

# SAMARITANS BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1168020

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2016-07-04

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

## Contact

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**Address** The Samaritans  
Beryl House  
8 Albion Street  
Brierley Hill  
DY5 3EE

**Phone** 01384261118

**Email** [BrierleyHill.Director@samaritans.org](mailto:BrierleyHill.Director@samaritans.org)

**Website** [www.samaritans.org/brierleyhill](http://www.samaritans.org/brierleyhill)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY ARE:3.1 TO ENABLE PERSONS IN BRIERLEY HILL AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AS WELL AS ELSEWHERE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING FEELINGS OF DISTRESS OR DESPAIR, INCLUDING THOSE WHO MAY BE AT RISK OF SUICIDE, TO RECEIVE CONFIDENTIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY OR NIGHT IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THEIR EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF SUICIDE;3.2 TO PROMOTE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING IN SOCIETY OF SUICIDE, SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR AND THE VALUE OF EXPRESSING FEELINGS WHICH MAY OTHERWISE LEAD TO SUICIDE OR IMPAIRED EMOTIONAL HEALTH; AND3.3 TO COLLABORATE WITH AND SUPPORT SAMARITANS CENTRAL CHARITY AND ITS AFFILIATED BRANCHES IN FULFILLING THESE OBJECTS.

**Activities:** Listening service for people in distress to reduce number of deaths by suicide.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£31,004	£29,478	-	-
2024-03-31	£24,772	£24,995	-	-
2023-03-31	£27,647	£24,675	-	-
2022-03-31	£15,956	£23,429	-	-
2021-03-31	£39,739	£28,014	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Christopher Bazley-Rose		2025-09-01
Dee Elaine Tranter		2025-09-01
Jennifer-Ann Portman		2021-05-04
Pauline Anne Watson		2025-09-04
Samantha Jane Foxall		2026-02-23
Stephen Walder		2025-09-09

## Linked charities

- THE SAMARITANS BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH (1168020-1)

**SAMARITANS BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1168020

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report

Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch  
Registered Charity Number: 1168020  
For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

### 1. Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name: Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch  
Registered Charity Number: 1168020  
Principal Address:  
Beryl House  
8 Albion Street  
Brierley Hill  
DY5 3EE

#### Trustees During the Year:

Christopher Bazley-Rose – Trustee  
Jennifer-Ann Portman – Trustee  
Dee Elaine Tranter – Trustee  
Stephen Walder – Trustee  
Pauline Anne Watson – Trustee

Graham Bristow – Trustee (resigned 31/08/2025)  
Alicia Pawlowski – Trustee (resigned 30/09/2025)  
Joanne Petter – Trustee (resigned 31/08/2025)

#### Independent Examiner:

French Ludlam & Co Ltd  
661 High Street  
Kingswinford  
DY6 8AL  
Work kindly completed pro bono

#### Bankers:

TSB Bank plc

### 2. Structure, Governance and Management

#### Governing Document

Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch an affiliated branch to the main Samaritans Charity which is located at The Upper Mill, Kingston Road, Elwell, Surrey, KT17 2AF. Samaritans Brierley Hill is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) which adheres to its Constitutional Rules.

#### Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the branch's governing document. All trustees receive induction and ongoing training covering Samaritans' values, safeguarding responsibilities, governance obligations, and operational standards.

### Management Structure

The branch is overseen by the trustee board, which holds responsibility for strategy, compliance, safeguarding, financial oversight, and risk management. The Branch Director(s) manages day-to-day operations.

The branch has no paid staff and relies entirely on its dedicated volunteer team of approximately 80 volunteers.

### Risk Management

Trustees regularly review key operational risks including:

- Safeguarding
- Volunteer recruitment and retention
- Financial stability
- Building maintenance and service continuity
- Compliance with national Samaritans standards

Mitigations include training, supervision, financial controls, safeguarding procedures, and facilities maintenance.

## **3. Objectives and Activities**

### Charitable Purpose

Our purpose, aligned with Samaritans nationally, is to reduce the number of people who die by suicide by providing confidential emotional support to anyone struggling to cope.

### Activities Undertaken

To achieve this, during the year the branch:

- Answered approximately 3,800 telephone calls
- Delivered a growing number of outreach sessions in the community
- Supported and organised around 80 volunteers through training, supervision and leadership
- Maintained the branch building, technology, and phonedlines to ensure safe, reliable support
- Welcomed and trained a number of new volunteers

### Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that the charity has complied with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The branch provides a clear and vital benefit by offering emotional support with the aim of few people dying by suicide.

## **4. Achievements and Performance**

During the year, Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch:

- Provided emotional support to thousands of people, evidenced by the 3,800 calls answered
- Expanded its outreach presence, engaging the community through a growing number of outreach sessions
- Successfully trained and integrated new volunteers, strengthening the branch's long-term capacity

- Maintained consistent service delivery despite increasing demand
- Ensured the branch building remained safe, functional, and accessible
- Continued full compliance with Samaritans' national quality, safeguarding, and training standards

## 5. Financial Review

### Income

Total income for the year was £31,004, derived from:

- Local fundraising and donations
- Grants
- Gift Aid receipts

### Expenditure

Expenditure was primarily on:

- Premises costs (utilities, maintenance, repairs, cleaning)
- Volunteer training, support, and resources
- Telephone and IT systems required for service delivery
- Insurance, governance, and compliance requirements
- Outreach activities and volunteer expenses

### Reserves

At year end, the branch held £65,915 in cash at bank.

The trustees have set a target reserve level of £20,000, which is considered sufficient to cover several months of essential running costs and ensure service continuity in the event of unexpected financial difficulties.

The current level of reserves is above the target. This provides the branch with stability and the ability to address future maintenance needs and support volunteer recruitment.

### Going Concern

The trustees are confident that the charity remains financially stable and able to continue operating for the foreseeable future.

## 6. Fundraising Statement

All fundraising is carried out by volunteers in accordance with Samaritans' national fundraising policies and the Code of Fundraising Practice. The branch does not employ paid fundraisers or use external fundraising agencies. Safeguards are in place to protect vulnerable people.

## 7. Safeguarding

The branch follows Samaritans' national safeguarding policies.

All volunteers undertake mandatory safeguarding training. Any concerns are escalated to the Branch Director and, where appropriate, the national safeguarding team. The trustees oversee safeguarding compliance.

## 8. Plans for the Future

In the coming year, the branch aims to:

- Continue increasing volunteer numbers
- Strengthen overnight and peak-time telephone coverage
- Enhance outreach work within the community
- Maintain and upgrade branch facilities and equipment
- Deliver high-quality training and support to all volunteers
- Undertake sustainable local fundraising to support long-term stability

## 9. Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

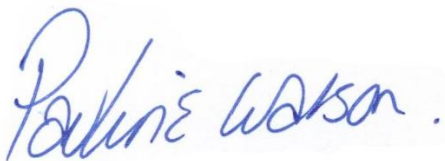
The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

They must:

Ensure proper accounting records are kept  
Safeguard the assets of the charity  
Ensure the financial statements give a true and fair view  
Approve and authorise the annual report

This report was approved by the trustees on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

Signed on behalf of the Board:



Pauline Watson  
Treasurer and Trustee  
20<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill**

We report on the accounts of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill for the year ended 31st March 2025, which are set out on Pages 2 - 4.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*French Ludlam & Co Limited*

**FRENCH LUDLAM & CO LIMITED**  
**Statutory Auditors and Accountants**

Kingswinford  
29 July 2025

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

2024

£	£		£	£
		<u>INCOME</u>		
	4,055	Fundraising	2,856	
3,758	<u>(297)</u>	Less fundraising expenses	<u>(122)</u>	2,734
18,095		Donations and grants		26,377
500		Rental income		500
1,550		Gift Aid received		70
<u>869</u>		Interest received		<u>1,323</u>
24,772				31,004
		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
	-	Donation to Walsall Branch	1,000	
4,233		Maintenance of centre	6,908	
1,961		Insurance	1,905	
3,502		Heat, light and water	4,326	
411		Printing and stationery	395	
1,042		Postage and telephone	-	
485		Travelling	101	
1,517		Outreach	1,525	
3,397		Centre cleaning and refreshments	2,831	
300		Volunteer support	741	
1,932		Branch contribution	2,795	
89		Sundry expenses	828	
<u>24,995</u>	<u>6,125</u>	Depreciation	<u>6,125</u>	<u>29,478</u>
<u>(222)</u>		<u>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u>		<u>1,526</u>

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

We certify the annexed summary accounts are in accordance with the full accounts of the branch.  
A copy of the full accounts are available on request.

FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED

Registered Auditors and Accountants

Kingswinford

29 July 2025

*French Ludlam & Co. Limited*

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**BALANCE SHEET**

31st March 2024

31ST MARCH 2025

£	£		£	£
		<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>		
		Freehold land and buildings at cost		
	93,143	as at 31st March 2024	89,933	
89,933	<u>3,210</u>	Less depreciation	<u>3,210</u>	86,723
		Fixtures and equipment		
	9,371	as at 31st March 2024	9,943	
	<u>3,487</u>	Additions less disposals during the year	<u>-</u>	
	12,858		9,943	
9,943	<u>2,915</u>	Less depreciation	<u>2,915</u>	7,028
<u>99,876</u>				<u>93,751</u>
		<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		
	2,041	Debtors and prepayments	146	
		Cash at bank		
	25,171	Current account	28,517	
	31,074	United Trust Bank 100 day notice account	37,398	
	<u>58,286</u>		<u>66,061</u>	
		<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>		
	<u>2,936</u>	Creditors	<u>3,060</u>	
<u>55,350</u>		<b><u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		<u>63,001</u>
<u>155,226</u>		<b><u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u></b>		<u>156,752</u>
		Represented by:		
	155,448	Balance as at 31st March 2024	155,226	
<u>155,226</u>	<u>(222)</u>	(Deficit)/Surplus For The Year	<u>1,526</u>	<u>156,752</u>

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**Kingswinford**

**29 July 2025**

*French Ludlam & Co. Limited*

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

1) Accounting Policies

- a) Basis of accounting. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities ("the Charities SORP FRS 102"), and with the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (the "SOFA") when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.
- c) Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the SOFA when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the Trustees' estimate of likely receivable amount.
- d) Covenant, Gift Aid and other income received by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the SOFA.
- e) Income from legacies is included in the SOFA when received or when the Trustees are satisfied the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservatively measurable sum.
- f) Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the SOFA on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.
- g) Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Freehold buildings	2% - straight line basis
Fixtures and equipment	15% - straight line basis

2) Staff Costs and Numbers

No members of staff were employed by the charity during the year.

3) Reconciliation of Funds

All funds held are available for the ordinary purposes of the charity.

- 4) As part of a restructuring of the national Samaritans organisation, on 1 October 2016, the assets, liabilities and activities of The Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch ("the Charity") were transferred to a new Charitable Incorporation Organisation (CIO). The transfer to the new CIO had no effect on the operations of the branch.

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

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**Statutory Auditors and Accountants**

Kingswinford  
29 July 2025

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

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FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED

Registered Auditors and Accountants

Kingswinford

29 July 2025

*French Ludlam & Co. Limited*

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**BALANCE SHEET**

31st March 2024

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**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
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Fixtures and equipment	15% - straight line basis

2) Staff Costs and Numbers

No members of staff were employed by the charity during the year.

3) Reconciliation of Funds

All funds held are available for the ordinary purposes of the charity.

- 4) As part of a restructuring of the national Samaritans organisation, on 1 October 2016, the assets, liabilities and activities of The Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch ("the Charity") were transferred to a new Charitable Incorporation Organisation (CIO). The transfer to the new CIO had no effect on the operations of the branch.

**SAMARITANS BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1168020

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# Accounts

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## **BRIERLEY HILL SAMARITANS TRUSTEE REPORT 2024**

### **Introduction**

Brierley Hill Samaritans has had a presence in Brierley Hill since 1973. We are an affiliated branch to the main Samaritans Charity which is located at The Upper Mill, Kingston Road, Elwell, Surrey, KT17 2AF. Brierley Hill Samaritans is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) which adheres to its Constitutional Rules.

The Branch Leadership Team are responsible for managing the Branch. Within the Branch Leadership Team are four Trustees who fulfil their obligations within the Charity Commission regulations and make decisions regarding expenditure, strategy etc. We have 15 DD's (Deputy Directors) who help to spread the work load. They will manage the operational side of the branch, for example, the quality and consistency of our service, Recruitment & Selection, Training of new volunteers and ongoing training for existing volunteers, our work outside the branch and raising money for the branch (Outreach) and support for our volunteers in carrying out their duties (Volunteer Support).

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE BRANCH**

#### **Branch Leadership Team**

Co-Directors and also Trustees - Graham Bristow Appointed 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022 and Joanne Petter (Emily) appointed 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Trustee and Secretary - Jennifer-Ann Portman co-opted 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Trustee and Treasurer - Alicia Pawlowski co-opted 19th January 2020

The Branch also has 15 Deputy Directors who are responsible for the following areas: New Volunteers, Mentors, Duty Support, Support Volunteers, EDI, Recruitment and Selection, IT, Volunteers Support, Training, Recruitment and Selection, Health and Safety and Premises, Branch Hub, Outreach, Admin, Rota.

#### **Trustees' Report**

The AGM was held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

Our Listening Volunteers continue our core business which is to respond to contact from people who are in emotional despair or distress. This can be due to relationship breakdown, debt, addiction, loneliness, self-harm, mental health issues and the added pressures of cost of living crisis. Callers may also be experiencing suicidal thoughts.

The objective of the Charity is that fewer people die by suicide. Samaritans believe that giving emotional support to our callers by listening and empathising with them can reduce feelings of emotional distress and suicide. Callers contact us by phone or/and email. We have in the past offered Face to Face support but this is under review because of safety issues for our volunteers.

Our volunteers work in a shift pattern and will attend shifts throughout the night. Most of our volunteers have full time jobs and carry out their duties in their free time.

Our volunteers are supported by Duty Support who they debrief to at the end of a shift. The Volunteer Support DD also supports Volunteers by ensuring that they remain safe and happy while volunteering with us.

Our Safeguarding Policy is continually reviewed and updated and all our volunteers are aware of their responsibilities when dealing with vulnerable people. The main Samaritan Charity has developed a Phone Call monitoring team to ensure that our Callers receive the best response possible when they contact us in emotional distress.

The Branch no longer responds to emails but this is also under review as of November 2024.

### **Number of Calls**

In September 2024, 49 Brierley Hill Listening Volunteers spent 187 hours on the phones taking 556 calls.

### **Training**

New volunteers attend face to face training for sessions which includes skills practice, they are then allocated to a mentor to start shifts and once they are competent they start taking calls by themselves.

For all volunteers there is a range of on-line training modules which they can access as they seek to develop their own volunteer pathway. Any modules which they successfully complete are recorded on their own personal training log.

In addition, there is an expectation that they will also undertake, within each 12 month period, 5 hours of On-Going Training. This particular programme may be driven by volunteer in branch suggestions, which may be based on their feedback about an increase in the types of contacts being experienced / upskilling to provide volunteers with enhanced confidence in dealing with a particular contact, or range of, difficult contacts as highlighted by fellow volunteers. There may be occasions when On-Going Training modules may be driven by the main Samaritans Charity (Central Office).

### **Premises**

At Brierley Hill Samaritans we are very fortunate to own purpose-built premises, which we moved to in November 1993 having been the beneficiary of the will of a founder member.

Trustees recognise that they are the current custodians of the building and have a responsibility and obligation to maintain and refurbish appropriately to ensure that it remains fit for purpose for years/decades to come. There is in place a rolling 12 month property schedule to ensure that we especially meet all necessary service dates. In doing so it ensures that our most valuable resource, our fellow volunteers, are provided with the best possible environment in which to support some of the most vulnerable individuals in society with the gift of being listened to.

### **Fundraising and Outreach**

The Fundraising Team continue to place Collecting Tins in pubs and shops. A Retro Night was held at Stourbridge Town Hall which was totally sponsored by Chapmans Electrical, Cradley Heath, with no cost to the Branch. Fundraising also attend events with the Outreach Team where donations are made. The main Outreach events have been - an organised Fun Run at the Dell Stadium, to coincide with the London Marathon. A visit to the Chatty Café at Merry Hill Shopping Centre, Armed Forces Day at Himley Hall, Brierley Hill Fun Day in the summer and also the Christmas Lights switch on.

### **Finance Report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

As an affiliated Branch to the main Samaritans Charity we are responsible for our own finances and are responsible for raising funds to cover the costs of running the Branch. This money is raised by the fundraising team, grant applications and the receipt of receiving regular donations. As a registered charity we follow Charity Commission rules.

This financial year shows a steady flow of income and expenditure with a small deficit for the year of £222. Total income decreased by £2,874.874. The main donations received were from Enterprise Car Rentals £2,500, McDermott Buildings £7,060, Rotary Club of Kinver £1,000, Wilkes Tranter Accountants £1,000. Main Fundraising income was from collection tins £590 and the bucket collection after Sarah Millican Concert of £643. A Retro Night (as mentioned above) raised £1,355. A £1,000 Grant was received from the Anthony and Gwendoline Memorial Fund. £1,351 Gift Aid from HMRC was claimed and received.

Expenditure was £24,995 a small increase of £320 on previous year. This was mainly due to the increase in fuel costs after coming off a fixed contract and an increase in Outreach costs of £726. Postage and telephone costs decreased as Samaritan branches, as a whole, transferred over to the VOIP system of telephone call with Central Office picking up the Broadband costs. £4,233 was spent on Branch Maintenance £3,397 on Centre Cleaning and Refreshments, Heat light and water £3,502. The deficit of £222 includes a depreciation figure of £6,125.

Despite the small deficit in the financial year, we continue to have a strong balance sheet with Total Net Assets of £155,226. Although we have a strong Balance Sheet, it must be appreciated that we need to continue to work hard applying for Grants, Fundraising and raising our profile in the Black Country Community to encourage support and ensuring we cover our outgoing costs.

Future planned expenditure is the replacement of fencing on the perimeter of the building to help keep it secure and possibly replacing single glazed windows with double glazed units.

Our Auditors are French Ludlam and Co. Ltd., Kingswinford and a copy of the Statement of Accounts is available on this Site. French Ludlam provide their services free of charge.

### **Future Objectives for the Branch:**

The main objectives over the next 12 months is to continue to:

- Develop an inclusive culture and community feel within the branch
- Increase and retain volunteer numbers
- Recruit more volunteers to roles of responsibility
- Focus on supporting vulnerable groups within our community

Alicia Pawlowski  
Treasurer and Trustee  
November 2024

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill**

We report on the accounts of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill for the year ended 31st March 2024, which are set out on Pages 2 - 4.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*French Ludlam & Co. Limited*

**FRENCH LUDLAM & CO LIMITED**  
**Statutory Auditors and Accountants**

Kingswinford  
31 May 2024

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

**2023**

£	£		£	£
		<b><u>INCOME</u></b>		
	3,085	Fundraising	4,055	
2,643	<u>(442)</u>	Less fundraising expenses	<u>(297)</u>	3,758
21,649		Donations and grants		18,095
2,000		Rental income		500
1,149		Gift Aid received		1,550
<u>206</u>		Interest received		<u>869</u>
<u>27,647</u>				<u>24,772</u>
		<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>		
	-	Donation to Matala Branch	-	
	4,485	Maintenance of centre	4,233	
	1,735	Insurance	1,961	
	2,552	Heat, light and water	3,502	
	189	Printing and stationery	411	
	1,831	Postage and telephone	1,042	
	719	Travelling	485	
	791	Outreach	1,517	
	2,599	Centre cleaning and refreshments	3,397	
	-	Training	-	
	2,336	Branch contribution	1,932	
	394	Sundry expenses	389	
<u>24,675</u>	<u>7,043</u>	Depreciation	<u>6,125</u>	<u>24,995</u>
<u>2,972</u>		<b><u>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u></b>		<u>(222)</u>

**ACCOUNTANTS REPORT**

We certify the annexed summary accounts are in accordance with the full accounts of the branch.  
A copy of the full accounts are available on request.

*French Ludlam & Co. Limited*

**FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED**

**Registered Auditors and Accountants**

**Kingswinford**

**31 May 2024**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31st March 2023**

**31ST MARCH 2024**

£	£		£	£
		<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>		
		Freehold land and buildings at cost		
	96,353	as at 31st March 2023	93,143	
93,143	<u>3,210</u>	Less depreciation	<u>3,210</u>	89,933
		Fixtures and equipment		
	5,600	as at 31st March 2023	9,371	
	<u>7,604</u>	Additions less disposals during the year	<u>3,487</u>	
	13,204		12,858	
<u>9,371</u>	<u>3,833</u>	Less depreciation	<u>2,915</u>	9,943
<u>102,514</u>				<u>99,876</u>
		<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		
	716	Debtors and prepayments	2,041	
		Cash at bank		
	30,584	Current account	25,171	
	<u>25,205</u>	United Trust Bank 100 day notice account	31,074	
	<u><u>56,505</u></u>		<u><u>58,286</u></u>	
		<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>		
	<u>3,571</u>	Creditors	<u>2,936</u>	
<u>52,934</u>		<b><u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		<u>55,350</u>
<u>155,448</u>		<b><u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u></b>		<u>155,226</u>
		Represented by:		
	152,476	Balance as at 31st March 2023	155,448	
<u>155,448</u>	<u>2,972</u>	(Deficit)/Surplus For The Year	<u>(222)</u>	<u>155,226</u>

**ACCOUNTANTS REPORT**

We certify the annexed summary accounts are in accordance with the full accounts of the branch.  
A copy of the full accounts are available on request.

*French Ludlam & Co. Limited*

**FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED**

**Registered Auditors and Accountants**

**Kingswinford**

**31 May 2024**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

1) **Accounting Policies**

- a) Basis of accounting. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities ("the Charities SORP FRS 102"), and with the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (the "SOFA") when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.
- c) Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the SOFA when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the Trustees' estimate of likely receivable amount.
- d) Covenant, Gift Aid and other income received by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the SOFA.
- e) Income from legacies is included in the SOFA when received or when the Trustees are satisfied the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservatively measurable sum.
- f) Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the SOFA on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.
- g) Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Freehold buildings	2% - straight line basis
Fixtures and equipment	15% - straight line basis

2) **Staff Costs and Numbers**

No members of staff were employed by the charity during the year.

3) **Reconciliation of Funds**

All funds held are available for the ordinary purposes of the charity.

- 4) As part of a restructuring of the national Samaritans organisation, on 1 October 2016, the assets, liabilities and activities of The Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch ("the Charity") were transferred to a new Charitable Incorporation Organisation (CIO). The transfer to the new CIO had no effect on the operations of the branch.

**SAMARITANS BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1168020

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# Accounts

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## **BRIERLEY HILL SAMARITANS TRUSTEE REPORT 2023**

### **Introduction**

Brierley Hill Samaritans has had a presence in Brierley Hill since 1973, and we celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year. We are an affiliated branch to the main Samaritans Charity which is located at The Upper Mill, Kingston Road, Elwell, Surrey, KT17 2AF. The Organisation is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) which adheres to its Constitutional Rules.

The Branch Leadership Team are responsible for managing the Branch. Within the Branch Leadership Team are five Trustees who fulfil their obligations within the Charity Commission regulations and make decisions regarding expenditure, strategy etc. The new Directors are in the process of recruiting 15 DD's (Deputy Directors) to split the roles of the previous 5 DD's and help spread the work load. They will manage the operational side of the branch, for example, the quality and consistency of our service, Recruitment & Selection, Training of new volunteers and ongoing training for existing volunteers, our work outside the branch and raising money for the branch (Outreach) and support for our volunteers in carrying out their duties (Volunteer Support).

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE BRANCH**

#### **Branch Leadership Team**

Co-Directors and also Trustees - Graham Bristow Appointed 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022 and Joanne Petter (Emily) appointed 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Trustee and Secretary - Jennifer-Ann Portman co-opted 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Trustee and Treasurer - Alicia Pawlowski co-opted 19th January 2022

The Branch also has 11 Deputy Directors who are responsible for the following areas: New Volunteers, Mentors, Leaders, Support Volunteers, EDI, Recruitment and Selection, IT, GDPR, Premises and Volunteers Support, Training.

#### **Trustees' Report**

The AGM was held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

Our Listening Volunteers continue our core business which is to respond to contact from people who are in emotional despair or distress. This can be due to relationship breakdown, debt, addiction, loneliness, self-harm, mental health issues and the added pressures of cost of living crisis and after effects of COVID. Callers may also be experiencing suicidal thoughts.

The objective of the Charity is that fewer people die by suicide. Samaritans believe that giving emotional support to our callers by listening and empathising with them can reduce feelings of emotional distress and suicide. Callers contact us by phone or/and email. We also offer the opportunity for face to face callers to come to the Branch when COVID restrictions allow.

Our volunteers work in a shift pattern and will attend shifts throughout the night. Most of our volunteers have full time jobs and carry out their duties in their free time.

Our volunteers are supported by Shift Leaders who they debrief to at the end of a shift. The Volunteer Support DD also supports Volunteers by ensuring that they remain safe and happy while volunteering with us.

Our Safeguarding Policy is continually reviewed and updated and all our volunteers are aware of their responsibilities when dealing with vulnerable people. The main Samaritan Charity has developed a Phone Call monitoring team to ensure that our Callers receive the best response possible when they contact us in emotional distress.

The Branch no longer responds to emails as this is now being organised by the Central Charity.

### **Number of Calls**

In May 2023, 48 Brierley Hill volunteers spent 210 hours on the phones taking 751 calls. In the second quarter of this year, we spent 13.2% of our time in the Hours of Need period 2- 6am and 29.8% during the twilight period 10pm to 2am. This is a fantastic achievement for a branch of our size.

### **Number of Listening Volunteers**

Total numbers Total volunteer breakdown as of July 2023: 57 listening volunteers, 10 support volunteers and 2 volunteers in training. 69 in total.

### **Training**

New volunteers attend face to face training for sessions which includes skills practice, they are then allocated to a mentor to start shifts and once they are competent they start taking calls by themselves.

For all volunteers there is a range of on-line training modules which they can access as they seek to develop their own volunteer pathway. Any modules which they successfully complete are recorded on their own personal training log.

In addition, there is an expectation that they will also undertake, within each 12 month period, 5 hours of On-Going Training. This particular programme may be driven by volunteer in branch suggestions, which may be based on their feedback about an increase in the types of contacts being experienced / upskilling to provide volunteers with enhanced confidence in dealing with a particular, or range of, difficult contacts as highlighted by fellow volunteers. There may be occasions when On-Going Training modules may be driven by the main Samaritans Charity (Central Office).

### **Premises**

At Brierley Hill Samaritans we are very fortunate to own purpose -built premises, which we moved to in November 1993 having been the beneficiary of the will of a founder member.

Trustees recognise that they are the current custodians of the building and have a responsibility and obligation to maintain and refurbish appropriately to ensure that it remains fit for purpose for years/decades to come. There is in place a rolling 12 month property schedule to ensure that we especially meet all

necessary service dates. In doing so it ensures that our most valuable resource, our fellow volunteers, are provided with the best possible environment in which to support some of the most vulnerable individuals in society with the gift of being listened to.

### **Fundraising and Outreach**

The Fundraising Team have started to organise events post-pandemic and also place collecting tins in various venues for money and also raising awareness of the Organisation.

### **Finance Report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

As an affiliated Branch to the main Samaritans Charity we are responsible for our own finances and are responsible for raising funds to cover the costs of running the Branch. This money is raised by the fundraising team, grant applications and the receipt of receiving regular donations. As a registered charity we follow Charity Commission rules.

This financial year reflects recovery from the Pandemic and the Treasurer's efforts in obtaining Grants. Total income increased by £11,691. The main donations received were from Enterprise Car Rentals £2,500, McDermott Buildings £1,440, there was Car Park Rental income catch up of £2,000. The total of Grants applied for and received was £11,500. Main Fundraising events raised £820 from the Sarah Millikan Evening and assisting Stourbridge Lions with their annual Sleigh Ride gave way to a donation from them of £450.

Expenditure was £24,675, an increase of £1,246 on the previous year. £4,485 was spent on Branch Maintenance £2,599 on Centre Cleaning and Refreshments, Heat light and water £2,552. The surplus of income over expenditure is £2,972 including a depreciation figure of £7,403. During the year Electronic Gates were purchased for £5,967 and a photocopier for £1,636 which increased our Fixtures and Fittings by £3,771 which allows for depreciation.

This leads to a strong Balance Sheet with Reserves of £155,448. Although we have a strong Balance Sheet, it must be appreciated that we need to continue to work hard applying for Grants, Fundraising and raising our profile in the Black Country Community to encourage support and ensuring we cover our outgoing costs.

Future planned expenditure is the upgrading of the CCTV system, budgeted cost between £2,000 and £2,500. The Treasurer is applying for Grants to cover this cost.

Our Auditors are French Ludlam and Co. Ltd., Kingswinford and a copy of the Statement of Accounts is available on this Site.

### **Future Objectives for the Branch:**

The main objectives over the next 12 months is to:

- Develop an inclusive culture and community feel within the branch
- Increase and retain volunteer numbers
- Recruit more volunteers to roles of responsibility
- Focus on supporting vulnerable groups within our community

Alicia Pawlowski  
Treasurer and Trustee  
October 2023

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill**

We report on the accounts of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on Pages 2 - 4.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*French Ludlam & Co. Limited*

**FRENCH LUDLAM & CO LIMITED**  
**Statutory Auditors and Accountants**

Kingswinford  
30 June 2023

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

<u>2022</u>				
£	£		£	£
		<u>INCOME</u>		
	3,576	Fundraising	3,085	
3,576	-	Less fundraising expenses	(442)	2,643
10,519		Donations and grants		21,649
-		Rental income		2,000
1,744		Gift Aid received		1,149
117		Interest received		206
<u>15,956</u>				<u>27,647</u>
		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
	600	Donation to Matala Branch	-	
	4,181	Maintenance of centre	4,485	
	1,524	Insurance	1,735	
	2,657	Heat, light and water	2,552	
	236	Printing and stationery	189	
	1,732	Postage and telephone	1,831	
	657	Travelling	719	
	302	Publicity	791	
	2,812	Centre cleaning and refreshments	2,599	
	26	Training	-	
	2,469	Branch contribution	2,336	
	544	Sundry expenses	394	
23,429	5,689	Depreciation	7,043	24,675
<u>(7,472)</u>		<u>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u>		<u>2,972</u>

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

We certify the annexed summary accounts are in accordance with the full accounts of the branch.  
A copy of the full accounts are available on request.

*French Ludlam & Co Limited*

FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED

Registered Auditors and Accountants

Kingswinford

30 June 2023

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

<u>BALANCE SHEET</u>			<u>31ST MARCH 2023</u>	
<u>31st March 2022</u>				
£	£		£	£
		<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>		
		Freehold land and buildings at cost		
	99,563	as at 31st March 2022	96,353	
96,353	<u>3,210</u>	Less depreciation	<u>3,210</u>	93,143
		Fixtures and equipment		
	3,371	as at 31st March 2022	5,600	
	4,708	Additions less disposals during the year	<u>7,604</u>	
	<u>8,079</u>		13,204	
5,600	<u>2,479</u>	Less depreciation	<u>3,833</u>	<u>9,371</u>
<u>101,953</u>				<u>102,514</u>
		<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
	195	Debtors and prepayments	716	
		Cash at bank		
	28,905	Current account	30,584	
	25,000	Shawbrook Bank 60 day notice account	25,205	
	<u>54,100</u>		<u>56,505</u>	
		<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
	<u>3,577</u>	Creditors	<u>3,571</u>	
<u>50,523</u>		<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u>		<u>52,934</u>
<u>152,476</u>		<u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u>		<u>155,448</u>
		Represented by:		
	159,948	Balance as at 31st March 2022	152,476	
<u>152,476</u>	<u>(7,472)</u>	(Deficit)/Surplus For The Year	<u>2,972</u>	<u>155,448</u>

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

We certify the annexed summary accounts are in accordance with the full accounts of the branch.  
A copy of the full accounts are available on request.

*French Ludlam & Co Limited*  
**FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED**  
**Registered Auditors and Accountants**  
**Kingswinford**  
**30 June 2023**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

1) Accounting Policies

- a) Basis of accounting. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities ("the Charities SORP FRS 102"), and with the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (the "SOFA") when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.
- c) Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the SOFA when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the Trustees' estimate of likely receivable amount.
- d) Covenant, Gift Aid and other income received by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the SOFA.
- e) Income from legacies is included in the SOFA when received or when the Trustees are satisfied the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservatively measurable sum.
- f) Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the SOFA on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.
- g) Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Freehold buildings	2% - straight line basis
Fixtures and equipment	15% - straight line basis

2) Staff Costs and Numbers

No members of staff were employed by the charity during the year.

3) Reconciliation of Funds

All funds held are available for the ordinary purposes of the charity.

- 4) As part of a restructuring of the national Samaritans organisation, on 1 October 2016, the assets, liabilities and activities of The Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch ("the Charity") were transferred to a new Charitable Incorporation Organisation (CIO). The transfer to the new CIO had no effect on the operations of the branch.

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill**

We report on the accounts of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on Pages 2 - 4.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*French Ludlam & Co. Limited*

**FRENCH LUDLAM & CO LIMITED**  
**Statutory Auditors and Accountants**

Kingswinford  
30 June 2023

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

<u>2022</u>				
£	£		£	£
		<u>INCOME</u>		
	3,576	Fundraising	3,085	
3,576	-	Less fundraising expenses	<u>(442)</u>	2,643
10,519		Donations and grants		21,649
-		Rental income		2,000
1,744		Gift Aid received		1,149
<u>117</u>		Interest received		<u>206</u>
15,956				27,647
		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
	600	Donation to Matala Branch	-	
	4,181	Maintenance of centre	4,485	
	1,524	Insurance	1,735	
	2,657	Heat, light and water	2,552	
	236	Printing and stationery	189	
	1,732	Postage and telephone	1,831	
	657	Travelling	719	
	302	Publicity	791	
	2,812	Centre cleaning and refreshments	2,599	
	26	Training	-	
	2,469	Branch contribution	2,336	
	544	Sundry expenses	394	
<u>23,429</u>	<u>5,689</u>	Depreciation	<u>7,043</u>	<u>24,675</u>
<u>(7,472)</u>		<u>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u>		<u>2,972</u>

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

We certify the annexed summary accounts are in accordance with the full accounts of the branch.  
A copy of the full accounts are available on request.

*French Ludlam & Co Limited*

FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED

Registered Auditors and Accountants

Kingswinford

30 June 2023

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31st March 2022**

**31ST MARCH 2023**

<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
		<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>		
		Freehold land and buildings at cost		
	99,563	as at 31st March 2022	96,353	
96,353	<u>3,210</u>	Less depreciation	<u>3,210</u>	93,143
		Fixtures and equipment		
	3,371	as at 31st March 2022	5,600	
	<u>4,708</u>	Additions less disposals during the year	<u>7,604</u>	
	8,079		13,204	
<u>5,600</u>	<u>2,479</u>	Less depreciation	<u>3,833</u>	<u>9,371</u>
<u>101,953</u>				<u>102,514</u>
		<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		
	195	Debtors and prepayments	716	
		Cash at bank		
	28,905	Current account	30,584	
	25,000	Shawbrook Bank 60 day notice account	25,205	
	<u>54,100</u>		<u>56,505</u>	
		<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>		
	<u>3,577</u>	Creditors	<u>3,571</u>	
<u>50,523</u>				<u>52,934</u>
<u>152,476</u>		<b><u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		<u>155,448</u>
		<b><u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u></b>		<u>155,448</u>
		Represented by:		
	159,948	Balance as at 31st March 2022	152,476	
<u>152,476</u>	<u>(7,472)</u>	(Deficit)/Surplus For The Year	<u>2,972</u>	<u>155,448</u>

**ACCOUNTANTS REPORT**

We certify the annexed summary accounts are in accordance with the full accounts of the branch.  
A copy of the full accounts are available on request.

*French Ludlam & Co Limited*

**FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED**

**Registered Auditors and Accountants**

**Kingswinford**

**30 June 2023**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

1) Accounting Policies

- a) Basis of accounting. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities ("the Charities SORP FRS 102"), and with the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (the "SOFA") when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.
- c) Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the SOFA when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the Trustees' estimate of likely receivable amount.
- d) Covenant, Gift Aid and other income received by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the SOFA.
- e) Income from legacies is included in the SOFA when received or when the Trustees are satisfied the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservatively measurable sum.
- f) Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the SOFA on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.
- g) Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Freehold buildings	2% - straight line basis
Fixtures and equipment	15% - straight line basis

2) Staff Costs and Numbers

No members of staff were employed by the charity during the year.

3) Reconciliation of Funds

All funds held are available for the ordinary purposes of the charity.

- 4) As part of a restructuring of the national Samaritans organisation, on 1 October 2016, the assets, liabilities and activities of The Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch ("the Charity") were transferred to a new Charitable Incorporation Organisation (CIO). The transfer to the new CIO had no effect on the operations of the branch.

**SAMARITANS BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1168020

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# Accounts

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## **BRIERLEY HILL SAMARITANS TRUSTEE REPORT 2022**

### **Introduction**

Brierley Hill Samaritans has had a presence in Brierley Hill since 1973, and we celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year. We are an affiliated branch to the main Samaritans Charity which is located at The Upper Mill, Kingston Road, Elwell, Surrey, KT17 2AF. The Organisation is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) which adheres to its Constitutional Rules.

The Branch has achieved one of its objectives of last year in appointing two Directors from within the Branch after having a Caretaker Director from Walsall Branch for the last 12 months.

The Branch Leadership Team are responsible for managing the Branch. Within the Branch Leadership Team are five Trustees who fulfil their obligations within the Charity Commission regulations and make decisions regarding expenditure, strategy etc. The new Directors are in the process of recruiting 15 DD's (Deputy Directors) to split the roles of the previous 5 DD's and help spread the work load. They will manage the operational side of the branch, for example, the quality and consistency of our service, Recruitment & Selection, Training of new volunteers and ongoing training for existing volunteers, our work outside the branch and raising money for the branch (Outreach) and support for our volunteers in carrying out their duties (Volunteer Support).

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE BRANCH**

#### **Branch Leadership Team**

Trustee and Caretaker Director - Amanda Poulson co-opted 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021 - resigned 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Trustee and Director - Graham Bristow Appointed Director 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022  
Appointed Trustee 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Trustee and Director - Joanne Petter (Emily) appointed 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Trustee and Secretary - Jennifer-Ann Portman co-opted 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Trustee and Treasurer - Alicia Pawlowski co-opted 19th January 2021

Trustee - Amneris Koeberle (Mary) Appointed 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 resigned 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022

Trustee - Rebecca Harrold (Esther) Appointed 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 resigned 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022

#### **Trustees' Report**

Due to the Pandemic our last AGM was held in February 2022 which was 16 months after the previous AGM due to the effects of COVID. Next year it is hoped that the AGM will be held in June 2023 which will put us back on track to our pre-pandemic cycle of annual AGM's. Next year is also a special year for the Branch as we are celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Our Listening Volunteers continue our core business which is to respond to contact from people who are in emotional despair or distress. This can be due to relationship breakdown, debt, addiction, loneliness, self-harm, mental health issues and the added pressures of cost of living crisis and after effects of COVID. Callers may also be experiencing suicidal thoughts.

The objective of the Charity is that fewer people die by suicide. Samaritans believe that giving emotional support to our callers by listening and empathising with them can reduce feelings of emotional distress and suicide. Callers contact us by phone or/and email. We also offer the opportunity for face to face callers to come to the Branch when COVID restrictions allow.

Our volunteers work in a shift pattern and will attend shifts throughout the night. Most of our volunteers have full time jobs and carry out their duties in their free time.

Our volunteers are supported by Shift Leaders who they debrief to at the end of a shift. The Volunteer Support DD also supports Volunteers by ensuring that they remain safe and happy while volunteering with us.

Our Safeguarding Policy is continually reviewed and updated and all our volunteers are aware of their responsibilities when dealing with vulnerable people. The main Samaritan Charity has developed a Phone Call monitoring team to ensure that our Callers receive the best response possible when they contact us in emotional distress.

We are also moving away from Branches responding to emails within the Branch and the setting up of an email Hub. This hub will be populated by experienced volunteers with highly developed competencies in responding to caller emails and is designed to ensure quality, consistent responses to those individuals who prefer to contact Samaritans using this medium.

We have achieved our main objective from last year in appointing two Directors from within the Branch and we have continued to manage to recruit and train new volunteers. The Training Team has also been busy with Ongoing Training and helping to implement the new Safeguarding policy successfully.

## **Training**

For all volunteers there is a range of on-line training modules which they can access as they seek to develop their own volunteer pathway. Any modules which they successfully complete are recorded on their own personal training log.

In addition, there is an expectation that they will also undertake, within each 12 month period, 5 hours of On-Going Training. This particular programme may be driven by volunteer in branch suggestions, which may be based on their feedback about an increase in the types of contacts being experienced / upskilling to provide volunteers with enhanced confidence in dealing with a particular, or range of, difficult contacts as highlighted by fellow volunteers. There may be occasions when On-Going Training modules may be driven by the main Samaritans Charity (Central Office).

## **Premises**

At Brierley Hill Samaritans we are very fortunate to own purpose -built premises, which we moved to in November 1993 having been the beneficiary of the will of a founder member.

Trustees recognise that they are the current custodians of the building and have a responsibility and obligation to maintain and refurbish appropriately to ensure that it remains fit for purpose for years/decades to come. There is in place a rolling 12 month property schedule to ensure that we especially meet all necessary service dates. In doing so it ensures that our most valuable resource, our fellow volunteers, are provided with the best possible environment in which to support some of the most vulnerable individuals in society with the gift of being listened to.

### **Fundraising and Outreach**

Work has been curtailed by COVID restrictions but it is hoped that volunteers will soon be able to reach out and give support again to local vulnerable groups when needed. Fundraising has also been curtailed and shown in the Audited Accounts and the Fundraising Team are busy organising events to generate income and are also applying for Grants. Bucket collections at local supermarkets and tin collections will restart when they are able.

### **Finance Report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

As an affiliated Branch to the main Charity we are responsible for our own finances and have no regular income. We are responsible for raising funds to cover the costs of running the Branch. This money is raised by the fundraising team, grant applications and the receipt of regular donations.

This financial year reflects the ongoing effects of the Pandemic with less money coming in from our regular donors and less grants being available. Donations were down from £13,782 to £10,519. A COVID grants of £10,000 received the previous year from Dudley MBC was not available this year. The main donations received were from Enterprise Car Rentals £4,000, Geoff Hill Charitable Trust £400, in memory of Anna £720. The Samarathon event held in July raised £1,716. Brier Faire raised £502. We also receive income from regular standing orders (the givers who wish to remain anonymous) amounting to £750.

Expenditure was £23,429, down by £4,585 the previous year. £4,181 was spent on Branch Maintenance £2,812 on Centre Cleaning and Refreshments, Heat light and water £2,657. The deficit of Income over Expenditure is £7,472 which includes an accounting entry for Depreciation of £5,689.

Although we have a strong Balance Sheet with Reserves of £152,476, it must be appreciated that to continue to have a deficit of Income over Expenditure is not sustainable for the Branch and we must continue in our efforts to raise our income by Fundraising, applying for Grants and making ourselves known in the Community to local businesses who may be able to support us.

Our Auditors are French Ludlam and Co. Ltd., Kingswinford and a copy of the Statement of Accounts is attached.

**Future Objectives for the Branch:**

The main objectives over the next 12 months is to:

- Continue to offer emotional support to our Callers
- Generate Income from Fundraising, applying for Grants and approaching local business for their support.
- Continue to recruit and train new volunteers and grow the number of Volunteers.
- Continue with ongoing training for existing volunteers.
- Respond and implement the main Charity's vision of the future.
- Ensure consistency and quality in our contact with Callers.

Alicia Pawlowski  
Treasurer  
September 2022

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill**

We report on the accounts of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill for the year ended 31st March 2022, which are set out on Pages 2 - 4.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*French Ludlam & Co Limited*

**FRENCH LUDLAM & CO LIMITED**  
**Statutory Auditors and Accountants**

Kingswinford  
23 August 2022

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

2021

£	£		£	£
		<u>INCOME</u>		
	6,340	Fundraising	3,576	
6,340	-	Less fundraising expenses	-	3,576
13,782		Donations and grants		10,519
180		Rental income		-
-		Received for prison work		-
1,461		Gift Aid received		1,744
200		Interest received		117
10,493		Government grants (COVID support)		-
7,284		Received from PEARS re: disabled w/c facility		-
<u>39,739</u>				<u>15,956</u>
		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
	-	Donation to Matale Branch	600	
4,035		Maintenance of centre	4,181	
1,434		Insurance	1,524	
2,981		Heat, light and water	2,657	
560		Printing and stationery	236	
2,071		Postage and telephone	1,732	
-		Travelling	657	
227		Publicity	302	
2,006		Centre cleaning and refreshments	2,812	
362		Training	26	
1,777		Branch contribution	2,469	
384		Sundry expenses	544	
-		Refurbishment costs	-	
7,284		Disabled w/c facility	-	
<u>28,014</u>	<u>4,894</u>	Depreciation	<u>5,689</u>	<u>23,429</u>
<u>11,725</u>		<u>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u>		<u>(7,472)</u>

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

We certify the annexed summary accounts are in accordance with the full accounts of the branch.  
A copy of the full accounts are available on request.

FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED  
Registered Auditors and Accountants  
Kingswinford  
23 August 2022

*French Ludlam & Co Limited*

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**BALANCE SHEET**

31st March 2021

31ST MARCH 2022

£	£		£	£
		<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>		
		Freehold land and buildings at cost		
	102,773	as at 31st March 2021	99,563	
99,563	<u>3,210</u>	Less depreciation	<u>3,210</u>	96,353
		Fixtures and equipment		
	5,055	as at 31st March 2021	3,371	
	-	Additions less disposals during the year	<u>4,708</u>	
	<u>5,055</u>		8,079	
<u>3,371</u>	<u>1,684</u>	Less depreciation	<u>2,479</u>	<u>5,600</u>
102,934				101,953
		<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		
	1,582	Debtors and prepayments	195	
		Cash at bank		
	33,611	Current account	28,905	
	25,000	Shawbrook Bank 60 day notice account	25,000	
	<u>60,193</u>		<u>54,100</u>	
		<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>		
	<u>3,179</u>	Creditors	<u>3,577</u>	
<u>57,014</u>		<b><u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		<u>50,523</u>
<u>159,948</u>		<b><u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u></b>		<u>152,476</u>
		Represented by:		
	148,223	Balance as at 31st March 2021	159,948	
<u>159,948</u>	<u>11,725</u>	(Deficit)/Surplus For The Year	<u>(7,472)</u>	<u>152,476</u>

**ACCOUNTANTS REPORT**

We certify the annexed summary accounts are in accordance with the full accounts of the branch.  
A copy of the full accounts are available on request.

*French Ludlam & Co Limited*

**FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED**

**Registered Auditors and Accountants**

**Kingswinford**

**23 August 2022**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

1) Accounting Policies

- a) Basis of accounting. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities ("the Charities SORP FRS 102"), and with the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (the "SOFA") when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.
- c) Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the SOFA when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the Trustees' estimate of likely receivable amount.
- d) Covenant, Gift Aid and other income received by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the SOFA.
- e) Income from legacies is included in the SOFA when received or when the Trustees are satisfied the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservatively measurable sum.
- f) Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the SOFA on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.
- g) Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Freehold buildings	2% - straight line basis
Fixtures and equipment	15% - straight line basis

2) Staff Costs and Numbers

No members of staff were employed by the charity during the year.

3) Reconciliation of Funds

All funds held are available for the ordinary purposes of the charity.

- 4) As part of a restructuring of the national Samaritans organisation, on 1 October 2016, the assets, liabilities and activities of The Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch ("the Charity") were transferred to a new Charitable Incorporation Organisation (CIO). The transfer to the new CIO had no effect on the operations of the branch.
- 5) During the previous year, the Pears Family Charitable Trust provided a donation of £7,284 to finance the ground floor disabled w/c facility. This income has been treated as restricted funds, as it was donated specifically for this purpose.

**SAMARITANS BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1168020

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# Accounts

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## **DRAFT BRIERLEY HILL SAMARITANS TRUSTEE REPORT 2021**

### **Introduction**

Brierley Hill Samaritans has had a presence in Brierley Hill since 1973. We are an affiliated branch to the main Samaritans Charity which is located at The Upper Mill, Kingston Road, Elwell, Surrey, KT17 2AF. The Organisation is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) which adheres to its Constitutional Rules.

The Branch Leadership Team are responsible for managing the Branch. Within the Branch Leadership Team are seven Trustees who fulfil their obligations within the Charity Commission regulations and make decisions regarding expenditure, strategy etc. Alongside them are 5 Deputy Directors who manage the operational side of the branch, for example, the quality and consistency of our service (Caller Support), Recruitment & Selection, Training of new volunteers and ongoing training for existing volunteers, our work outside the branch and raising money for the branch (Outreach) and support for our volunteers in carrying out their duties (Volunteer Support). Due to the inability of the Branch to select a new Director after the resignation of the Director in April 2021, Amanda Poulson from Walsall Branch has taken on the role for 12 months when the Branch will go through another Director Selection process.

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE BRANCH**

#### **Branch Leadership Team**

Trustee and Director Johanna Smart (Sophie) Resigned 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Trustee and Caretaker Director - Amanda Poulson co-opted 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021

Trustee, Interim Director 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 - 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021 and Vice-Director - Graham Bristow

Trustee and Secretary - Keeley Jones resigned as Secretary 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Trustee and Secretary - Jennifer-Ann Portman co-opted 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Trustee and Treasurer - Alicia Pawlowski co-opted 19th January 2021

Trustee - Amneris Koeberle (Mary)

Trustee - Rebecca Harrold (Esther)

DD Outreach & Fundraising - Peter Leadbeter (Peter)

DD Training - Mark Smith (Harry)

DD Recruitment & Selection - Maria Hewitt (Maria)

DD Caller Support - Aidan Livesey (Dan)

DD Volunteer Support - Suzanne Connolly (Suzanne)

## **Trustees' Report**

Due to the Pandemic and changes in the Leadership Team, this report is being drawn up 16 months after the previous AGM. The Branch has faced many challenges over the last 16 months but have continued in our core business which is to respond to contact from people who are in emotional despair or distress. This can be due to relationship breakdown, debt, addiction, loneliness, self-harm, mental health issues and the added pressures of being in a Pandemic.

The next AGM is scheduled for February 2022 with the intention of a summer meeting to get us back into our 12 month cycle.

The objective of the Charity is that fewer people die by suicide. Samaritans believe that giving emotional support to our callers by listening and emphasising with them can reduce feelings of emotional distress and suicide. Callers contact us by phone or/and email. We also offer the opportunity for face to face callers to come to the Branch when COVID restrictions allow.

Our volunteers work in a shift pattern and will attend shifts throughout the night. Most of our volunteers have full time jobs and carry out their duties in their free time.

Our volunteers are supported by Shift Leaders who they debrief to at the end of a shift. The Volunteer Support DD also supports Volunteers by ensuring that they remain safe and happy while volunteering with us.

There have been major changes in our Safeguarding Policy which included relevant in depth training for volunteers at all levels, utilising material developed and provided by the main Samaritan Charity and included an introduction to the procedures being implemented branch wide to monitor the quality of volunteers' responses to phone calls and emails.

We are also moving away from Branches responding to emails within the Branch and the setting up of an email Hub. This hub will be populated by experienced volunteers with highly developed competencies in responding to caller emails and is designed to ensure quality, consistent responses to those individuals who prefer to contact Samaritans using this medium.

## **Training**

For all volunteers there is a range of on-line training modules which they can access as they seek to develop their own volunteer pathway. Any modules which they successfully complete are recorded on their own personal training log.

In addition, there is an expectation that they will also undertake, within each 12 month period, 5 hours of On-Going Training. This particular programme may be driven by volunteer in branch suggestions, which may be based on their feedback about an increase in the types of contacts being experienced / upskilling to provide volunteers with enhanced confidence in dealing with a particular, or range of, difficult contacts as highlighted by fellow volunteers. There may be occasions when On-Going Training modules may be driven by the main Samaritans Charity (Central Office).

## **Premises**

At Brierley Hill Samaritans we are very fortunate to own purpose -built premises, which we moved to in November 1993 having been the beneficiary of the will of a founder member.

Trustees recognise that they are the current custodians of the building and have a responsibility and obligation to maintain and refurbish appropriately to ensure that it remains fit for purpose for

years/decades to come. There is in place a rolling 12 month property schedule to ensure that we especially meet all necessary service dates. In doing so it ensures that our most valuable resource, our fellow volunteers, are provided with the best possible environment in which to support some of the most vulnerable individuals in society with the gift of being listened to.

## **Fundraising and Outreach**

Work has been curtailed by COVID restrictions but it is hoped that volunteers will soon be able to reach out and give support again to local vulnerable groups when needed. Bucket collections at local supermarkets and tin collections will restart when they are able. Samarathon event held every year in July was able to go ahead and raised £4,465.

## **Finance Report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

As an affiliated Branch to the main Charity we are responsible for our own finances and are responsible for raising funds to cover the costs of running the Branch. This money is raised by the fundraising team, grant applications and the receipt of receiving regular donations.

Although this financial year was in the height of the Pandemic, financially the Branch is in a secure position and increased its reserves by £11,725 from the previous year. This was due to £39,739 of income, an increase of £21,727 on the previous year. Several large Grants were received - Dudley MBC £10,943, Pears Foundation £7,284 (ring fenced for toilet refurbishment), Eveson Trust £2,000, Rotary Club Dudley £2,000, Virgin Giving £2,500.

Expenditure was £28,014 giving a surplus of income over expenditure of £11,725. Besides the toilet refurbishment costing £7,284 - £4,035 was spent on Building Maintenance, £2,066 on Cleaning £2,071 on postage and telephone. The surplus of Income over Expenditure includes the accounting entry of £4,894 for depreciation.

Our Auditors are French Ludlam and Co. Ltd., Kingswinford and a copy of the Statement of Accounts is attached.

## **Future Objectives for the Branch:**

The main objectives over the next 12 months is to:

- Continue to offer emotional support to our Callers
- Select a Director from within the Branch
- Implement the new Safeguarding Policy
- Continue to recruit and train new volunteers
- Continue with ongoing training for existing volunteers.

Alicia Pawlowski  
Treasurer  
26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill**

We report on the accounts of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill for the year ended 31st March 2021, which are set out on Pages 2 - 4.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**FRENCH LUDLAM & CO LIMITED**  
**Statutory Auditors and Accountants**

Kingswinford  
15 July 2021

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

<u>2020</u>				
£	£		£	£
		<u>INCOME</u>		
	6,438	Fundraising	6,340	
6,438	-	Less fundraising expenses	-	6,340
4,937	-	Donations and grants		13,782
220		Rental income		180
-		Received for prison work		-
6,217		Gift Aid received		1,461
200		Interest received		200
-		Government grants (COVID support)		10,493
-		Received from PEARS re: disabled w/c facility		7,284
<u>18,012</u>				<u>39,739</u>
		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
	571	Donation to Matala Branch (including currency fees)	-	
	2,865	Maintenance of centre	4,035	
	1,318	Insurance	1,434	
	2,936	Heat, light and water	2,981	
	379	Printing and stationery	560	
	1,980	Postage and telephone	2,071	
	208	Travelling	-	
	1,382	Publicity	227	
	2,025	Centre cleaning and refreshments	2,006	
	-	Training	362	
	792	Branch contribution	1,777	
	826	Sundry expenses	384	
	615	Refurbishment costs	-	
	-	Disabled w/c facility	7,284	
	-	Depreciation	4,894	28,014
<u>21,123</u>	<u>5,226</u>			
<u>(3,110)</u>		<u>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u>		<u>11,725</u>

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

We certify the annexed summary accounts are in accordance with the full accounts of the branch.  
A copy of the full accounts are available on request.

FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED

Registered Auditors and Accountants

Kingswinford

15 July 2021

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**BALANCE SHEET**

31st March 2020

31ST MARCH 2021

£	£		£	£
		<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>		
		Freehold land and buildings at cost		
	105,983	as at 31st March 2020	102,773	
102,773	<u>3,210</u>	Less depreciation	<u>3,210</u>	99,563
		Fixtures and equipment		
	3,429	as at 31st March 2020	5,055	
	<u>3,642</u>	Additions less disposals during the year	<u>-</u>	
	7,071		5,055	
5,055	<u>2,016</u>	Less depreciation	<u>1,684</u>	3,371
<u>107,828</u>				<u>102,934</u>
		<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
	466	Debtors and prepayments	1,582	
		Cash at bank		
	18,275	Current account	33,611	
	<u>25,000</u>	Shawbrook Bank 60 day notice account	<u>25,000</u>	
	<u>43,741</u>		<u>60,193</u>	
		<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
	3,346	Creditors	<u>3,179</u>	
40,395				
<u>148,223</u>		<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u>		<u>57,014</u>
		<u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u>		<u>159,948</u>
		Represented by:		
	151,333	Balance as at 31st March 2020	148,223	
148,223	<u>(3,110)</u>	(Deficit)/Surplus For The Year	<u>11,725</u>	<u>159,948</u>

**ACCOUNTANTS REPORT**

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**FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED**

**Registered Auditors and Accountants**

**Kingswinford**

**15 July 2021**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

1) Accounting Policies

- a) Basis of accounting. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities ("the Charities SORP FRS 102"), and with the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (the "SOFA") when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.
- c) Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the SOFA when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the Trustees' estimate of likely receivable amount.
- d) Covenant, Gift Aid and other income received by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the SOFA.
- e) Income from legacies is included in the SOFA when received or when the Trustees are satisfied the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservatively measurable sum.
- f) Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the SOFA on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.
- g) Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Freehold buildings	2% - straight line basis
Fixtures and equipment	15% - straight line basis

2) Staff Costs and Numbers

No members of staff were employed by the charity during the year.

3) Reconciliation of Funds

All funds held are available for the ordinary purposes of the charity.

- 4) As part of a restructuring of the national Samaritans organisation, on 1 October 2016, the assets, liabilities and activities of The Samaritans Brierley Hill Branch ("the Charity") were transferred to a new Charitable Incorporation Organisation (CIO). The transfer to the new CIO had no effect on the operations of the branch.
- 5) During the year, the Pears Family Charitable Trust provided a donation of £7,284 to finance the ground floor disabled w/c facility. This income has been treated as restricted funds, as it was donated specifically for this purpose.

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Brierley Hill**

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Kingswinford  
15 July 2021

**THE SAMARITANS**  
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

2020

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<u>(3,110)</u>		<u>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u>		<u>11,725</u>

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FRENCH LUDLAM AND CO LIMITED

Registered Auditors and Accountants

Kingswinford

15 July 2021

THE SAMARITANS  
BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET

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