

Charity registration number 1167237

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

S A Wilderspin
M S Hewitt
J R King
Mrs. D Nicholls

Charity number

1167237

Independent examiner

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CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

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CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The aim of our charity, Caring Hands in the Vale, is as follows:

The prevention and relief of poverty and to relieve the needs of those who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress as a result of their social and economic circumstances in Evesham and the surrounding area by such means as the trustees shall from time to time decide.

Prevention of Poverty

Caring Hands in the Vale has now been in existence for twenty years and 2022-2023 has proved to be the most challenging.

The past year has again been the busiest Caring Hands in the Vale has experienced, both in the support we have received from the local community and the number of referrals received for the resources we are able to provide. The situation was exacerbated by the rising cost of living and we have needed to relax slightly how many parcels each service user could have in any given period. This is controlled by the manager in conjunction with the partner agencies. We are exploring ways of continuing to provide further support in addition to short term crisis support.

We have again been astounded and delighted with the generosity and support of the local community who have provided practical, financial support as well as donations of foodstuffs and surplus stock for the use of the foodbank and diner.

The refurbishment of the Lighthouse building is now complete and, as mentioned, additional services already in place. To follow are: computer access to access essential services and IT training, meeting areas for third party users and the opening of the Health and Wellbeing Hub. This hub is well fitted out with couch, medical equipment, desk to enable relevant agencies to use this for one-to-one meetings as well as free access to hairdresser, chiropodist etc.

Longer term, we aim to provide a job club and debt advice.

Caring Hands in the Vale is an independent charity and is a member of the Independent Food Aid Network, which has over 600 charitable food organisations, including independent food banks, in its membership.

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Careful Targeting of Help

Caring Hands requires a referral for any assistance given, apart from a few emergency interventions each year. We mainly use electronic communications, especially email.

We also liaise with the referring organisations closely and flag up any duplicate referrals as well as what appear to be inappropriate referrals (both of which are rare). Our aim is to direct clients to achieve self-sufficiency rather than dependence.

Thus, food parcels are not generally an ongoing resource, and our free meals are only available twice a week. We also provide a Recipe booklet, food aid projects available locally and we are now working on a leaflet called "Worrying about Money" in conjunction with the Independent Food Aid Network,

Signposting and Hosting other agencies

The frequency of rough sleeping in Evesham had been on a steady decline in the past few years. This is partly due to the work of the Evesham Homeless Partnership, which is made up of churches, voluntary organisations, charities, statutory services, and the local authority.

The Caring Hands Diner is an effective place to host agencies who wish to contact the homeless and those with disrupted lifestyles. County Community Projects run a drop-in session at the diner every two weeks to offer advice and support to anyone who finds themselves in this situation. The Housing Needs Team from Wychavon District Council are also available to offer support in the Diner should anyone need advice and support from them. Use of the Health and Wellbeing Hub will be available in the Lighthouse.

We work closely with the Drug and Alcohol services, at present supplied by Cranstoun. We also provide links with Rooftop Housing and the Wychavon Hub / Contact Centre.

Training

We continue to ensure our staff are well trained and attend relevant training courses. Diane and Emma have jointly completed 12 courses with Emma a further 4 and Diane undertaking 5 courses under the Clewer initiative. A plan is in place for further training during 2023-2024.

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Referrals

Reasons for referral are usually covered in seven broad categories – benefit issues; homelessness and housing; low incomes and debt; work related issues; health issues, refugee and asylum seeker support and crisis issues.

58% of referrals were due to low incomes of which 9% were families and individuals who are in work. Benefit issues accounted for 6% of referrals, homelessness, and housing issues 18%, debt 7%, health issues 5%, refugee and asylum seeker support 1% and crisis issues 5%.

It is important to state that the reasons for referral can be varied and complex. Often there is more than one reason for a referral, so our statistics record the most prevalent issue at the time of referral. For instance, an individual struggling on a low income may also have issues around debt, benefit delays or long-term illness and potential homelessness.

Referrals to the homelessness bank have increased as there has been an increase in rough sleeping during the past financial year. However, due to the incredible work being undertaken by the outreach teams that cover Evesham, individuals are identified and supported relatively quickly. We also now have additional temporary accommodation services available in Evesham. We continue to work closely with the outreach teams, accommodation services and are regularly involved in rough sleeper group meetings.

There was a dramatic increase of 128% in the number of referrals to the Baby Bank. Referrals to the Household Bank have increased significantly, due to the fact that most families who are referred for a food parcel are now also referred for a full household pack.

Food Bank

2022-2023 was our busiest year ever. We received 1241 referrals for 518 different families, couples, or individuals from a total of 63 different referral partner agencies. This provided a total of 1221 food parcels for 2956 people, providing 61,677 meals. Of the people we were able to support 45% were children (under eighteen years of age). Referrals for families now far exceed referrals for single food parcels.

Household Bank:

Resources available from the Household Bank include toiletry packs, cleaning packs, laundry packs and toilet rolls. Each of these packs should last the service user two weeks.

Referrals to the Household Bank have increased by around 46% from the previous financial year. This reflects the increase in family referrals and the fact that family referrals now more often include the Household Bank in addition to the Food Bank. This indicates how many families and individuals who are not just struggling with providing food for themselves. It also suggests that referred individuals and agencies are more familiar with the resources that are available.

Clothing Bank:

The Clothing Bank mostly stocks men's clothing, usually for individuals who are homeless or rough sleeping. Service users at the Drop-in Diner can access clothing when there are surplus donations, or there are items that we would not normally stock.

The Clothing Bank also keeps a small range of smart clothing, which is available for service users for interviews and other formal occasions.

Homeless Bank:

The Homeless Bank provides a range of resources for service users who are homeless or rough sleeping, including blankets, sleeping bags, filled backpacks and tents.

Referrals to the Homeless Bank are restricted to agencies who specifically support service users with housing and homelessness issues.

Homelessness remains a significant issue within the Vale of Evesham. Caring Hands in the Vale is a member of Evesham Homeless Partnership, Wychavon Homeless Partnership and Evesham and Pershore Rough Sleeper Group.

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Baby Bank:

The Baby Bank provides nappies and wipes, baby milk and baby toiletries. We plan eventually to develop the range of resources the Baby Bank provides. Referrals to the Baby Bank are restricted to relevant agencies who are supporting families with babies.

This is the sixth year in which we have been offering this resource and referrals have increased by 128% from last year.

Drop-in Diner:

The drop-in diner provides several different opportunities for individuals who access the service:

- A meal – a free two/three course meal on a Monday and Wednesday lunchtime
- A Community Pantry with a 'help yourself' table with surplus fresh produce, non-perishable items which are past their 'best before' dates and other donations that are not suitable for inclusion in food parcels. This not only reduces waste, but supports individuals with food items and reduces the need for a referral for a food parcel
- Networking with other front-line agencies to organise drop-in support, such as homelessness outreach teams
- Signposting service users to appropriate services to provide support for their ongoing needs
- Volunteering Opportunities – individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds provide invaluable volunteer support. We also provide work experience placements for several local Middle and High Schools, as well as the local college and university.
- Many individuals who access the drop-in diner do so as they are looking for companionship and support, especially those who are socially isolated.

We were delighted to be able to provide a Christmas Day meal again in 2022 and provided around 50 meals, including a number of meals which were provided to one of the local sheltered housing schemes.

We provided 223 Christmas Hampers, up from 200 last year. These provided support for 534 people, 50% of whom were children (under eighteen years of age).

Due to the generosity of local churches and individuals, we were able to include small, wrapped gifts in many of the Christmas Hampers, especially for children.

Education/Talks:

Our Community Outreach Manager continues to be available to undertake presentations about the work of Caring Hands in the Vale for local groups, organisations, churches, schools and community groups. This would be further expanded with a training room within the new building.

Caring Hands offers a training course called Shopping and Eating on a Budget, which aims to help individuals and families learn to manage their shopping budget and reduce waste. We can also provide the CAP Money Course, Modern Day Slavery Workshops, Homelessness Awareness Session and Basic Drug and Alcohol Awareness. Our future plans include ESOL (English as a Second Language) and basic cooking skills.

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

During the year, we have planned activities and expenditure in order to achieve our aims:

Individuals and/or families are referred to Caring Hands via a network of over one hundred front line agencies from the community, of which 63 made referrals. Partner agencies are made up of: community groups, charities and organisations, local government organisations, Social Services Departments, Youth and Children's Services, Substance Misuse Organisations, local Churches, Schools, College, Housing Associations, Mental Health Organisations, Carer Support Organisations and National Health services. Referrals are also made by the Leadership Team and congregation of Vale of Evesham Christian Centre.

Public Benefit

The activities of Caring Hands are all for the benefit of the public. There is a target group of clients, demonstrating genuine need, who must be referred by local agencies. Anyone who feels the need can attend the diner (operating Mondays and Wednesdays), and we cater for the lonely and senior citizens as well as those in financial need.

Everyone referred to Caring Hands receives the support they need unconditionally, non-judgmentally and totally free of charge. The geographical area we cover is the Vale of Evesham, although we do sometimes receive referrals from outside this area. We received 1241 referrals during the year, a significant increase on the previous year and increased throughout the year as the cost-of-living crisis worsened. Referrals are in addition to the attendees at the diner, who are all self-referred.

Resources

Resources available through Caring Hands are grouped into five different 'banks' of resources. The Food Bank provides food parcels and Christmas hampers. The Household Bank provides toiletry packs, cleaning, toilet roll and laundry packs. The Baby Bank provides items such as nappies and wipes, baby milk and baby toiletries. The Clothing Bank provides clothing and shoes, including a stock of 'smart' clothes for interviews, family events etc.,

The Homeless Bank provides a range of resources for individuals who are homeless or rough sleeping, including blankets, towels, sleeping bags, tents and backpacks filled with essential items.

We have a wonderful team of volunteers, without whom the work of Caring Hands simply would not happen.

This year we have returned to our normal extent of services; food and Resource banks daily and twice weekly diner service. In 2023 as the refurbishment of the building allowed, we have commenced additional services such as showers and locker facilities and will continue to expand as the building becomes fully operational.

Whilst some volunteers did not return after Covid, we are now in a good position with numbers and have currently additional volunteers to interview. This is essential as we are very much reliant on volunteers for almost all that we do. Only one staff member is full-time, and we have one part-time member. Our volunteers are our core.

As such we considered it important to return to some social events to thank them for their hard work and encouragement. A successful afternoon tea event was held recently.

We have revised our volunteer policy and induction programme and seek to offer training in various aspects of volunteer work to all our volunteers, including food preparation, hygiene, first aid, strategies for dealing with difficult clients and other important topics. We have tried a few different providers of training, some of which are much better than others.

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance

Donations

We continue to receive incredible support from our local community, shops, supermarkets, families, individuals, schools, churches and community groups. We continue to be amazed and in awe of the incredible generosity of our supporters.

We received support from many schools, pre-schools and churches with donations of produce from their Harvest Celebrations, which as always is an incredible boost to our stock levels.

November/December 2022 saw us able to run a food collection at Evesham Tesco, which provided another significant boost to our stock levels and Christmas activities.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone in our local community who have generously supported Caring Hands in the Vale through another really difficult year. We definitely would not have been able to provide the support we have without you.

Financial review

The trustees have reviewed the reserves policy and consider that due to the known level of monthly recurring income the minimum funds required are the amount required to continue the activities of the charity for four months.

We also are aiming to achieve our long-term goal of a drop-in centre, which will require some significant expenditure if it is to become a reality. Unrestricted funds on 31st March 2023 significantly exceed the figure required and will also be sufficient to engage our proposed additional staff member for 12 months and subsequent increase in Reserves required. Applications for Grants, donations, and regular giving continue to be an important part of the work carried out by the Trustee Board.

There are no funds in deficit at present

The Lighthouse Project

We are delighted that the building has been purchased and refurbishment almost complete with no outstanding debts.

New services have been added as facilities allowed, and this will continue throughout 2023-2024 as we continue with our ultimate aim of providing a drop-in centre and Hub for other agencies to meet and work with the poor and disadvantaged of the area.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its Constitution.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

S A Wilderspin

M S Hewitt

J R King

Mrs. D Nicholls

The trustees are elected by existing trustees.

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The day to day management of Caring Hands is undertaken by the Community Outreach Manager. This role includes general administration, supervision of volunteers, liaising with referral agencies, developing relationships with local churches, community and other organisations, which can include talks, school assemblies and church services, finances and ensuring all necessary resources required are in place.

In addition to Diane Bennett who is our full-time Community Outreach Manager, Caring Hands now employs Emma Goodge as part-time Deputy Community Outreach Manager.

We are continuing to look to add Trustees to our group to give us wider expertise in the areas which we address and areas such as IT and Fund raising.

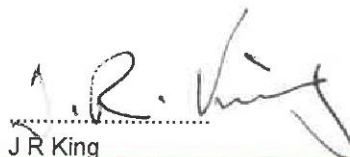
The Trustees have met bi-monthly in view of the acquisition and fitting out of our own building and plans to extend our services.

Caring Hands has its own bank account with Lloyds Bank plc. There are four signatories, and each cheque or electronic transaction requires authorisation from two people.

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



S A Wilderspin
Trustee



J R King
Trustee

Date: 8/10/23

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Caring Hands in the Vale (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 financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable 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 financial statements to be reached.



Stuart Christy FCA
Azets
Statutory Auditors and Accountants
93 High Street
Evesham
Worcestershire
WR11 4DU
United Kingdom

Dated: 12/10/2023

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and grants	3	40,190	269,125	309,315	48,536	41,926	90,462
Charitable activities	4	20,143	3,899	24,042	14,585	5,439	20,024
Investments	5	140	-	140	8	-	8
Total income		60,473	273,024	333,497	63,129	47,365	110,494
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	6	53,237	77,252	130,489	55,626	37,448	93,074
Other	10	247	-	247	-	-	-
Total expenditure		53,484	77,252	130,736	55,626	37,448	93,074
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		6,989	195,772	202,761	7,503	9,917	17,420
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		64,718	303,651	368,369	57,215	293,734	350,949
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		71,707	499,423	571,130	64,718	303,651	368,369

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.


CARING HANDS IN THE VALE


BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		478,851		250,163
Current assets					
Stocks	13	4,210		4,125	
Debtors	14	3,581		2,657	
Cash at bank and in hand		89,478		112,645	
		<u>97,269</u>		<u>119,427</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(4,990)</u>		<u>(1,221)</u>	
Net current assets			92,279		118,206
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>571,130</u>		<u>368,369</u>
Income funds					
Property - restricted funds		445,937		245,000	
General restricted funds		<u>53,486</u>		<u>58,651</u>	
	17		499,423		303,651
Unrestricted funds			71,707		64,718
			<u>571,130</u>		<u>368,369</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 8/10/23


S A Wilderspin
Trustee


M S Hewitt
Trustee

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Caring Hands in the Vale is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

A grant that specifies performance conditions is recognised in income when the performance conditions are met. Where a grant does not specify performance conditions it is recognised in income when the proceeds are received or receivable. A grant received before the recognition criteria are satisfied is recognised as a liability.

The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

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

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Freehold land and buildings	2% straight line on cost less residual value
Plant and equipment	20% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	20% reducing balance

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

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

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

1.10 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 Retirement benefits

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

3 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £
Donations and grants	40,190	269,125	309,315	48,536	41,926	90,462
Grants receivable for core activities						
Hilda Farr Charitable Trust	-	70,000	70,000	-	-	-
John Martin's Charity	-	75,000	75,000	-	-	-
Eveson Trust	-	40,000	40,000	-	-	-
New Homes Bonus	-	26,686	26,686	-	-	-
Donations	40,190	27,077	67,267	48,536	22,364	70,900
Covid Support Grant	-	-	-	-	4,462	4,462
Food Aid Grant	-	-	-	-	100	100
Household Support Grant	-	17,225	17,225	-	15,000	15,000
Other Grants	-	13,137	13,137	-	-	-
	40,190	269,125	309,315	48,536	41,926	90,462

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

4 Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Standing orders	19,375	14,005
Grants and donations	429	1,246
Gift Aid	3,729	4,344
Expenses recharged	70	221
Other income	439	208
	<u>24,042</u>	<u>20,024</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	20,143	14,585
Restricted funds	3,899	5,439
	<u>24,042</u>	<u>20,024</u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023 £	2022 £
Interest receivable	<u>140</u>	<u>8</u>

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6 Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs	41,054	32,859
Depreciation and impairment	12,932	6,291
Resources	25,640	18,134
Diner	4,267	3,761
Christmas	1,080	4,531
Rent	8,568	6,869
Motor expenses	2,355	1,999
Administration and service contracts	6,001	4,651
New building fees	14,807	4,309
Equipment under £250 and other expenses	7,766	4,093
Utilities and rates	1,939	1,540
Repairs & maintenance	493	3,047
Volunteers	252	-
Lighthouse equipment	2,285	-
	<u>129,439</u>	<u>92,084</u>
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	1,050	990
	<u>130,489</u>	<u>93,074</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	53,237	55,626
Restricted funds	77,252	37,448
	<u>130,489</u>	<u>93,074</u>

7 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2023 £	2022 £
Independent Examiners' Fees				
	-	1,050	1,050	990
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,050</u>	<u>1,050</u>	<u>990</u>
Analysed between				
Charitable activities	-	1,050	1,050	990
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,050</u>	<u>1,050</u>	<u>990</u>

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year, but one of them was reimbursed a total of £6,290 (2022: £952) and another of them £173 (2022: £nil) in respect of expenses incurred on behalf of the charity.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
	2	2
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Employment costs	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	39,858	31,902
Other pension costs	1,196	957
	<u>41,054</u>	<u>32,859</u>

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

10 Other

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	£ 2022
Financing costs	247	-
	<u>247</u>	<u>-</u>

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Plant and Motor vehicles equipment		Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 April 2022	250,000	4,413	9,450	263,863
Additions	230,140	11,479	-	241,619
At 31 March 2023	480,140	15,892	9,450	505,482
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 April 2022	5,000	1,727	6,973	13,700
Depreciation charged in the year	9,603	2,833	495	12,931
At 31 March 2023	14,603	4,560	7,468	26,631
Carrying amount				
At 31 March 2023	465,537	11,332	1,982	478,851
At 31 March 2022	245,000	2,686	2,477	250,163

13 Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Supermarket vouchers and stocks of purchased (not donated) goods	4,210	4,125

14 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	731	339
Prepayments and accrued income	2,850	2,318
	3,581	2,657

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	150	164
Accruals and deferred income	4,840	1,057
	4,990	1,221

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

16 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to income and expenditure in respect of defined contribution schemes was £1,196 (2022 - £957).

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

17 Restricted funds

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

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Movement in funds			Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Movement in funds			Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £		
Household/Food banks	21,333	8,782	(17,962)	15,957	28,110	8,861	(40,881)	16,613	12,703	
Baby bank	884	800	(171)	171	1,684	285	(205)	64	1,828	
Homelessness	537	-	(240)	-	297	350	(150)	-	497	
Christmas	719	1,510	(4,531)	4,371	2,069	3,631	(1,405)	-	4,295	
Diner	224	968	(3,761)	3,761	1,192	-	(4,057)	3,749	884	
Shopping & Eating on a Budget course	359	-	-	-	359	-	(21)	-	338	
Drop in Centre / Lighthouse	8,000	15,743	(5,264)	-	18,479	32,532	(18,907)	(11,478)	20,626	
Property	250,000	-	(5,000)	-	245,000	210,140	(9,203)	-	445,937	
Resource bank - general	2,133	-	-	-	2,133	-	-	(1,000)	1,133	
Emergency Assistant grant	9,545	-	-	(5,217)	4,328	-	-	(4,328)	-	
Recipe booklets	-	-	(266)	266	-	-	-	-	-	
Protective clothing	-	-	(73)	73	-	-	-	-	-	
Covid Support Grant	-	4,462	-	(4,462)	-	-	-	-	-	
Food Aid Grant	-	100	-	(100)	-	-	-	-	-	
Household Support Grant	-	15,000	-	(15,000)	-	17,225	-	(15,225)	2,000	
Motor and travel	-	-	(180)	180	-	-	(127)	127	-	
Drop in Centre / Lighthouse - capitalised items	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,296)	11,478	9,182	
	293,734	47,365	(37,448)	-	303,651	273,024	(77,252)	-	499,423	

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

18 General unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Movement in funds		Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Movement in funds		Balance at 31 March 2023 £
		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	£		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	
General fund	57,215	63,129	(55,626)	-	64,718	60,473	(53,484)	71,707

CARING HANDS IN THE VALE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	23,731	455,120	478,851	5,163	245,000	250,163
Current assets/(liabilities)	47,976	44,303	92,279	59,555	58,651	118,206
	<u>71,707</u>	<u>499,423</u>	<u>571,130</u>	<u>64,718</u>	<u>303,651</u>	<u>368,369</u>

20 Related party transactions

Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with related parties:

Three of the four trustees of Caring Hands are also trustees of Vale of Evesham Christian Centre (VECC). Caring Hands shared the premises of VECC and paid rent to VECC. Two lunch times a week, excluding holidays, Caring Hands used the kitchen and lounge operating a drop-in diner where hot meals were provided. Caring Hands operated a food bank and other resource banks from the church premises which were used for storage. Towards the end of this year the food and other resource banks and the drop-in diner were moved by Caring Hands to its own premises The Lighthouse. Caring Hands continues to use the office at VECC. The amount of rent paid to VECC in the year was £4,140 (2022: £4,140) and the trustees considered the amount of rent charged to be a reasonable amount to cover a share of utilities bills, office costs and a contribution to building maintenance costs. The rent is under review following the move of most operations to The Lighthouse.

Diane Bennett is not a trustee of Caring Hands but is a trustee of VECC. Diane is employed full-time by Caring Hands as Community Outreach Manager and is also available to assist with VECC's operations and activities on a voluntary basis. The office at VECC is used by Diane for both roles.

VECC has made regular donations to Caring Hands in furtherance of one of VECC's aims which is 'to assist and relieve persons who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress or who are sick or in poor health'. The total amount received by Caring Hands for the year was £9,120 (2022: £5,385).

VECC loaned £50,000 to Caring Hands in Aug 2022 and this was repaid in full, with interest £247, in Nov/Dec 2022.

Caring Hands paid expenses of £70.10 (2022: £124) on behalf of VECC and this was reimbursed to Caring Hands during the year.

VECC received payments totalling £350 (2022: £538) intended for Caring Hands and this was passed on to Caring Hands during the year.