible service. These are reviewed, updated if necessary and signed off by trustees on a rolling basis. In addition to rigorous safeguarding, selection and supervision processes, staff and volunteers are offered a variety of training opportunities.

A service and operations focussed strategic review, involving trustees and staff, is held regularly (last in March 2024). The output of this review is used as a framework for prioritisation and major decision making.

Trustees meet monthly and senior staff report to these meetings. Sub-groups and committees are allocated to specific areas where more focus than the monthly trustee meetings can provide. This year these sub-groups have been tasked to continue the focus on the charity's strategic plans and sustainability, fundraising and the 70th year anniversary year in 2024. Sub-committees have clear instruction and delegated authority from the trustee board.

Reserves Policy
Reserves are held to help the charity operate effectively. The level of reserves are monitored throughout the year as part of the normal monitoring and budgetary reporting processes. In this way trustees are aware if there is a build-up of excess reserves or if reserves being unexpectedly or rapidly depleted.

There are sufficient unrestricted free cash reserves of £100,000 available to cover four months of budgeted activity. This is in addition to the restricted and allocated cash we need to maintain our statutory and minimum operating costs.

This decision on these reserves has been carefully considered to ensure that families will remain supported should the charity fail to raise sufficient funds and reluctantly identify a need to cease operating.

Embrace (Bedford and District)

Trustees' Report (continued)

Statement of Responsibilities

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

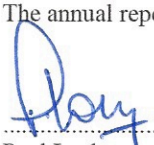
The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 14/10/24 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Lockyer
Trustee

Embrace (Bedford and District)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Embrace (Bedford and District)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Embrace (Bedford and District)
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Embrace (Bedford and District) (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

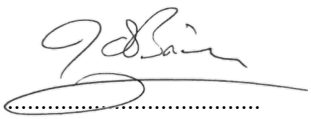
Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member and Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners, which is one of the listed bodies.
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



.....
John O'Brien MSc, FAIA, FCCA, FCIE, employee of Community Accounting Plus
Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners

Units 1 & 2
North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Date:21/10/24

Embrace (Bedford and District)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	11,054	-	11,054	48,334
Charitable activities	3	10,081	150,267	160,348	155,858
Other trading activities	4	75,678	-	75,678	34,519
Investment income	5	6,379	-	6,379	6,269
Total Income		103,192	150,267	253,459	244,980
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	(11,114)	-	(11,114)	(8,136)
Charitable activities	8	(56,318)	(279,101)	(335,419)	(284,000)
Total Expenditure		(67,432)	(279,101)	(346,533)	(292,136)
Gains/losses on investment assets		28,689	-	28,689	(38,746)
Net income/(expenditure)		64,449	(128,834)	(64,385)	(85,902)
Gross transfers between funds		(106,136)	106,136	-	-
Net movement in funds		(41,687)	(22,698)	(64,385)	(85,902)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		448,422	34,015	482,437	568,339
Total funds carried forward	20	406,735	11,317	418,052	482,437

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

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 20.

Embrace (Bedford and District)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	48,334	-	48,334
Charitable activities	3	10,759	145,099	155,858
Other trading activities	4	34,519	-	34,519
Investment income	5	6,269	-	6,269
Total Income		99,881	145,099	244,980
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	(8,136)	-	(8,136)
Charitable activities	8	(86,234)	(197,766)	(284,000)
Total Expenditure		(94,370)	(197,766)	(292,136)
Gains/losses on investment assets		(38,746)	-	(38,746)
Net expenditure		(33,235)	(52,667)	(85,902)
Gross transfers between funds		(44,752)	44,752	-
Net movement in funds		(77,987)	(7,915)	(85,902)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		526,409	41,930	568,339
Total funds carried forward	20	448,422	34,015	482,437

Embrace (Bedford and District)

(Registration number: 1156447)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	14	345,358	441,098
Current assets			
Debtors	15	5,688	1,983
Cash at bank and in hand	16	74,183	47,238
		79,871	49,221
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	17	(7,177)	(7,882)
Net current assets		72,694	41,339
Net assets		418,052	482,437
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		11,317	34,015
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		406,735	448,422
Total funds	20	418,052	482,437

The financial statements on pages 6 to 19 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ..14/10/24.. and signed on their behalf by:

Lee Mostari

.....
Lee Mostari
Trustee

Embrace (Bedford and District)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation
Embrace (Bedford & District) meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement
Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

Going concern
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income and endowments
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable

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

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

Raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Taxation

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

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

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

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line
Motor vehicles	20% straight line

Fixed asset investments

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

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

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

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

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

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

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

Pensions and other post retirement obligations
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. Pension costs charges in the Statement of Financial Activities represent the contributions payable by the charity during the year.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from companies, trusts and similar proceeds	11,054	11,054	39,334
Grants, including capital grants;			
Government grants	-	-	9,000
	11,054	11,054	48,334

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Grants & donations	-	150,267	150,267	145,057
Professional Specialist Service	100	-	100	1,720
Subscriptions	9,981	-	9,981	9,039
Sundry receipts	-	-	-	42
	10,081	150,267	160,348	155,858

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fundraising	75,678	75,678	34,519
	75,678	75,678	34,519

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income from dividends;			
Dividends receivable from other listed investments	6,271	6,271	6,143
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	108	108	126
	6,379	6,379	6,269

6 Grants and donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Bedford Borough Council	-	50,010	50,010
Central Bedfordshire Council	-	56,400	56,400
The Harpur Trust	-	11,779	11,779
Daxtonbury	5,054	-	5,054
The Gale Family Trust	6,000	-	6,000
Potton Charitable Trust	-	12,500	12,500
The Wixhamtree Trust	-	6,000	6,000
Magic Little Grants	-	500	500
The Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	-	8,000	8,000
Sport England	-	4,078	4,078
Toy Library	-	1,000	1,000
	11,054	150,267	161,321

7 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Other costs of generating donations and legacies

	Direct costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies	5,673	5,673	2,228
Investment management costs	5,441	5,441	5,908
	11,114	11,114	8,136

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Accountancy & payroll	3,594	-	3,594	3,145
Insurance	1,896	-	1,896	1,828
IT, software & maintenance	828	-	828	541
Legal & professional fees	18,985	334	19,319	3,227
Wages, NIC & pensions	67,379	125,350	192,729	155,478
Rent & services	2,541	-	2,541	9,399
Activities & events	2,386	12,473	14,859	26,908
Bank staff salaries	11,780	62,189	73,969	62,269
Communications	1,100	108	1,208	1,938
Equipment	1,195	2,297	3,492	1,863
Grants & donations awarded	-	2,141	2,141	3,934
Premises hire	4,989	5,610	10,599	7,654
Printing	284	-	284	244
Staff travel & expenses	1,192	1,291	2,483	1,680
Stationery & office supplies	365	9	374	933
Training	367	3,719	4,086	1,692
Volunteer expenses	-	149	149	421
Bank charges	97	-	97	97
Memberships	323	114	437	308
Depreciation	-	-	-	441
Sundry expenditure	314	20	334	-
Overheads	(63,297)	63,297	-	-
	56,318	279,101	335,419	284,000

9 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	-	442

10 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	246,386	201,363
Social security costs	11,663	9,520
Pension costs	8,649	6,864
	266,698	217,747

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

	2024 No	2023 No
Average number of employees	31	25

7 (2023 - 7) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £8,649 (2023 - £6,864).

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

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £46,512 (2023 - £44,869).

11 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Lynn Hoppenbrouwers
Lynn Hoppenbrouwers (during the period as the trustee) received remuneration of £9,494 (2023: £7,247) for the role as Interim Grant Fundraiser during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

12 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

13 Taxation

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

14 Fixed asset investments

	2020 £	2023 £
Other investments	345,358	441,098

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2023	441,098	441,098
Revaluation	29,270	29,270
Disposals	(125,010)	(125,010)
At 31 March 2024	345,358	345,358
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	345,358	345,358
At 31 March 2023	441,098	441,098

15 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	3,074	279
Prepayments	2,614	1,704
	5,688	1,983

16 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash on hand	331	277
Cash at bank	73,852	46,961
	74,183	47,238

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security	4,254	3,992
Other creditors	1,224	1,473
Accruals	1,699	2,417
	7,177	7,882

18 Independent examiner's fees

During the period, the fees payable (excluding VAT) to the charity's independent examiner Community Accounting Plus are analysed as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Independent examination	925	835
Other financial services	1,890	1,618
	2,815	2,453

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted			
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2024 Total funds £
Fixed asset investments	345,358	-	-	345,358
Current assets	(31,446)	100,000	11,317	79,871
Current liabilities	(7,177)	-	-	(7,177)
Total net assets	306,735	100,000	11,317	418,052

	Unrestricted			
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2023 Total funds £
Fixed asset investments	341,098	100,000	-	441,098
Current assets	15,206	-	34,015	49,221
Current liabilities	(7,882)	-	-	(7,882)
Total net assets	348,422	100,000	34,015	482,437

20 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General funds	348,422	131,881	(67,432)	(106,136)	306,735
Designated					
Building fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Total unrestricted funds	448,422	131,881	(67,432)	(106,136)	406,735
Restricted funds					
Young People's Services	20,720	54,840	(179,555)	103,995	-
College's Out	6,311	2,000	(4,114)	-	4,197
Family Support Services	6,984	93,427	(93,291)	-	7,120
Welfare	-	-	(2,141)	2,141	-
Total restricted funds	34,015	150,267	(279,101)	106,136	11,317
Total funds	482,437	282,148	(346,533)	-	418,052

The transfer from the General fund to the restricted funds is to cover the deficit on these activities.

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

Young People's Services - wide range of creative activity and life skills clubs, trips and residential experiences, festivals, sports/theatre events and nights out.
College's Out - Held during the Easter and Summer holiday periods. Full days of activity schemes are open to disabled young people aged 18-25 offering a wide range of experiences to help empower young people to achieve, make new friends, try new things and develop life skills.
Family Support Services - Provides information and support for families with local and national contacts for a wide range of topics about CP and other disabilities.
Welfare - Embrace awards grants to individuals and families who need specialist equipment to help them with their condition.

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General funds	426,409	99,881	(133,116)	(44,752)	348,422
Designated					
Building fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Total unrestricted funds	526,409	99,881	(133,116)	(44,752)	448,422
Restricted					
Young People's Services	21,920	21,060	(22,260)	-	20,720
College's Out	6,389	-	(78)	-	6,311
Skool's Out	3,536	61,300	(109,396)	44,560	-
Family Support Services	9,783	59,739	(62,538)	-	6,984
Welfare	302	3,000	(3,494)	192	-
Total restricted funds	41,930	145,099	(197,766)	44,752	34,015
Total funds	568,339	244,980	(330,882)	-	482,437

Embrace (Bedford and District)

England & Wales - Charity number 1156447

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1156447

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Community Accounting Plus
Units 1 & 2
North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

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Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Paul Lockyer, Chair Eileen Swaisland, Vice Chair Lee Mostari, Treasurer Robert Bunting, Secretary Suzannah Lee Peter Mount Rajan Kanda Lynn Hoppenbrouwers Claire Broughton-Welsh
Senior Management Team	Jane Howard White, Services Director
Charity Registration Number	1156447
Principal Office	43 Bromham Road Bedford MK40 2AA
Independent Examiner	John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus Units 1 & 2 North West 41 Talbot Street Nottingham NG1 5GL

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees and officers

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

Trustees:	Paul Lockyer, Chair (appointed 14 November 2022)
	Eileen Swaisland, Vice Chair
	Lee Mostari, Treasurer
	Robert Bunting, Secretary
	Suzannah Lee
	Peter Mount
	Rajan Kanda
	Lynn Hoppenbrouwers
	Claire Broughton-Welsh
	Cherry Roomes (resigned 14 November 2022)
	Michael Marsh (resigned 14 November 2022)
	Christine Clifford (resigned 14 November 2022)

Aims and Objectives

BDCPS is a small charity based in Bedfordshire, which for nearly 70 years has supported people with complex disabilities and their families.

The charity was established for the relief of people with any form of cerebral palsy or associated disability by assisting in the care, welfare, treatment and education of such people and of their families and carers.

At BDCPS we focus on ABILITY rather than disability. We are passionate about providing a ‘greenhouse’ where young people can grow, aspire, dream and achieve greater things.

We aspire beyond just meeting the basic needs and provide extraordinary activities and adventures for extraordinary young people.

Our families trust that we will provide safe activities that will enable their young person to bloom. We also extend the greenhouse to include the whole family and provide much needed support for parent-carers and siblings, including wellbeing activities, emotional and practical support, and sibling adventures.

We grow organically based on the needs of our beneficiaries. We are passionate about co-producing with our families and young people and find creative ways for everyone to have their voice. And we listen!

We pride ourselves on our ability to adapt to changing environments and have a responsive and flexible approach to all that we do. For nearly 70 years we have been enabling people with complex disabilities and their families to live life their way.

This report details activities undertaken for public benefit as well as other key details demonstrating the ongoing success and value of the charity.

Public Benefit
The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales. This report details activities undertaken for public benefit as well as other key details demonstrating the ongoing success and value of the charity.

Governance and Management
For historical reference, BDCPS established a new constitution and a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation as a registered charity number 1156447 on 6th April 2014. All operations, contracts and assets of the previous charity number 207386 were transferred to the new charity on this date.

Under the terms of the current constitution Trustees are appointed for a tenure of three years and are available for re-selection at the annual AGM.

Trustees are appointed based on any skill gaps identified with the aim of improving the effectiveness of the existing board. Opportunities to join the board are available to all interested in supporting the charity's objectives as detailed in the constitution.

Two references and Disclosure and Barring Service checks, as well as right-to-work checks, are carried out before people take up voluntary or employment opportunities which may bring them into regular contact with vulnerable people.

A comprehensive set of governance and operating policies and procedures has been developed to ensure we manage the charity effectively and give people the best possible service. These are reviewed, updated if necessary and signed off by trustees on a rolling basis. In addition to rigorous safeguarding, selection and supervision processes, staff and volunteers are offered a variety of training opportunities.

A strategic review, involving trustees and staff, is held regularly (last in March 2023). The output of this review is used as a framework for prioritisation and major decision making.

Trustees meet monthly and senior staff report to these meetings. Sub-groups and committees are allocated to specific areas where more focus than the monthly trustee meetings can provide. This year these sub-groups have been tasked to continue the focus on the charity's strategic plans and sustainability, fundraising and the 70th year anniversary year in 2024. Sub-committees have clear instruction and delegated authority from the trustee board.

Achievements and Performance 2022/2023
This year's continued unprecedented and combined challenges of the cost-of-living crisis, political uncertainties and statutory service pressures on the back of the Covid19 pandemic have extended service contingencies once again in effectively supporting those we serve. There is a continued need to identify and plan the scope and reach of our services. Although the environment remains challenging we are pleased to confirm an improvement compared to the previous year, as we return closer to normality with more face-to-face services. As with many organisations, we continue to be challenged by availability of staffing and the quantity of services we would like to provide.

We have worked to develop and improve our established services and to keep our reputation of continually reflecting and striving for excellence throughout the year. To do this we have continued to review, consult on the services on offer and on how best to serve our registered families in these tough times.

We believe that active engagement with service users will help ensure that those we serve get appropriate service and support and best use of funds.

All salaried staff have continued working mostly from home since the pandemic restrictions started them off on hybrid working.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Over the course of the year, we continued to further support and enrich the lives of our members with continual reflection, review and improvement with the adaption of all services to ensure a best offer.

We are particularly aware of the importance of assisting our families to build resilience and look after their wellbeing under the increasing public service strain and especially through these times of great uncertainty. Wellbeing support opportunities have grown considerably during this period.

In numbers, the quantity of families registered to use our services has grown by over 20% to almost 160. We offered 435 activity sessions during the year and nearly 4,000 hours of support, with the majority provided to our young people and the remainder to parent/carers or family activities.

While over 40% of our funding comes from the two local authorities, we continue to work hard to diversify our income and are grateful for the support of numerous trust and foundation grants, individual donations, and all those who contribute at the events and activities we deliver through the year.

Key Strengths

• BDCPS has been able to respond effectively in support of those we serve throughout the changing periods of uncertainty over the past few years.

• BDCPS has almost 70 years' experience working with families in Bedfordshire. Our key staff have over 100 years' experience between them.

• BDCPS is a values-driven organisation and holds the families we work with at the centre of all our processes.

• We look for creative solutions, rather than operating rigid services. We look to provide the best outcomes with the best use of resources.

• BDCPS gets to know the families we work with and they trust us to reach the best possible outcomes for them. They therefore open up to us about the issues affecting their family and the help they need.

• Our staff really understand the children they work with as our activity groups are small enough to respond to their needs, interests and choices.

• BDCPS is the only specialist scheme that runs sessions in all holidays, including siblings to meet family needs. As a consequence, members of many other groups also use BDCPS throughout the year.

• BDCPS staff can work unsocial hours to ensure families are not left without support.

• BDCPS works to sound policies and procedures. We are registered with Ofsted for the voluntary register.

• BDCPS aims to be the 'best in class' we have the desire to always listen, evaluate and continuously improve. We will not allow growth to become a disconnect from purpose.

• BDCPS will recognise other specialists and not duplicate their activities.

• Equal opportunities are implemented in all areas of our work.

• A training programme that prepares our staff for the children's needs and gives families confidence in our abilities.

• Our sessions have a standard 1:1 staffing ratio as appropriate, with a higher ratio if needs require this.

• Most of our activity services for young people do not require parents to stay or provide a carer, enabling them to have true respite from care.

• We operate a diverse and creative activity timetable, accessing mainstream activities and community activities.

• We work in partnership with our service users and other agencies.

• BDCPS provide places to children who have no alternative. We cater for over 50 different disabilities and include those that need medication including emergency, oxygen, suctioning, gastro feeding, hoisting and personal care.

Feedback Examples

When my brother is on scheme we get to do things with the rest of the family that he may not like or can do. He gets to do lots of fun things and we know he is safe and we then can have fun too.

We love the weekly wellbeing walks. We have met some amazing families facing similar sorts of challenges and made lovely friends.

To sum up our experience with BDCPS is we have been treated with love and kindness by everyone we have met. Having a child with a complex need made me feel really isolated at first but now I have a group of people I can trust with my daughter and she trusts back.

I love taking part in the arts sessions it gives me ME time to lose myself being creative, not having to juggle anything, just to stop and let my mind wander. I get to catch up with friends I have made, chat and have a cuppa and relax.

My daughter had an absolute blast at the railway today. Thank you we loved it too.
I just wanted to say thank you for the card in remembrance of H we received it today. Thoughts like this really do mean the world to us. Thank you so much.

My son gets so excited getting out of the van when he is going to activities by BDCPS. This is exactly what he should be doing being with people his age having fun away from his parents for a while.

We really appreciate that staff try to do as much routine in a day's activity as is possible. This helps the consistency of approach across T's life and helps her to feel settled and confident to keep coming.

Service Delivery
Face-to-face services resumed in the wake of the Covid19 pandemic with some virtual offers still in place.

BDCPS works in partnership and collaboration with other local public and private agencies and groups where appropriate for the enhancement of provision and projects. The charity does not have its own premises, meaning we are reliant on the goodwill and use of community resources. We are very fortunate to be able to access a range of these to offer an appropriate range of services. These include:

• Ridgeway School (a special needs school in Kempston) is used as the base for most of the activity schemes as it provides a range of fully accessible facilities.

• Little Sweet Peas early support groups are now running weekly spread across four venues in Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire. These include venues run by both councils.

• The Salvation Army and local community centres.

• Bedfordshire Music Therapy partner us in an early support music therapy group "Little Music Makers".

• Storage King in Bedford continue to provide storage for club and scheme equipment. They also provide a shredding service to ensure data compliance.

• The Kempston Hammers Sports & Social Club provide the venue for most of our parent/carer support groups.

• Collaborative projects have also been undertaken with Spectrum Community Arts, Bedfordshire Music Service and the Full House Theatre Company.

We will continue to seek partnerships with other appropriate space providers and activity providers to broaden the range of opportunities offered to children, young adults and their families to strengthen community links.

Children and Young People's Activities
BDCPS takes great care in ensuring a professional and individualised approach to all schemes and clubs. Ensuring that services are adapted for each young person to meet their unique interests and individual needs is key.

STAMPEDE
A specialist monthly play club for young people (5-13yrs) held on Saturday mornings offering structured and exciting sensory activities in consultation with young people and families. This club resumed a face-to-face format this year. There was some tentativeness in the return to face to face, with a gradual uptake as those reaching the admissions age have started to explore attending short breaks opportunities outside the family "bubble".

JJ's CREW
A vibrant and inclusive monthly youth club for disabled teenagers (13-18yrs) who wish to socialise with their peers. Sports, cooking, arts/crafts and life skills, all on site. This service strongly focuses on developing life skills and independence. This club was reinstated in October 2022 at Ridgeway School following on at a time slot after the earlier Stampede Club. Many of the young people that had previously attended Stampede prior to the Covid19 restrictions have moved up to this age range and opted for the familiarity of staffing and site.

ACE UNLIMITED
The ACE transition activity group club is for people aged 18+. The club's focus is on helping young people mature into adulthood and independence through group activities in the community. Small groups of likeminded young people attend activities and events to suit them e.g. cinema and a drink, pub suppers, festivals, light shows, sensory experiences etc.

SKOOL'S OUT
Usually held during school holidays, the play schemes are open to complex disabled young people (8-17yrs). The activities are varied, fun, inclusive and empowering. Appropriate assessed staff ratios enable full, safe and meaningful participation.

This year four weeks of activity were offered across the summer. This included an immersive theatre week with Full House Theatre company and a week on an "open orchestra project" with Bedfordshire Music. Family sessions were held in conjunction with this scheme.

We were also able to offer three days of activities in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which enabled young people to meaningfully take part in the nation's celebrations. A video was sponsored by the Arts Council and created by a local filmmaker to encapsulate and demonstrate how creativity and adaptations can truly enable participation in such celebrations for even the most complex disabled young people. The fourth day was celebrated with a viewing of the final version of the video and a merger of volunteer and staff service presentations at the local Quarry Theatre. https://linktr.ee/bdcps ("Include me in the Jubilee").

Family Services

LITTLE SWEET PEAS: "Guiding those first steps"
Little Sweet Peas is an evolving early-intervention special-needs play and support group. It is an open-door group where parents can bring along their disabled child and any siblings less than five years to play and share a lunch together. Also, young people under eight, whose health needs are so great they cannot access school, are able to attend. Parents and carers get the chance to share ideas and gain support from each other and the information and support staff. This year we were able to offer a regular session each week across each of Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire, using community to facilities to deliver the groups. One group is a collaboration with an already established group in Leighton Buzzard: Freddie and Friends, who run a community café.

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES:
Family support practitioners provide support and advocacy for families whose lives are affected by complex disabilities. This ranges from ad-hoc requests for information, attendance at key meetings and appointments (e.g. at hospital), to casework and key working for families. Families are supported in navigating the bureaucracy and struggles that are so often a major part of living with a complex disabled child/person.

PARENT/CARER WELLBEING:
Parent/carer wellbeing opportunities have been developed further this year in response to nationwide and local research on the need for and beneficial outcomes of parent/carer mental health and wellbeing - which have been further highlighted by a prolonged time of national political and financial uncertainty. These have included family walks, arts, holistic therapies, information, chat sessions and nidra yoga.

Parent/Carer support
The support team was expanded as face-to-face opportunities grew. Parent/carers with lived experience joined the bank to assist in supporting families and the growing wellbeing offer.

Welfare and assistance
BDCPS awards grants to individuals and families who need specialist equipment to help them with their condition. Usually grants of £500 are offered to support families with the purchase of specialist equipment. Loan items continue to be available to families.

Opportunities for volunteering
We continue to offer excellent opportunities for people in the community to volunteer. The opportunities range from short-duration events such as fundraising or assisting in office duties, through to longer commitments such as supporting our summer play schemes. These opportunities benefit the individual by discovering and developing what they are good at as well as building confidence and self-esteem. Our volunteers remain a vital component of our operating model particularly during this extended period of uncertainties. We are immensely grateful for their participation.

Financial Review
Reserves Policy
The trustees revised the reserves policy this year during the annual strategy day review. This will be reviewed at subsequent AGM meetings. There are sufficient unrestricted free cash reserves of £100,000 available to cover four months of budgeted activity. This is in addition to the restricted and allocated cash we need to maintain our statutory and minimum operating costs.

This decision on these reserves has been carefully considered to ensure that families will remain supported should the charity fail to raise sufficient funds and reluctantly identify a need to cease operating.

A description of the allocation of unrestricted funds is detailed in the following table:

Unrestricted Funds represented by:	Reserves	Description of Funds
General purpose reserve fund	100,000	Funds to provide cash flow, meet unforeseen expenses and allow smooth transition for our beneficiaries. Based on approx. 4 months of annual turnover 2022-3 and includes £3,00 for grants to beneficiaries.
Salaries Reserve	20,000	Two months salaries and employers' NI contributions.
Redundancy Reserve	50,000	Redundancy liabilities (and required notice period) based on statutory minimum payments for all staff.
Pension obligation	2,000	Two months Pension contribution for opted-in staff.
HR, Payroll, Financial obligations	1,000	Two months contributions for fixed costs support services.
Premises Reserve - General	6,000	To fulfil tenancy and equipment hire obligations.
Asset Replacement	5,000	Provision to replace necessary personal care equipment (hoist, changing bed, manual handling equipment) IT and furniture as required.
Ringfenced Reserve – Building Fund	250,000	£100,000 Legacy gift for building development with additional contribution from investments.
Total	434,000	

Funding Sources
The trustees maintain a diverse range of funding for the charity's activities to mitigate risks and ensure that funding is sustainable. Funding comes from four main sources:

• Contracts with local councils to deliver essential services on their behalf. We have contracts with Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire Councils

• Grant income from charitable trusts and government sources. This is usually for specific projects and purposes

• Our own fundraising activities and donations from the community as well as small, medium and large employers

• Subscriptions from members paid to access specific services

During the last year, in addition to local authority grants, we have received generous grants and support from:

• Bedfordshire & Luton Community Fund
• BPL Global
• Daxtonbury
• Dentons UKMEA LLP Charitable Trust
• Douglas Arter Foundation
• The Harpur Trust
• The Panacea Charitable Trust
• Potton Charitable Trust

Fundraising money was raised at numerous events including
• A sky dive
• Bedford Lions Christmas campaign
• Campfest festival
• Cream teas
• Family bingo, pub quizzes etc.
• Langford Creative Fayre
• NCS
• Wear It Blue and Mile for a Smile Campaigns
• The Dance Music Stage at The River Festival
• Winter Craft Fayre and raffle

Others held fundraisers for us they included:
• SDC Builders Ltd
• Several marathons run by supporters
• Three people participating in John O'Groats to Land's End cycle challenges
• Woburn YFC

Donations were made to the charity by the following:
• Andy Doyle
• Belinda Taylor
• Benevity Charity Giving
• Brittney Leach
• Colin McMurdy
• D Usher
• Dee Dees Vegan Diner
• Heather Hunt
• Jane Cavanagh
• Jane Howard-White

• Julia Gies
• Lynn Hoppenbrouwers
• Mostari family
• Nick Keir
• Peter Mann
• Simon McMurdy
• The Oddfellows

We also have six regular givers:
• Bob Bunting
• Colin McMurdy
• Jennifer Mostari
• Phoenix therapy
• Sarah O'flynn
• Simon McMurdy

Money was received through the following channels: Facebook Giving, Just Giving, Easy Fundraising, the Bonus Ball Lottery, Amazon Smile, Paypal giving fund and CHAPS online giving.

Investment Policies and Objectives
We maintain an investment portfolio that is managed on a medium-to-low risk basis by our fund managers. The majority of this is the legacy of money was raised through the sale of land and buildings that the charity was founded with. The main purpose of this portfolio is to support our reserves policy as outlined above.

In addition, we hold a current account in which we maintain sufficient cash to cover operational costs and payroll expenses.

Building Strong Foundations for the Future
Throughout 2022/23 BDCPS aimed to continue to support service provision and look to bridge gaps in services to enable families to live as 'normal' a life as was possible living within the restrictions of a fluctuating pandemic. The focus and development over the year has been to support families in the best ways possible whilst maintaining safety for this very vulnerable group.

In the following year we hope to successfully gain support and continue investing in improving the charity's infrastructure to enable us to meet our objectives effectively and efficiently and to provide a good platform for service sustainability and effective management. This will include the following actions:

• continue the extended support provision in the early years groups, working closely with other professionals i.e. nursing teams, social work teams, education and therapies.

• develop and monitor against national statistics wellbeing support sessions to include an element of relaxation and development of personal resilience and coping strategies.

• continue the development of wellbeing services and collaborate with other service providers to support and encourage self-care in families.

• continue to develop and deliver support to families awaiting statutory assessments and services with outreach support sessions _ and work alongside statutory providers to strengthen and enable the best outcomes for those we serve.

• continue the involvement of our families in shaping our services by developing young people/parent forums.

• continue to focus our clubs, playschemes and other activities on developing the life skills our young people need to achieve their aspirations and take control of their lives, and on helping them to get their voices out and heard across our community.

• continue to strengthen our organisation through appropriate use of business plans, decision-making frameworks, risk assessment and training - alongside further exploration and implementation of appropriate quality assurance.

• continue to strengthen the board of trustees as our new chair works with the whole team to lead and develop the strategy for the coming years - as well as filling any trustee vacancies with outstanding candidates with empathy, energy and skills which fit with our needs.

Recognition
Finally, as the new chair, I (Paul Lockyer) would like to thank everyone for welcoming me to the team. It is an amazing and special charity run by people whose time, efforts and commitment make such a positive difference.

We would not have such a positive impact without our magnificent staff, volunteers, supporters and partners as well as the local community that support us in a variety of ways to continue to serve our service users.

Most important of all, on behalf of our trustees, staff and volunteers, I would like to thank our registered families. We are indebted to them for making what we do such a pleasure. It is privilege to be a part of their lives.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report (continued)

Statement of Responsibilities

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

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 23/10/23 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Paul Lockyer
Trustee

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

.....
John O'Brien MSc, FAIA, FCCA, FCIE, employee of Community Accounting Plus
Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners

Units 1 & 2
North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Date: 25/10/23

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	48,334	-	48,334	51,900
Charitable activities	3	10,759	145,099	155,858	140,964
Other trading activities	4	34,519	-	34,519	16,468
Investment income	5	6,269	-	6,269	5,349
Total Income		99,881	145,099	244,980	214,681
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		(8,136)	-	(8,136)	(8,286)
Charitable activities	7	(86,234)	(197,766)	(284,000)	(239,444)
Total Expenditure		(94,370)	(197,766)	(292,136)	(247,730)
Gains/losses on investment assets		(38,746)	-	(38,746)	12,648
Net expenditure		(33,235)	(52,667)	(85,902)	(20,401)
Gross transfers between funds		(44,752)	44,752	-	-
Net movement in funds		(77,987)	(7,915)	(85,902)	(20,401)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		526,409	41,930	568,339	588,740
Total funds carried forward	21	448,422	34,015	482,437	568,339

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

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 21.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	51,900	-	51,900
Charitable activities	3	9,299	131,665	140,964
Other trading activities	4	16,468	-	16,468
Investment income	5	5,349	-	5,349
Total Income		83,016	131,665	214,681
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds		(8,230)	(56)	(8,286)
Charitable activities	7	(74,184)	(165,260)	(239,444)
Total Expenditure		(82,414)	(165,316)	(247,730)
Gains/losses on investment assets		12,648	-	12,648
Net movement in funds		13,250	(33,651)	(20,401)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		513,159	75,581	588,740
Total funds carried forward	21	526,409	41,930	568,339

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

(Registration number: 1156447)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	-	442
Investments	12	433,118	462,526
		433,118	462,968
Current assets			
Debtors	13	1,983	2,374
Investments	14	7,980	17,182
Cash at bank and in hand	15	47,238	88,688
		57,201	108,244
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(7,882)	(2,873)
Net current assets		49,319	105,371
Net assets		482,437	568,339
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		34,015	41,930
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		448,422	526,409
Total funds	21	482,437	568,339

The financial statements on pages 14 to 28 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 23/10/23 and signed on their behalf by:

lee mostari

.....
Lee Mostari
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation
Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement
The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Going concern
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income and endowments
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable

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

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

Raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Taxation

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

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

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

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line
Motor vehicles	20% straight line

Fixed asset investments

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

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

Current asset investments

Current asset investments are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value / market value.

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

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

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

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

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

Pensions and other post retirement obligations
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. Pension costs charges in the Statement of Financial Activities represent the contributions payable by the charity during the year.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from companies, trusts and similar proceeds	39,334	39,334	46,865
Grants, including capital grants;			
Government grants	9,000	9,000	5,035
	48,334	48,334	51,900

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Grants & donations	-	145,057	145,057	131,665
Services	1,720	-	1,720	165
Subscriptions	9,039	-	9,039	8,651
Sundry receipts	-	42	42	483
	10,759	145,099	155,858	140,964

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £	Total 2022 £
Fundraising	34,519	34,519	16,468
	34,519	34,519	16,468

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income from dividends;			
Dividends receivable from other listed investments	6,143	6,143	5,349
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	126	126	-
	6,269	6,269	5,349

6 Grants and donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Central Bedfordshire Council	9,000	45,000	54,000
Bedford Borough Council	-	52,000	52,000
The Panacea Charitable Trust	-	10,000	10,000
The Harpur Trust	-	24,858	24,858
Daxtonbury	-	5,054	5,054
Bedfordshire & Luton Community Fund	-	5,000	5,000
Potton Charitable Trust	-	1,000	1,000
Dentons UKMEA LLP Charitable Trust	-	1,500	1,500
BPL Global	15,000	-	15,000
Douglas Arter Foundation	-	500	500
Woburn YFC	3,461	-	3,461
S. D. C. Builders Ltd	5,145	-	5,145
Sundry grants & donations	15,728	145	15,873
	48,334	145,057	193,391

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Accountancy & payroll	3,145	-	3,145	2,442
Insurance	1,828	-	1,828	1,474
IT, software & maintenance	530	11	541	1,849
Legal & professional fees	2,349	878	3,227	2,632
Wages, NIC & pensions	55,919	99,559	155,478	140,884
Rent & services	9,399	-	9,399	11,552
Activities & events	99	26,809	26,908	25,827
Bank staff salaries	7,862	54,407	62,269	37,691
Communications	1,739	199	1,938	1,813
Equipment	212	1,651	1,863	2,453
Grants & donations awarded	-	3,934	3,934	1,133
Premises hire	260	7,394	7,654	2,085
Printing	203	41	244	291
Staff travel & expenses	632	1,048	1,680	2,100
Stationery & office supplies	866	67	933	672
Training	257	1,435	1,692	2,360
Volunteer expenses	202	219	421	209
Bank charges	97	-	97	190
Memberships	194	114	308	446
Depreciation	441	-	441	1,341
	86,234	197,766	284,000	239,444

8 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	442	1,341

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	201,363	164,048
Social security costs	9,520	8,179
Pension costs	6,864	6,348
	217,747	178,575

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

	2023 No	2022 No
Average number of employees	25	20

7 (2022 - 5) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £6,864 (2022 - £6,348).

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

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £44,869 (2022 - £42,747).

10 Taxation

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2022	10,225	4,500	2,096	16,821
At 31 March 2023	10,225	4,500	2,096	16,821
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2022	10,225	4,500	1,654	16,379
Charge for the year	-	-	442	442
At 31 March 2023	10,225	4,500	2,096	16,821
Net book value				
At 31 March 2023	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	-	-	442	442

12 Fixed asset investments

	2020 £	2022 £
Other investments	433,118	462,526

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2022	462,526	462,526
Revaluation	(29,408)	(29,408)
At 31 March 2023	433,118	433,118
Net book value		
At 31 March 2023	433,118	433,118
At 31 March 2022	462,526	462,526

13 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	279	672
Prepayments	1,704	1,702
	1,983	2,374

14 Current asset investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash deposits	7,980	17,182

15 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash on hand	277	213
Cash at bank	46,961	88,475
	47,238	88,688

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security	3,992	-
Other creditors	1,473	1,573
Accruals	2,417	1,300
	7,882	2,873

17 Independent examiner's fees

During the period, the fees payable (excluding VAT) to the charity's independent examiner Community Accounting Plus are analysed as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examination	835	795
Other financial services	1,618	1,240
	2,453	2,035

18 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

19 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Lynn Hoppenbrouwers
Lynn Hoppenbrouwers received remuneration of £7,247 (2022: £Nil) for the role as Interim Grant Fundraiser during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted			
	General	Designated	Restricted	2023 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Fixed asset investments	333,118	100,000	-	433,118
Current assets	23,186	-	34,015	57,201
Current liabilities	(7,882)	-	-	(7,882)
Total net assets	348,422	100,000	34,015	482,437

	Unrestricted			
	General	Designated	Restricted	2022 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	442	-	-	442
Fixed asset investments	362,526	100,000	-	462,526
Current assets	66,314	-	41,930	108,244
Current liabilities	(2,873)	-	-	(2,873)
Total net assets	426,409	100,000	41,930	568,339

21 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General funds	426,409	99,881	(133,116)	(44,752)	348,422
Designated					
Building fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Total unrestricted funds	526,409	99,881	(133,116)	(44,752)	448,422
Restricted funds					
Adventures	1,742	-	-	-	1,742
Clubs	20,178	21,060	(22,260)	-	18,978
College's Out	6,389	-	(78)	-	6,311
Skool's Out	3,536	61,300	(109,396)	44,560	-
Family Support Services	9,783	59,739	(62,538)	-	6,984
Welfare	302	3,000	(3,494)	192	-
Total restricted funds	41,930	145,099	(197,766)	44,752	34,015
Total funds	568,339	244,980	(330,882)	-	482,437

The transfer from the General fund to the Skool's Out and Welfare funds is to cover the deficit on these activities.

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

Adventures - Our trips and residential experiences respond to young people’s dreams and aspirations including festivals, sports / theatre events and nights out.
Clubs - BDCPS provides a wide range of creative activity and life skills clubs for disabled young people such as Stampede for 5-14 yr olds, ACE for 18-25 yr olds and JJ’s for 14-18 yr olds.
Skool’s Out - Held during school holidays, full days of activity schemes are open to disabled young people aged 8-25 offering amazing experiences to help empower young people to achieve, raise self-esteem, make new friends, learn new things and develop valuable life skills.
College's Out - Held during the Easter and Summer holiday periods. Full days of activity schemes are open to disabled young people aged 18-25 offering a wide range of experiences to help empower young people to achieve, make new friends, try new things and develop life skills.
Family Support Services - Provides information and support for families with local and national contacts for a wide range of topics about CP and other disabilities.
Welfare - BDCPS awards grants to individuals and families who need specialist equipment to help them with their condition.

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General funds	413,159	83,016	(82,414)	12,648	426,409
Designated					
Building fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Total unrestricted funds	513,159	83,016	(82,414)	12,648	526,409
Restricted					
Adventures	1,759	15,000	(15,017)	-	1,742
Clubs	20,653	13,550	(14,025)	-	20,178
College's Out	6,389	-	-	-	6,389
Skool's Out	34,759	47,120	(78,343)	-	3,536
Family Support Services	12,021	54,560	(56,798)	-	9,783
Welfare	-	1,435	(1,133)	-	302
Total restricted funds	75,581	131,665	(165,316)	-	41,930
Total funds	588,740	214,681	(247,730)	12,648	568,339

Embrace (Bedford and District)

England & Wales - Charity number 1156447

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1156447

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

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Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Eileen Swaisland, Vice Chair Lee Mostari, Treasurer Cherry Roomes Suzannah Lee Peter Mount Robert Bunting Michael Marsh Rajan Kanda Lynn Hoppenbrouwers Christine Clifford Claire Broughton-Welsh
Senior Management Team	Jane Howard White, Services Director
Charity Registration Number	1156447
Principal Office	43 Bromham Road Bedford MK40 2AA
Independent Examiner	John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus Units 1 & 2 North West 41 Talbot Street Nottingham NG1 5GL

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees and officers

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

Trustees:	Eileen Swaisland, Vice Chair
	Lee Mostari, Treasurer
	Cherry Roomes
	Suzannah Lee
	Peter Mount
	Robert Bunting
	Michael Marsh (appointed 1 April 2021)
	Rajan Kanda
	Lynn Hoppenbrouwers
	Christine Clifford
	Claire Broughton-Welsh
	Josephine Cullen (resigned 22 September 2021)

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

Governance and management

On the 6 April 2014, BDCPS set up a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered charity 1156447 and a new constitution was adopted. All of the operations, contracts and assets of the "old charity" (number 207386) were transferred to the new charity on this date. The "old charity" effectively ceased operations at midnight on the 5 April 2014.

The CIO status offers the charity the benefit of legal entity status and limited liability protection. The trustees of the "old charity" became the trustees of the new CIO. Under the terms of the new constitution Trustees are appointed for a tenure of three years and are available for re-election at the annual AGM.
Trustees are appointed based on the skills gaps identified throughout the charities year with the aim of improving the effectiveness of the existing board. Registration is open to all interested in supporting the charities objectives.

There is a child and vulnerable adults safeguarding policy in place. Two references and Disclosure and Barring Service checks as well as right to work checks are carried out before people take up voluntary or employment opportunities which may bring them into regular contact with vulnerable people.

A comprehensive set of policies and procedures has been developed to ensure we give people the best possible service. These are reviewed, updated if necessary and signed off by trustees on a rolling basis throughout the year.
There is also a decision-making framework demonstrating priorities and ensuring that decisions made by trustees are considered against these. This is also reviewed at regular intervals to ensure its effectiveness.

BDCPS works in partnership and collaboration with other local agencies and groups where appropriate for the enhancement of provision and projects. The fluctuating Covid 19 restrictions and subsequent isolation periods placed upon the country this year has meant that services have been a mixture of face to face and virtual experiences. Constant adaptions, contingencies and creativity alongside developing and nurturing community relationships and partnerships have enabled a continual offer to those we serve.

As a charity that doesn't have its own building we are reliant on the goodwill and use of community resources and are very fortunate to be able to access a range of these in order to offer an appropriate range of services.
These include:
Ridgeway School (a special needs school in Kempston) is used as the base for most of the activity schemes as it provides a range of fully accessible facilities.
Little Sweet Peas early support groups continued in a virtual format during this year but under the diminishing restrictions will take on a weekly format at 4 venues across Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire. These include venues run by Central beds and Bedford Borough councils, The salvation Army and local community centres.
Bedfordshire Music Therapy partner BDCPS in an early support music therapy group continued from an earlier pilot and continued throughout the pandemic restrictions.
Storage King in Bedford continue to provide free storage for club and scheme equipment and also provide a shredding service to ensure data compliance.
The Cutler Hammer Sports Club provide the venue for most of our parent/carer support groups.
Collaborative projects have also been undertaken with Spectrum Community Arts and The Fullhouse Theatre Company.

We will continue to seek partnerships with other appropriate space providers and activity providers as lockdown restrictions diminish in order to broaden the range of opportunities offered to children, young adults and their families to strengthen community links.

The contingency reserves have continued to support the gaps in funding opportunities during this period of great uncertainty this year.

Sub-groups and committees are allocated to specific areas where it is felt that we need more focus than the quarterly full management meetings can provide. These sub groups have been tasked this year to continue the focus on the organisation's strategic plans and sustainability. This has been somewhat curtailed during the extended periods of restrictions during the Covid 19 pandemic. However sub groups continue working on service user engagement to drive strategy and also work continues in partnership with a volunteer from the Cranfield Trust to look at the viability of a BDCPS building. Sub-committees have clear instruction and delegated authority from the management committee.
A strategic officers group meet on a monthly basis and senior staff report to this group and cascade any information through the board in preparation of the quarterly meet.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objects of the CIO are to relieve persons with any form of cerebral palsy or a related disability by assisting in the care, welfare, treatment and education of such persons and of their families and carers in the Bedford borough and central Bedfordshire regions but with power for the trustees to assist people requiring assistance or appropriate organisations in the immediately adjoining areas if they consider this to be appropriate. Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for purposes which are not charitable.

Public benefit

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

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

Activities undertaken for public benefit
Some of the benefits to the public will be demonstrated throughout this report.

Achievements and performance
This year's continued unprecedented circumstances with fluctuating restrictions and continued effects of the coronavirus pandemic has extended service contingencies once again in order to effectively support those we serve. Alongside this there has been the need to continue to identify and plan the scope and reach of our services with continued constraints of increasing austerity, political uncertainty and statutory service pressures.

We have worked to maintain the development and improvement of established services and our reputation to continually reflect and strive for excellence throughout the year. To do this we have continued to review, consult on the services on offer and how best to serve our registered families within these uncertain times and fluctuating restrictions.

We have been mindful of any substantial project growth in order to amalgamate processes and procedures and ensure the most effective best practice, governance and service delivery. Sub groups are carrying on with the work on an overall 5-year strategy. Most of this work has been based on engagement with service users to ensure that those we serve get appropriate service and support and best use of funds.

All salaried staff have continued working from home throughout the restrictions and guidance. Embarking on hybrid working during the times of restriction lifts.
Over the course of the year we have strived to further support and enrich the lives of our members and continually reflect, review and improve our established compliment of services with the adaption of all services to ensure a best offer. This has taken place in virtual formats, creative contacts through such things as hello cards, telephone and video support calls etc. family support groups and weekly support groups.
We are particularly aware of the importance of assisting our families to build resilience and look after their wellbeing under the increasing public service strain and especially through this time of great uncertainty.
As government guidelines fluctuated with the emergence of new variants we have been able to put in place activities bolstered by robust risk assessment and procedures. We were able to go ahead with another face to face summer scheme offering activity opportunities to young people and weekly opportunities to family groups.
We undertook two very special projects in conjunction with Full House Theatre Company to deliver interactive theatre experiences directly to family's gardens. These experiences were set up to address the isolation that many of our families had experienced during the restrictions, school closures and isolations. Most activity was able to be face to face on a smaller scale supported by virtual or other support offers e.g. deliveries, prescription pick up etc.
Another special project was an art exhibition held to share and celebrate the work created with us by both young people and parent/carers throughout the Covid 19 restrictions. This gave a positive outlet to highlight success, creativity and strength in the face of adversity.
Family support services grew in response to need with a focus on wellbeing and building positive ways to gain resilience. Groups such as Little Sweet Peas re-opened and continues to grow.
We are very proud to share in the successes and achievements of the families we support. We outline some of the highlights from our year below.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

SKOOL'S OUT is usually held during school holidays, the play schemes are open to complex physical and learning-disabled young people (aged 8-19). The activities are varied, fun, inclusive and empowering. Appropriate assessed staff ratios enable full, safe and meaningful participation.
During this summer restrictions had been lifted somewhat and with careful consideration and robust infection control measures a three-week scheme at Ridgeway School went ahead. A one-week training programme for staff and volunteers prior to the scheme was undertaken. Family sessions were held in conjunction with this scheme on 3 days each week.
Other school holidays were delivered in the main with family walks and activities.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

CLUBS

STAMPEDE
A specialist monthly play club for young people (5-14) held on Saturday mornings offering structured and exciting sensory activities in consultation with young people and families. This club continued to be developed and delivered online in a virtual format until recruitment allowed a face to face to restart.

JJ's CREW
A vibrant and inclusive monthly youth club for disabled teenagers (14-18) who wish to socialise with their peers. Sports, cooking, arts/crafts and life skills all on site. This service strongly focuses on developing life skills and independence. Due to the loss of the usual venue to deliver this service the group have enjoyed virtual activities of their choice.

ACE UNLIMITED
The ACE transition youth club is for young people aged 18-25. The clubs focus is on helping young people mature into adulthood and independence. In response to feedback and a focus group of young people the club took on a more responsive format. Moving away from the regular youth setting to group activities within the community. Small groups of likeminded young people attended activities and events on offer to suit them e.g. cinema and a drink, pub supper, light switch on at Christmas etc. The pandemic limited opportunities as restrictions fluctuated; however, the group has enjoyed get togethers such as AmpRocks a local music festival, a meal out and cinema trip.

BDCPS takes great care in ensuring a professional and individualised approach to all schemes and clubs. This has been a great challenge in order to respond best to need within the restrictions and changing guidelines. Ensuring that services are adapted for each young person to meet their unique interests and individual needs is key.
In addition to rigorous safeguarding, selection and supervision processes, staff and volunteers have continued to be offered training opportunities both virtual and face to face sessions where restrictions allowed.

FAMILY SERVICES

GATEOPENER
The Gateopener project provides support and advocacy for families whose lives are affected by Cerebral Palsy and associated disabilities. This ranges from ad-hoc requests for information, attendance at key meetings and appointments (e.g. at hospital), to casework and key working for families. There is an information support line and parent/carer support and wellbeing get-togethers are organised. Families are supported in navigating the bureaucracy and struggles that are so often a major part of living with a disabled child/person.
The fluctuating restrictions and continued school/resource closures this year have also had a big effect on families access to vital support services and respite time, leaving many feeling further isolated by their circumstances.

PARENT/CARER WELLBEING
Parent/carer wellbeing opportunities have been developed further this year in response to the nationwide and local research on the need for and beneficial outcomes of parent/carer mental health and wellbeing exacerbated by the isolation and added pressures within the home restrictions. In response to this we have been able to create a further range of wellbeing opportunities face to face with robust infection control risk assessments. These have included singing support, family walks, arts therapies and nidra yoga.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

FAMILY SWIM
This monthly group continued up to the time of the pandemic lockdowns the group was set up to enable the whole family to participate in an activity that other families do together with little effort. Staff attend to support needs at a local hydrotherapy pool. There is the added opportunity to get together informally after swimming for refreshments. Throughout this year access to the specialist hydrotherapy pool has not been possible but feedback from service users indicates a high need for this opportunity to be restarted once the venue becomes accessible again.

LITTLE SWEET PEAS: **"Guiding those first steps"**
Little Sweet Peas is an evolving early intervention special needs play and support group. It is an open-door group where parents can bring along their disabled child and any siblings less than 5 years to play and share a lunch together. Also young people under eight whose health needs are so great they cannot access school are able to attend. Parents and carers get the chance to share ideas and gain support from each other and the information and support staff. Restrictions meant that venues for this group became inaccessible. One venue has become available and groups have restarted there with 3 other venues across the county being explored to make a weekly offer in 2022/23.

PARENT/CARER SUPPORT/TRAINING
Training focussed and tailored to assist parent carers in managing the practical aspects of bringing up a child with disabilities. This is being planned now that face to face support services can resume. The support team will be expanded with specialist bank staff joining the team specifically to support families/parent/carers.
A member of the support team has undertaken the Triple P training and also The Healthy Parent Programme which will roll out in 2022/23.

Welfare and assistance
BDCPS awards grants to individuals and families who need specialist equipment to help them with their condition. Usually grants of £500 are offered to support families with the purchase of specialist equipment. During this year the charity continued to budget for an increased pot of money on offer to families in order to support needs arising from the pandemic. Loan items continue to be available to families.

Opportunities for volunteering
We continue to offer excellent opportunities for people in the community to volunteer. The opportunities range from short duration events such as fundraising or assisting in office duties, through to longer commitments such as supporting our three-week summer play scheme. These opportunities benefit the individual in discovering and developing what they are good at, and building confidence and self-esteem. Our volunteers remain a vital component of our operating model particularly during the lockdown period where they have assisted with food deliveries, prescription pick-ups and telephone, on-line and virtual support. We are immensely grateful for their participation.

BDCPS KEY STRENGTHS
• BDCPS has been able to respond effectively in suport of those we serve thrughout the changing phases of the pandemic restrictions and lockdowns.
• BDCPS has over 60 years experience working with families in Bedfordshire. Our key staff have over 100 years experience between them.
• BDCPS is a values driven organisation and holds the families we work with at the centre of all our processes.
• We look for creative solutions, rather than operating rigid services. We look to provide the best outcomes with the best use of resources.
• BDCPS gets to know the families we work with and they trust us to reach the best possible outcomes for them. They therefore open up to us about the issues affecting their family and the help they need.
• Our staff really understand the children they work with as our activity groups are small enough to respond to their needs, interests and choices.
• BDCPS is the only specialist scheme that runs sessions in all holidays, includes siblings and operates extended hours to meet family needs. As a consequence members of many other groups also use BDCPS throughout the year.

• BDCPS staff work unsocial hours to ensure families are not left without support.
• BDCPS works to sound policies and procedures. We are registering with Ofsted for the voluntary register.
• BDCPS aims to be the 'best in class' we have the desire to always listen, evaluate and continuously improve. We will not allow growth to become a disconnect from purpose.
• BDCPS will recognise where others are specialists and not duplicate the activities of others.
• Equal opportunities are implemented in all areas of our work.
• A solid training programme that prepares our staff for the children's needs and gives families confidence in our abilities.
• Our sessions have a standard 1:1 staffing ratio as appropriate. We operate this without applying for additional funding from local authorities.
• Our activity services for young people that do not require parents to stay or provide a carer enables them to have true respite from care and not duplicate their direct payments.
• We operate a diverse and creative activity timetable, accessing mainstream activities and community activities.
• Working in partnership.
• BDCPS provide places to children who have no alternative. We cater for over 50 different disabilities and include those that need medication including emergency, oxygen, suctioning, gastro feeding, hoisting and personal care.

FEEDBACK EXAMPLES

"Meeting other families is the best way not to feel alone in this long and often difficult journey. Having coffee and a chat with others on the same path, even if at different stages, lightens the load. BDCPS has done this for us"

"It was lovely taking part in activities with my child or just watching him engage. BDCPS helps us to interact positively outside the clinical settings that run our lives so often."

" W always returns home excited and Bouncing in his wheelchair, albeit exhausted. He loves being with his friends on day trips. They provide much needed fresh air and new faces for him to experience."

"Being supported to express herself whilst doing the things she loves, very important for development. For my peace of mind, I know she can do this in a safe environment"

"BDCPS are a team of dedicated people that really understand the needs of our children. They show tremendous care, understanding and love and we feel S is looked after so well"

"The walks have been an absolute lifeline to me. C19 has just made me feel even more alone so I relish seeing friendly faces and people who know what it's like each week"

"I cannot say enough about the wellbeing sessions they have given me something to look forward to each week. I don't know what I would have done without them to be honest"

"The Doorstep Adventures were the most amazing thing. BDCPS have come up trumps again with knowing just how to reach out to us at a time when the Covid restrictions were really getting us down. Our whole family was involved and each week we felt uplifted and able to keep ploughing on. Such amazing memories for us all to keep"

"This is a charity like no other. They just seem to be there for us. They listen and do whatever they can to help and when they can't they are honest (we don't always get that) but still try to get others to help if they can"

"We are so lucky to have found this little gem of a charity!"

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

Financial review

Policy on reserves

The trustees revised the reserving policy this year and this will be reviewed at subsequent AGM meetings. There are now sufficient unrestricted reserves maintained to cover 24 months of budgeted activity in addition to the operating cash we need to run our day to day activities. This decision on this reserve has been carefully considered as a means to ensure that families will remain supported for at least one year should the charity fail to raise sufficient funds and identify a need to cease operating. Legal requirements such as redundancy payments are also considered within this fund. This includes a substantial legacy given to kickstart a possible BDCPS building campaign.

Principal funding sources

The trustees maintain a diverse range of funding for the charity's activities to mitigate risks and ensure that funding is sustainable. Funding comes from four main sources:

• Contracts and service level agreements with local councils to deliver essential services on their behalf. We have contracts with both Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire Council;
• Grant income from charitable trusts and government sources. This is usually for specific projects and purposes;
• Our own fundraising activities and donations from the community;
• Subscriptions from members paid to access specific services.

In addition to local authorities, we have received generous grants and support from:

Anglian Water, BLCF, Arnold Clarke Charitable Fund, The Potton Trust, The Davies Foundation and Gale Family Fund, BPL Globals.

Fundraising events have again been restricted by the Covid 19 restrictions and guidance. We were able to raise money at events such as: Arts exhibition, Winter Craft Fayre and raffle, Wear It Blue and Mile for a Smile Campaigns.
Others held fundraisers for us they included: Harry Layton, Ivy and Lee Knight, Jessica McMurdy, Mike and Jo Leonard, Nicholas Stanton, Mick Coates, the Rose Pub Biggleswade, Beauty and Beyond, Daryl Usher and Richard Pool.

However, we received money via:
Facebook giving, Just Giving, Easy Fundraising, and the Bonus Ball Lottery.

Donations were made to the charity by the following:
Joy Goldsmith, The Oddfellows, Jo Jackson-Smith, White Hart Campton, Bedford Modern School, Yorkshire Grey Biggleswade, Helena Fitzhenry, Albert Mangold, Sarah Green, Woburn YFC, Ben Van Vuure, Kempston West Methodist Church, Claire Hill, Bedford Girls School and The Thompson family.

We also have 7 regular givers.

Investment policy and objectives

We maintain an investment portfolio that is managed on a medium-to-low risk basis by our fund managers. The majority of this is the legacy of money raised through the sale of land and buildings that the charity was founded with. The main purpose of this portfolio is to support our reserves policy as outlined above.

In addition we hold a current account in which we maintain sufficient cash to cover operational costs and payroll expenses.

Building strong foundations for the future

Throughout 2021/22 BDCPS aimed to continue to support service provision and look to bridge gaps in services to enable families to live as 'normal' a life as was possible living within the restrictions of a fluctuating pandemic. The focus and development over the year has been to support families in the best ways possible whilst maintaining safety for this very vulnerable group. In the following year we hope to successfully gain support and continue investing in improving the charities infrastructure to enable it to effectively and efficiently meet its objects and to provide a good platform for service sustainability and effective management.

• to continue to extend the support provision in the early years groups, working closely with other professionals i.e. nursing teams, social work teams, education and therapies.
• to develop and monitor against National statistics for wellbeing support sessions to include an element of relaxation and development of personal resillience and coping strategies.
• to continue the development of wellbeing services and collaborate with other service providers to support and encourage self care in families.
• continue to develop and deliver support to families awaiting statutory assessments and services with out reach support sessions. To work alongside statutory providers to strengthen and enable the best outcomes for those we serve.
• to continue to support any Dads/Male carers who would like to access services and respond to identified need where we can support this and them in their own right.
• continue the involvement of our families in shaping our services by developing young people/parent forums.
• develop the "voices" of young people work throughout the other activities within the clubs to develop the life skills young people need to achieve their aspirations and start to take control of their lives.
• continue strengthening the organisational strategies by consolidating business plans, decision making frameworks and applying training to develop our supporting structures. We will amalgamate this with the implementation of the quality assurance system.
• look to research and implement processes and working practices that will support the continuation and sustainability of the charity within the changing socio-economic climate and throughout the continued Covid 19 restrictions and guidance.

Finally, I as vice chair (Eileen Swaisland) would like to thank everyone whose time, efforts, and commitment make our BDCPS so special. We could not do what we do without our magnificent staff, volunteers, supporters and partners. Also, the local community that support us in a variety of ways to continue to serve our service users.

Most important of all though, are our registered families. We are indebted to them for making what we do such a pleasure and it is a privilege to be part of their journeys.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 10/09/22 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Eileen Swaisland
Trustee

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

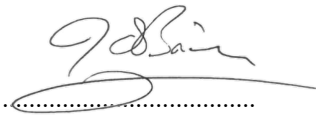
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



.....
John O'Brien MSc, FCCA, FCIE, employee of Community Accounting Plus
Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners

Units 1 & 2
North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Date: 20/09/2022

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	51,900	-	51,900	25,808
Charitable activities	3	9,299	131,665	140,964	169,379
Other trading activities	4	16,468	-	16,468	15,735
Investment income	5	5,349	-	5,349	5,751
Total Income		83,016	131,665	214,681	216,673
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		(8,230)	(56)	(8,286)	(8,173)
Charitable activities	7	(74,184)	(165,260)	(239,444)	(223,827)
Total Expenditure		(82,414)	(165,316)	(247,730)	(232,000)
Gains/losses on investment assets		12,648	-	12,648	70,879
Net movement in funds		13,250	(33,651)	(20,401)	55,552
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		513,159	75,581	588,740	533,188
Total funds carried forward	21	526,409	41,930	568,339	588,740

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

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 21.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	25,808	-	25,808
Charitable activities	3	3,799	165,580	169,379
Other trading activities	4	15,735	-	15,735
Investment income	5	5,751	-	5,751
Total Income		51,093	165,580	216,673
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds		(8,173)	-	(8,173)
Charitable activities	7	(68,620)	(155,207)	(223,827)
Total Expenditure		(76,793)	(155,207)	(232,000)
Gains/losses on investment assets		70,879	-	70,879
Net movement in funds		45,179	10,373	55,552
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		467,980	65,208	533,188
Total funds carried forward	21	513,159	75,581	588,740

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

(Registration number: 1156447)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	442	1,783
Investments	12	462,526	358,135
		462,968	359,918
Current assets			
Debtors	13	2,374	1,788
Investments	14	17,182	8,822
Cash at bank and in hand	15	88,688	220,331
		108,244	230,941
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(2,873)	(2,119)
Net current assets		105,371	228,822
Net assets		568,339	588,740
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		41,930	75,581
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		526,409	513,159
Total funds	21	568,339	588,740

The financial statements on pages 13 to 26 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on .....10/09/22. and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Lee Mostari
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation
Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement
The charity opted to adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Going concern
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income and endowments
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable

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

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

Raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Taxation

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

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

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

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line
Motor vehicles	20% straight line

Fixed asset investments

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

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

Current asset investments

Current asset investments are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value / market value.

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

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

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

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

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

Pensions and other post retirement obligations
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. Pension costs charges in the Statement of Financial Activities represent the contributions payable by the charity during the year.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from companies, trusts and similar proceeds	46,865	46,865	25,808
Grants, including capital grants;			
Government grants	5,035	5,035	-
	51,900	51,900	25,808

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Grants & donations	-	131,665	131,665	165,580
Services	165	-	165	-
Subscriptions	8,651	-	8,651	3,677
Sundry receipts	483	-	483	122
	9,299	131,665	140,964	169,379

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £	Total 2021 £
Fundraising	16,468	16,468	15,735
	16,468	16,468	15,735

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Other investment income	5,349	5,349	5,751

6 Grants and donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Central Bedfordshire Council	5,035	48,965	54,000
Bedford Borough Council	-	50,000	50,000
Anglian Water	-	7,000	7,000
Groundworks/Tesco Bags of Help	-	1,000	1,000
Gale Family Trust	-	3,600	3,600
Arnold Clark Community Fund	1,000	-	1,000
Potton Charitable Trust	-	5,400	5,400
Bedford Borough Youth Empowerment Fund	-	15,000	15,000
BPL Global	25,000	-	25,000
Facebook	4,340	-	4,340
Sundry grants & donations	16,525	700	17,225
	51,900	131,665	183,565

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Accountancy & payroll	2,442	-	2,442	1,988
Insurance	1,474	-	1,474	1,541
IT, software & maintenance	1,828	21	1,849	2,020
Legal & professional fees	1,886	746	2,632	2,492
Wages, NIC & pensions	47,610	93,274	140,884	142,266
Rent & services	11,552	-	11,552	11,552
Activities & events	197	25,630	25,827	16,112
Bank staff salaries	1,086	36,605	37,691	26,675
Communications	1,802	11	1,813	1,658
Equipment	750	1,703	2,453	5,462
Grants & donations awarded	-	1,133	1,133	3,304
Premises hire	100	1,985	2,085	525
Printing	291	-	291	611
Staff travel & expenses	621	1,479	2,100	2,058
Stationery & office supplies	672	-	672	526
Training	10	2,350	2,360	656
Volunteer expenses	-	209	209	335
Bank charges	190	-	190	105
Memberships	332	114	446	288
Bad debts	-	-	-	267
Depreciation	1,341	-	1,341	3,386
	74,184	165,260	239,444	223,827

8 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	1,341	3,386

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	164,048	150,547
Social security costs	8,179	12,175
Pension costs	6,348	6,219
	178,575	168,941

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

	2022 No	2021 No
Average number of employees	20	19

5 (2021 - 5) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £6,348 (2021 - £6,219).

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

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £42,747 (2021 - £42,000).

10 Taxation

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2021	10,225	4,500	2,096	16,821
At 31 March 2022	10,225	4,500	2,096	16,821
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2021	10,225	3,600	1,213	15,038
Charge for the year	-	900	441	1,341
At 31 March 2022	10,225	4,500	1,654	16,379
Net book value				
At 31 March 2022	-	-	442	442
At 31 March 2021	-	900	883	1,783

12 Fixed asset investments

	2020 £	2021 £
Other investments	462,526	358,135

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2021	358,135	358,135
Revaluation	4,391	4,391
Additions	100,000	100,000
At 31 March 2022	462,526	462,526
Net book value		
At 31 March 2022	462,526	462,526
At 31 March 2021	358,135	358,135

13 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	672	439
Prepayments	1,702	1,349
	2,374	1,788

14 Current asset investments

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash deposits	17,182	8,822

15 Cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash on hand	213	396
Cash at bank	88,475	219,935
	88,688	220,331

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other creditors	1,573	1,195
Accruals	1,300	924
	2,873	2,119

17 Independent examiner's fees

During the period, the fees payable (excluding VAT) to the charity's independent examiner Community Accounting Plus are analysed as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Independent examination	795	770
Other financial services	1,240	-
	2,035	770

18 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

19 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted			2022
	General	Designated	Restricted	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	442	-	-	442
Fixed asset investments	362,526	100,000	-	462,526
Current assets	66,314	-	41,930	108,244
Current liabilities	(2,873)	-	-	(2,873)
Total net assets	426,409	100,000	41,930	568,339

	Unrestricted			2021
	General	Designated	Restricted	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,783	-	-	1,783
Fixed asset investments	358,135	-	-	358,135
Current assets	55,360	100,000	75,581	230,941
Current liabilities	(2,119)	-	-	(2,119)
Total net assets	413,159	100,000	75,581	588,740

21 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General funds	413,159	83,016	(82,414)	12,648	426,409
Designated					
Building fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Total unrestricted funds	513,159	83,016	(82,414)	12,648	526,409
Restricted funds					
Adventures	1,759	15,000	(15,017)	-	1,742
Clubs	20,653	13,550	(14,025)	-	20,178
College's Out	6,389	-	-	-	6,389
Skool's Out	34,759	47,120	(78,343)	-	3,536
Gateopener	12,021	54,560	(56,798)	-	9,783
Welfare	-	1,435	(1,133)	-	302
Total restricted funds	75,581	131,665	(165,316)	-	41,930
Total funds	588,740	214,681	(247,730)	12,648	568,339

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

Adventures - Our trips and residential experiences respond to young people's dreams and aspirations including festivals, sports / theatre events and nights out.
Clubs - BDCPS provides a wide range of creative activity and life skills clubs for disabled young people such as Stampede for 5-14 yr olds, ACE for 18-25 yr olds and JJ's for 14-18 yr olds.
Skool's Out - Held during school holidays, full days of activity schemes are open to disabled young people aged 8-25 offering amazing experiences to help empower young people to achieve, raise self-esteem, make new friends, learn new things and develop valuable life skills.
College's Out - Held during the Easter and Summer holiday periods. Full days of activity schemes are open to disabled young people aged 18-25 offering a wide range of experiences to help empower young people to achieve, make new friends, try new things and develop life skills.
Gateopener - Provides information and support for families with local and national contacts for a wide range of topics about CP and other disabilities.
Welfare - BDCPS awards grants to individuals and families who need specialist equipment to help them with their condition.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General funds	367,980	51,093	(76,793)	70,879	413,159
Designated					
Building fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Total unrestricted funds	467,980	51,093	(76,793)	70,879	513,159
Restricted					
Adventures	1,781	-	(22)	-	1,759
Clubs	16,246	22,000	(17,593)	-	20,653
College's Out	6,389	-	-	-	6,389
Skool's Out	13,233	109,020	(87,494)	-	34,759
Gateopener	27,559	34,060	(49,598)	-	12,021
Welfare	-	500	(500)	-	-
Total restricted funds	65,208	165,580	(155,207)	-	75,581
Total funds	533,188	216,673	(232,000)	70,879	588,740

Embrace (Bedford and District)

England & Wales - Charity number 1156447

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1156447

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Community Accounting Plus
Units 1 & 2
North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

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Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Josephine Cullen Eileen Swaisland Lee Mostari Cherry Roomes Suzannah Lee Peter Mount Ellen Edwards Lynn Colson Robert Bunting
Senior Management Team	Jane Howard White, Services Director
Principal Office	43 Bromham Road Bedford MK40 2AA
Charity Registration Number	1156447
Independent Examiner	John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus Units 1 & 2 North West 41 Talbot Street Nottingham NG1 5GL

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees

Josephine Cullen, Chair

Eileen Swaisland

Lee Mostari, Treasurer

Cherry Roomes

Suzannah Lee

Peter Mount

Ellen Edwards

Lynn Colson

Robert Bunting

Governance and management

On the 6 April 2014, BDCPS set up a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) -registered charity 1156447 and a new constitution was adopted. All of the operations, contracts and assets of the "old charity" (number 207386) were transferred to the new charity on this date.-The "old charity" effectively ceased operations at midnight on the 5 April 2014.

The CIO status offers the charity the benefit of legal entity status and limited liability protection. The trustees of the "old charity" became the trustees of the new CIO. Under the terms of the new constitution Trustees are appointed for a tenure of three years and are available for re-selection at the annual AGM.
Trustees are appointed based on the skills gaps identified throughout the charities year with the aim of improving the effectiveness of the existing board. Membership is open to all interested in supporting the charities objectives.

There is a child and vulnerable adults safeguarding policy in place. Two references and Disclosure and Barring Service checks are carried out before people take up voluntary or employment opportunities which may bring them into regular contact with vulnerable people.

A comprehensive set of policies and procedures has been developed to ensure we give people the best possible service. These are reviewed, updated if necessary and signed off by trustees on a rolling basis through the year.
There is also a decision making framework demonstrating priorities and ensuring that decisions made by trustees are considered against these. This is also reviewed at regular intervals to ensure it's effectiveness.

BDCPS works in partnership with other local agencies and groups where appropriate for the enhancement of provision and projects.
The Covid 19 restrictions placed upon the country this year has meant that services have in the main taken place virtually. However, the community relationships and further partnerships and relationships have been developed in order to provide a continual offer to those we serve.

Ridgeway School (a special needs school in Kempston) is used as the base for most of the activity schemes as it provides a range of fully accessible facilities. During a restriction lift a very small scheme went ahead in the summer running parallel with online services/activities.
Little Sweet Peas early support groups are run at two venues, the Child Development Centre in Bedford and The Hub in Biggleswade.

The Caldecotte Xperience where we continue to support young people, siblings and families is accessed for a wide range of outdoor pursuits.
Bedfordshire Music Therapy partner BDCPS in an early support music therapy group continued from an earlier pilot and continued throughout the pandemic restrictions.
Storage King in Bedford have provided free storage for club and scheme equipment and also provide a shredding service to ensure data compliance.
St Johns Special School Pool is usually accessed for the family swim sessions.
The Cutler Hammer Sports Club provide the venue for the newly formed parent/carer singing support.
Collaborative projects have also been undertaken with Spectrum Community Arts and The Fullhouse Theatre Company.
We will continue to seek partnerships with other appropriate space providers and activity providers as lockdown restriction change in order to broaden the range of opportunities offered to children, young adults and their families to strengthen community links.

The contingency reserves have come into the fore this year with the opportunities to raise funds dramatically diminished by the lockdowns.
Sub-groups and committees have been allocated to specific areas where it is felt that we need more focus than the quarterly full management meetings can provide. These sub groups have been tasked this year to focus on the organisations strategic plan moving forward into the next five years. This has been somewhat curtailed during the period of lockdowns forced on the country by the Covid 19 pandemic. However, sub groups are working on service user engagement to drive strategy and also work has begun in partnership with a volunteer from the Cranfield Trust to look at the viability of a BDCPS building. Sub-committees have clear instruction and delegated authority from the management committee.
A strategic officers group meet on a monthly basis and senior staff report to this group and cascade any information through the board in preparation of the quarterly meet.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objects of the CIO are to relieve persons with any form of cerebral palsy or a related disability by assisting in the care, welfare, treatment and education of such persons and of their families and carers in the Bedford borough and central Bedfordshire regions but with power for the trustees to assist people requiring assistance or appropriate organisations in the immediately adjoining areas if they consider this to be appropriate. Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for purposes which are not charitable.

Public benefit

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

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

Activities undertaken for public benefit
Activities include:

Children's services
o Holiday schemes
• Skool's Out
• College's Out
• Little Sweetpeas
• Sibling Opportunities
• Family groups

o Clubs
• JJ's Crew
• ACE Unlimited
• Stampede
• Family Swim Club

Support and advocacy
• Gateopener
• Wellbeing
• Little Sweet Peas

Adventures
• Tailored Day trips

Welfare and assistance
Opportunities for volunteering

Some of the benefits to the public will be demonstrated throughout this report.

Achievements and performance
This year's unprecedented circumstances has meant that we have had to not only continue to identify and plan the scope and reach of our services within the continued constraints of increasing austerity, political uncertainty and statutory service universal cuts. We have also had to look constantly at contingency plans and the implementation of adaptive services that responded to the lockdowns and restrictions and continued to support those we serve.
We maintained the development and improvement of established services and our reputation to continually reflect and strive for excellence throughout the changing lockdown periods and restrictions. To do this we have continued to review, consult on the services on offer and how best to serve our members within these uncertain times.
We have continued to be very mindful of any substantial project growth in order to amalgamate processes and procedures and ensure the most effective best practice, governance and service delivery. However, sub groups are working on elements of an overall 5-year strategy with the engagement with service users at the forefront of the work to ensure that those we serve get appropriate service and support and best use of funds.
All salaried staff have continued working from home throughout the year.
Over the course of the year we have strived to further support and enrich the lives of our members and continually reflect, review and improve our established compliment of services with the adaption of many services to virtual formats, creative contacts through such things as hello cards, telephone and video support calls etc.

We are particularly aware of the importance of assisting our families to build resilience and look after their wellbeing under the increasing public service strain and especially through this time of great uncertainty and lockdown restrictions.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

We provided 4,063 hours of direct and virtual services with 3,380 attendences. From 80 young people and 71 families plus 12 new families coming on board, working within the restrictions enforced by the pandemic.

As government guidelines eased after the first lockdown we were able to offer a reduced, Covid 19 safe summer play scheme. We were also able to offer several other face to face opportunities in the other school holidays where restrictions allowed. Most activity, however, was virtual or support based e.g. deliveries, prescription pick up etc. A full suite of activities was created by the team and delivered on line. Family support services grew in response to need across the pandemic with a focus on wellbeing and building positive ways to gain resilience. Groups such as Little Sweet Peas continued virtually alongside Little Music Makers for the under 5's.

We are very proud to share in the successes and achievements of the families we support. We outline some of the highlights from our year below.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

SKOOL'S OUT is usually held during school holidays, the play schemes are open to complex physical and learning-disabled young people (aged 8-19). The activities are varied, fun, inclusive and empowering. Appropriate assessed staff ratios enable full, safe and meaningful participation.
During this summer restrictions had been lifted somewhat and with careful consideration and robust infection control measures a small scheme with 2 "bubbles" went ahead at Ridgeway School running in conjunction with a virtual programme for those too clinically vulnerable to attend face to face.
Other school holidays have been delivered virtually in the main with family walks and outdoor activities at times when restrictions and exemptions allowed.

CLUBS

STAMPEDE
A specialist monthly play club for young people (5-14) held on Saturday mornings offering structured and exciting sensory activities in consultation with young people and families. This club has continued to be developed and delivered online in a virtual format with resource deliveries to enable full participation and a continued link to friends for the young people.

JJ's CREW
A vibrant and inclusive monthly youth club for disabled teenagers (14-18) who wish to socialise with their peers. Sports, cooking, arts/crafts and life skills all on site. This service strongly focuses on developing life skills and independence. This year the group have enjoyed virtual activities of their choice.

ACE UNLIMITED
The ACE transition youth club is for young people aged 18-25. The clubs focus is on helping young people mature into adulthood and independence. In response to feedback and a focus group of young people the club took on a more responsive format. Moving away from the regular youth setting to group activities within the community. Small groups of likeminded young people attended activities and events on offer to suit them e.g. cinema and a drink, pub supper, light switch on at Christmas etc. The pandemic has also forced this group into a virtual format where the young people have led the content and activities.

BDCPS takes great care in ensuring a professional and individualised approach to all schemes and clubs. This has been a great challenge in order to respond best to need within the restrictions and changing guidelines of the pandemic. Ensuring that services are adapted for each young person to meet their unique interests and individual needs.
In addition to rigorous safeguarding, selection and supervision processes, staff and volunteers have continued to be offered training opportunities both virtual and face to face sessions where restrictions allowed.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

FAMILY SERVICES

GATEOPENER
The Gateopener project provides support and advocacy for families whose lives are affected by Cerebral Palsy and associated disabilities. This ranges from ad-hoc requests for information, attendance at key meetings and appointments (e.g. at hospital), to casework and key working for families. There is an information support line and parent/carer support get-togethers are organised. Families are supported in navigating the bureaucracy and struggles that are so often a major part of living with a disabled child/person.
The lockdown and restrictions this year have also had a big effect on families' access to vital support services and respite time, leaving many feeling further isolated by their circumstances.

PARENT/CARER WELLBEING
Parent/carer wellbeing opportunities have been developed further this year in response to the nationwide and local research on the need for and beneficial outcomes of parent/carer mental health and wellbeing exacerbated by the isolation and added pressures within the home during the lockdowns. In response to this we have been able to create a range of wellbeing opportunities both online and face to face where exemptions allowed. These have included singing support, arts therapies and deep relaxation.

FAMILY SWIM
This monthly group continued up to the time of the pandemic restrictions to enable the whole family to participate in an activity that other families do together with little effort. Staff attend to support needs at a local hydrotherapy pool. There is the added opportunity to get together informally after swimming for refreshments. It is hoped that the roadmap to the lifting of restrictions will enable this club to be reinstated.

LITTLE SWEET PEAS: "Guiding those first steps"
Little Sweet Peas is an evolving early intervention special needs play and support group. It is an open-door group where parents can bring along their disabled child and any siblings less than 5 years to play and share a lunch together. Also young people under eight whose health needs are so great they cannot access school are able to attend. Parents and carers get the chance to share ideas and gain support from each other and the information and support staff. The group met at a different venue across the county twice a month however a virtual timetable of opportunities has had to be developed to continue to support this group during the lockdown period. This includes virtual sensory stories, music groups and guided play.

PARENT/CARER TRAINING
Training focussed and tailored to assist parent carers in managing the practical aspects of bringing up a child with disabilities. This will resume once face to face services are fully reinstated. A member of the support team will be undertaking a "triple P" parenting with the aim to deliver courses to parent/carers in the next year.

Welfare and assistance
BDCPS awards grants to individuals and families who need specialist equipment to help them with their condition. Usually grants of £500 are offered to support families with the purchase of specialist equipment. During this year the charity increased the pot of money on offer to families in order to support needs arising from the pandemic. Loan items were also made available to families.

Opportunities for volunteering
We continue to offer excellent opportunities for people in the community to volunteer. The opportunities range from short duration events such as fundraising or assisting in office duties, through to longer commitments such as supporting our three-week summer play scheme. These opportunities benefit the individual in discovering and developing what they are good at, and building confidence and self-esteem. Our volunteers remain a vital component of our operating model particularly during the lockdown period where they have assisted with food deliveries, prescription pick-ups and telephone, on-line and virtual support. We are immensely grateful for their participation.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

BDCPS KEY STRENGTHS

• BDCPS has been able to respond effectively in support of those we serve throughout the changing phases of the pandemic restrictions and lockdowns;
• BDCPS has over 60 years experience working with families in Bedfordshire. Our key staff have over 100 years experience between them;
• BDCPS is a values driven organisation and holds the families we work with at the centre of all our processes;
• We look for creative solutions, rather than operating rigid services. We look to provide the best outcomes with the best use of resources;
• BDCPS gets to know the families we work with and they trust us to reach the best possible outcomes for them. They therefore open up to us about the issues affecting their family and the help they need;
• Our staff really understand the children they work with as our activity groups are small enough to respond to their needs, interests and choices;
• BDCPS is the only specialist scheme that runs sessions in all holidays, includes siblings and operates extended hours to meet family needs. As a consequence members of many other groups also use BDCPS throughout the year;
• BDCPS staff work unsocial hours to ensure families are not left without support;
• BDCPS works to sound policies and procedures. We are registering with Ofsted for the voluntary register;
• BDCPS aims to be the 'best in class' we have the desire to always listen, evaluate and continuously improve. We will not allow growth to become a disconnect from purpose;
• BDCPS will recognise where others are specialists and not duplicate the activities of others;
• Equal opportunities are implemented in all areas of our work;
• A solid training programme that prepares our staff for the children's needs and gives families confidence in our abilities. These can include:
Manual Handling;
Speech and Communication;
Feeding - complex feeding issues and gastrostomy tube;
Safeguarding;
Disability awareness;
Epilepsy awareness and the administration of emergency medication, oxygen, suctioning and medications.
Allergy awareness and administration of an Epi-pen;
Movement and posture;
Play training;
• Our sessions have a standard 1:1 staffing ratio as appropriate. We operate this without applying for additional funding from local authorities;
• Our activity services for young people that do not require parents to stay or provide a carer enables them to have true respite from care and not duplicate their direct payments;
• We operate a diverse and creative activity timetable, accessing mainstream activities and community activities;
• Working in partnership;
• BDCPS provide places to children who have no alternative. We cater for over 50 different disabilities and include those that need medication including emergency, oxygen, suctioning, gastro feeding, hoisting and personal care.

FEEDBACK EXAMPLES

"I was stressed when I arrived for the virtual gong sound bath but I'm not now. That's the longest I've been still for a while. Usually thinking about when meds are due or there's always something but I switched off. I can't remember the last time I stopped for an hour."

"We would like bingo every week apart from when the quiz is on. It's the highlight of my kid's week. They love it they can't wait until fri evening for the bingo."

"L had a wonderful time making pancakes... and we all have a wonderful time eating them. Thank you BDCPS for a great activity."

"BDCPS you're amazing. You impact so many people in such a positive and selfless way"

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

“You lot are amazing, thanks for all your kindness and help to my family, impossible to manage without you at the moment!”

“I love to read about all the lovely adventures you give the children, and most of all I love to see the nice photos of my gorgeous granddaughter”

“I would like to thank you for all the lovely sessions you have given us. I do not know where I would be right now. The lockdowns have been so hard but of course BDCPS were there for me! Thank you!”

“BDCPS the simple things like the birthday cards, the thinking of you cards and the lovely care bag when I was really struggling have lifted my spirits. You are amazing”

“I can’t thank you enough for being there for my family this year”

"BDCPS is such a great charity to work for. They are kind do great training and this has helped me so much with my communication”

Financial review

Policy on reserves

The trustees revised the reserving policy in 2018 and will be reviewed at subsequent AGM meetings. There are now sufficient unrestricted reserves maintained to cover 18 months of budgeted activity in addition to the operating cash we need to run our day to day activities. This decision on this reserve has been carefully considered as a means to ensure that families will remain supported for at least one year should the charity fail to raise sufficient funds and identify a need to cease operating. Legal requirements such as redundancy payments are also taken into account within this fund.

Principal funding sources

The trustees maintain a diverse range of funding for the charity’s activities to mitigate risks and ensure that funding is sustainable. Funding comes from four main sources:

• Contracts and service level agreements with local councils to deliver essential services on their behalf. We have contracts with both Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire Council;
• Grant income from charitable trusts and government sources. This is usually for specific projects and purposes;
• Our own fundraising activities and donations from the community;
• Subscriptions from members paid to access specific services.

In addition to local authorities, we have received generous grants and support from:

Fundraising events have been restricted by the pandemic although we were able to create some virtual events. Face to face events such as the Charity Ball were not possible and had to be cancelled.
However, we received money via:
Facebook giving, Virgin Media giving, Amazon Smile, Just Giving, Easy Fundraising, Virtual Craft Fair, and the Bonus Ball.

Discretionary Grants came in from:
BBC Children In Need, Groundwork Tesco Bags of help, BLCF and Globals Make Some Noise.

Donations were made to the charity by the following:
The Blakemore Foundation, The OFlynn Family, Helen Robinson, The McMurdy Family, Mostari Family, Ladbrooke Coral Trust, MKGU Rotary Charitable Trust, Jones Family, Gillespie Family, Doreen Fish, Il Pecoro Ltd, Cavanagh/Heal family, Robert Bunting,TUI, Bedford Modern School, White Hart Campton, The Yorkshire Gray, Cople Craft Club, Layton Family, Saunders Family, Elaine Beal, Greene Family, Circuit Family, Kirsty Edwards, Phillips Family.

Investment policy and objectives

We maintain an investment portfolio that is managed on a medium-to-low risk basis by our fund managers. The majority of this is the legacy of money raised through the sale of land and buildings that the charity was founded with. The main purpose of this portfolio is to support our reserves policy as outlined above.

In addition we hold a current account in which we maintain sufficient cash to cover operational costs and payroll expenses.

Building strong foundations for the future

Throughout 2020/21 BDCPS aimed to continue to support service provision and look to bridge gaps in services to enable families to live as 'normal' a life as was possible living within the restrictions of a pandemic. The focus and development over the year has been to support families in the best ways possible whilst maintaining safety for this very vulnerable group. In the following year we hope to successfully gain support and continue investing in improving the charities infrastructure to enable it to effectively and efficiently meet its objects and to provide a good platform for service sustainability and effective management.

• to continue to extend the support provision in the early years groups, working closely with other professionals i.e. nursing teams, social work teams, education and therapies.
• to develop and monitor against National statistics for wellbeing support sessions to include an element of relaxation and development of personal resilience and coping strategies.
• to continue the development of wellbeing services and collaborate with other service providers to support and encourage self care in families.
• continue to develop and deliver support to families awaiting statutory assessments and services with out reach support sessions. To work alongside statutory providers to strengthen and enable the best outcomes for those we serve.
• to continue to support any Dads/Male carers who would like to access services and respond to identified need where we can support this and them in their own right.
• continue the involvement of our families in shaping our services by developing young people/parent forums.
• develop the "voices" of young people work throughout the other activities within the clubs to develop the life skills young people need to achieve their aspirations and start to take control of their lives.
• continue strengthening the organisational strategies by consolidating business plans, decision making frameworks and applying training to develop our supporting structures. We will amalgamate this with the implementation of the quality assurance system.
• look to research and implement processes and working practices that will support the continuation and sustainability of the charity within the changing socio- economic climate and throughout the C19 pandemic lockdown.

Finally, I as chair (Josephine Cullen) would like to thank everyone whose time, efforts, and commitment make our BDCPS so special. We could not do what we do without our magnificent staff, volunteers and supporters. Also the local community that support us in a variety of ways to continue to serve our service users.

Most important of all though, are our members. We are indebted to them for making what we do such a pleasure and it is a privilege to be a part of their journeys.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Trustees' Report

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

.....
Josephine Cullen
Trustee

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

.....
John O'Brien MSc, FCCA, FCIE, employee of Community Accounting Plus
Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners

Units 1 & 2
North West
41 Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5GL

Date:.....

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	25,808	-	25,808	120,248
Charitable activities	3	3,799	165,580	169,379	206,051
Other trading activities	5	15,735	-	15,735	22,676
Investment income	6	5,751	-	5,751	7,915
Total Income		51,093	165,580	216,673	356,890
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		(8,173)	-	(8,173)	(9,858)
Charitable activities	7	(68,620)	(155,207)	(223,827)	(234,152)
Total Expenditure		(76,793)	(155,207)	(232,000)	(244,010)
Gains/losses on investment assets		70,879	-	70,879	(35,289)
Net movement in funds		45,179	10,373	55,552	77,591
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		467,980	65,208	533,188	455,597
Total funds carried forward	19	513,159	75,581	588,740	533,188

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

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 19.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	120,248	-	120,248
Charitable activities	3	25,168	180,883	206,051
Other trading activities	5	22,676	-	22,676
Investment income	6	7,915	-	7,915
Total Income		176,007	180,883	356,890
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds		(9,821)	(37)	(9,858)
Charitable activities	7	(67,246)	(166,906)	(234,152)
Total Expenditure		(77,067)	(166,943)	(244,010)
Gains/losses on investment assets		(35,289)	-	(35,289)
Net income		63,651	13,940	77,591
Gross transfers between funds		(920)	920	-
Net movement in funds		62,731	14,860	77,591
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		405,249	50,348	455,597
Total funds carried forward	19	467,980	65,208	533,188

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

(Registration number: 1156447)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	1,783	3,845
Investments	12	358,135	282,230
		359,918	286,075
Current assets			
Debtors	13	1,788	1,759
Investments	14	8,822	12,486
Cash at bank and in hand	15	220,331	236,381
		230,941	250,626
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(2,119)	(3,513)
Net current assets		228,822	247,113
Net assets		588,740	533,188
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		75,581	65,208
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		513,159	467,980
Total funds	19	588,740	533,188

The financial statements on pages 12 to 25 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ..... and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Lee Mostari
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation
Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement
The charity opted to adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Going concern
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income and endowments
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

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

Raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Taxation

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

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

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

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line
Motor vehicles	20% straight line

Fixed asset investments

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

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

Current asset investments

Current asset investments are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value / market value.

Trade debtors

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

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

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

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds and resources set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

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

Pensions and other post retirement obligations
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. Pension costs charges in the Statement of Financial Activities represent the contributions payable by the charity during the year.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds		
	General	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from companies, trusts and similar proceeds	25,808	25,808	20,248
Legacies	-	-	100,000
	25,808	25,808	120,248

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Grants	-	165,000	165,000	180,883
Donations	-	580	580	-
Subscriptions	3,677	-	3,677	9,231
Fees	-	-	-	14,990
Sundry receipts	122	-	122	947
	3,799	165,580	169,379	206,051

4 Grants and donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Central Bedfordshire Council	-	50,000	50,000
Bedford Borough Council	-	54,000	54,000
BBC Children in Need	-	10,000	10,000
Bedford and Luton Community Foundation	3,225	-	3,225
Global Charities - Make Some Noise	-	50,000	50,000
MKGU Rotary Charitable Trust	7,082	-	7,082
Sundry grants & donations	15,501	1,580	17,081
	25,808	165,580	191,388

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Local fundraising and street collection income	15,735	15,735	22,676
	15,735	15,735	22,676

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Other investment income	5,751	5,751	7,915

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds			
	General	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Accountancy & payroll	1,988	-	1,988	2,045
Insurance	1,541	-	1,541	1,102
IT, software & maintenance	402	1,618	2,020	2,853
Legal & professional fees	1,975	517	2,492	2,574
Wages, NIC & pensions	38,395	103,871	142,266	137,791
Rent & services	11,552	-	11,552	11,552
Activities & events	10	16,102	16,112	13,045
Bank staff salaries	899	25,776	26,675	40,017
Communications	1,628	30	1,658	1,433
Equipment	1,987	3,475	5,462	3,746
Grants & donations awarded	2,804	500	3,304	3,969
Premises hire	88	437	525	3,758
Printing	546	65	611	627
Staff travel & expenses	298	1,760	2,058	1,507
Stationery & office supplies	128	398	526	1,279
Training	621	35	656	2,674
Volunteer expenses	-	335	335	1,011
Bank charges	105	-	105	133
Memberships	-	288	288	-
Bad debts	267	-	267	-
Depreciation	3,386	-	3,386	2,945
Sundry expenditure	-	-	-	91
	68,620	155,207	223,827	234,152

8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	150,547	160,120
Social security costs	12,175	11,658
Pension costs	6,219	6,030
	168,941	177,808

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

	2021 No	2020 No
Average number of employees	19	18

5 (2020 - 5) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £6,219 (2020 - £6,030).

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

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £42,000 (2020 - £40,864).

10 Taxation

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2020	10,225	4,500	772	15,497
Additions	-	-	1,324	1,324
At 31 March 2021	10,225	4,500	2,096	16,821
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2020	8,180	2,700	772	11,652
Charge for the year	2,045	900	441	3,386
At 31 March 2021	10,225	3,600	1,213	15,038
Net book value				
At 31 March 2021	-	900	883	1,783
At 31 March 2020	2,045	1,800	-	3,845

12 Fixed asset investments

	2020 £	2020 £
Other investments	358,135	282,230

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2020	282,230	282,230
Revaluation	75,905	75,905
At 31 March 2021	358,135	358,135
Net book value		
At 31 March 2021	358,135	358,135
At 31 March 2020	282,230	282,230

13 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	439	416
Prepayments	1,349	1,343
	1,788	1,759

14 Current asset investments

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash deposits	8,822	12,486

15 Cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash on hand	396	396
Cash at bank	219,935	235,985
	220,331	236,381

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other creditors	1,195	1,065
Accruals	924	2,448
	2,119	3,513

17 Independent examiner's fees

During the period, the fees payable (excluding VAT) to the charity's independent examiner Community Accounting Plus are analysed as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Independent examination	770	770
	770	770

18 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

19 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General funds	367,980	51,093	(76,793)	70,879	413,159
Designated					
Building fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Total unrestricted funds	467,980	51,093	(76,793)	70,879	513,159
Restricted funds					
Adventures	1,781	-	(22)	-	1,759
Clubs	16,246	22,000	(17,593)	-	20,653
College's Out	6,389	-	-	-	6,389
Skool's Out	13,233	109,020	(87,494)	-	34,759
Gateopener	27,559	34,060	(49,598)	-	12,021
Welfare	-	500	(500)	-	-
Total restricted funds	65,208	165,580	(155,207)	-	75,581
Total funds	533,188	216,673	(232,000)	70,879	588,740

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

Adventures - Our trips and residential experiences respond to young people’s dreams and aspirations including festivals, sports / theatre events and nights out.
Clubs - BDCPS provides a wide range of creative activity and life skills clubs for disabled young people such as Stampede for 5-14 yr olds, ACE for 18-25 yr olds and JJ’s for 14-18 yr olds.
Skool’s Out - Held during school holidays, full days of activity schemes are open to disabled young people aged 8-25 offering amazing experiences to help empower young people to achieve, raise self-esteem, make new friends, learn new things and develop valuable life skills.
College's Out - Held during the Easter and Summer holiday periods. Full days of activity schemes are open to disabled young people aged 18-25 offering a wide range of experiences to help empower young people to achieve, make new friends, try new things and develop life skills.
Gateopener - Provides information and support for families with local and national contacts for a wide range of topics about CP and other disabilities.
Welfare - BDCPS awards grants to individuals and families who need specialist equipment to help them with their condition.

Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2020 £
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	405,249	76,007	(77,067)	(920)	(35,289)	367,980
Designated funds						
Building fund	-	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Total unrestricted funds	405,249	176,007	(77,067)	(920)	(35,289)	467,980
Restricted funds						
Adventures	1,804	-	(23)	-	-	1,781
Clubs	17,055	31,000	(31,809)	-	-	16,246
College's Out	6,389	-	-	-	-	6,389
Skool's Out	-	94,000	(80,767)	-	-	13,233
Gateopener	25,100	54,411	(51,952)	-	-	27,559
Welfare	-	1,472	(2,392)	920	-	-
Total restricted funds	50,348	180,883	(166,943)	920	-	65,208
Total funds	455,597	356,890	(244,010)	-	(35,289)	533,188

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds			
	General	Designated	Restricted funds	2021 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,783	-	-	1,783
Fixed asset investments	358,135	-	-	358,135
Current assets	55,360	100,000	75,581	230,941
Current liabilities	(2,119)	-	-	(2,119)
Total net assets	413,159	100,000	75,581	588,740

	Unrestricted funds			
	General	Designated	Restricted funds	2020 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	3,845	-	-	3,845
Fixed asset investments	282,230	-	-	282,230
Current assets	84,890	100,000	65,736	250,626
Current liabilities	(2,985)	-	(528)	(3,513)
Total net assets	367,980	100,000	65,208	533,188