SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

England & Wales · Charity number 1170575

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2016-12-06
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	1 Manchester Road Northwich CW9 5LY
Phone	01606241029
Email	Mid-Cheshire@samaritans.org
Website	https://www.samaritans.org/branches/mid-cheshire-branch-samaritans

Activities

Objects: TO ENABLE PERSONS IN NORTHWICH 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;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; ANDTO COLLABORATE WITH AND SUPPORT SAMARITANS CENTRAL CHARITY AND ITS AFFILIATED BRANCHES IN FULFILLING THESE OBJECTS.

Activities: To enable persons who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including suicide, to receive confidential emotional support at any time. To promote a better understanding of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings which may otherwise lead to suicide or impaired emotional health.To collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity.

Classification

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

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Geography

- Cheshire West & Chester

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£45,691	£31,917	-	-
2024-03-31	£34,015	£66,586	-	-
2023-03-31	£53,853	£39,446	-	-
2022-03-31	£29,036	£28,121	-	-
2021-03-31	£26,346	£18,377	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Bernice Constance Lilian Philps		2024-08-06
Charles Oliver Tate		2025-07-02
Edward John Scaplehorn		2025-07-02
JAN SCAPLEHORN		2017-07-02
JOHN MUNNERY		2019-06-04
JUDI BOARDMAN		2017-07-02
Patricia Ann Norma Mills		2022-06-07
Peter Donat Burke		2020-08-04
RONALD EDWARD MCLAVERTY		2023-07-18
SUE COLES		2017-07-02

Linked charities

- MID CHESHIRE BRANCH OF THE SAMARITANS (1170575-1)

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SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1170575

Accounts

SAMARITANS

Mid Cheshire

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

Annual Review 2024-25

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 2nd July 2025 at 7.00 pm

Owley Wood Recreation Club

Barrymore Rd, Weaverham, Northwich, CW8 3LS

Sections

1. Samaritans' Vision, Mission and Values.
2. Trustees' Report.
3. Samaritans of Mid Cheshire
4. Director’s Report.
5. Branch Strategy Review.
6. Treasurer's Report.
7. Financial Statement.
8. Thank You.
9. Incoming Director's Message.

1. Samaritans' Vision, Mission and Values

It’s now generally acknowledged that to genuinely reduce suicide we must reach people earlier on in the crisis cycle, which means reaching out to and helping people who would not consider themselves to be suicidal. We want all potential callers to understand that our service is here for anyone who is experiencing pain in their lives.

Our Vision

Our vision is that fewer people die by suicide.

To achieve this, we believe Samaritans has a crucial role to play in:

- Reducing the risk factors that make some people more likely to take their own lives.
- Ensuring that people who are at increased risk of suicide are supported.
- Making it less likely that people who do experience suicidal thoughts act on them.
- Reducing the likelihood that people develop suicidal thoughts.

Our Mission

We’re here every day and night of the year for anyone struggling to cope. We make sure people have somewhere to turn and support when they need it most. We work with communities to let people know we’re here for them and we campaign to make suicide prevention a priority.

Our Values

Our support service adapts to the changing environment, but the values are the core of our listening service remain constant:

Listening: Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation, and the options open to them.

Confidentiality: If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings.

Non-judgemental: We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection.

People making their own decisions: We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and that telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them.

Human contact: Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair.

2. Trustees' Report

The Trustees of Samaritans of Mid Cheshire present their report for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission, with the Registration Number 1170575 and with a registered address of 1 Manchester Road, Northwich Cheshire CW9 5LY.

It is an Affiliated Branch of the central charity, Samaritans (Registered Number 219432) and the relationship between the two charities is governed by an affiliation agreement. As an Affiliated Branch and as an independent Charity, the Branch has its own Trustees, and is run by the Branch Director (a volunteer leadership role) together with the Branch Leadership team.

The Trustees who served during the year were:

Judi Boardman
Diana Brown
Peter Burke
Andrew Clarke
Susan Coles
Ron McLaverty
Annie Mills
John Munnery
Bernice Philps (appointed 6th August 2024)
Janice Scaplehorn

The composition of the Board of Trustees is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that it meets the needs of the charity. Per the Constitution, the Board of Trustees should have a minimum of three members and a maximum of thirteen. All members of the Branch are encouraged to consider becoming Trustees, and external recruitment would be initiated as required. Branch Trustee meetings are scheduled at intervals of four to eight weeks depending on the requirements of the charity.

The Branch Director for the past three years has been Annie Mills. As part of a planned cycle of transition, Annie will be resigning, and Jan Scaplehorn will be appointed as Branch Director at the AGM on 2 July 2025. The Trustees wish to thank Annie for her phenomenal leadership, and offer their full support to Jan as she takes over this essential role.

3. Samaritans of Mid Cheshire: who we are, what we do, and why we do it…

Our branch has been providing support to people nationally and in our local area since 1964. We offer emotional support by telephone, by email and soon, we hope, by on-line chat. Our branch covers Altrincham, Hale, Hale Barns, Knutsford, Lymm, Middlewich, Northwich, Timperley, and Winsford, and we have been working very hard to engage with the community on different levels and in different ways.

Nationally, Samaritans:

- Respond to over 3.3m calls for help a year, from 200 branches.
- Answer a call for help every 10 seconds.
- Suicidal feelings are mentioned in 1 in 4 calls.
- Self-Harm is mentioned in 1 in 15 calls.
- 7 out of 10 callers said they felt the call had a positive impact on how they were feeling, and they felt more able to cope.

In our Mid Cheshire Branch:

- We handle an average of 20,000 calls a year and over 3,000 emails.
- We currently have 70 active Listeners who generally give at least three hours of their time every week.
- Some are Leaders and Mentors or involved with other important functions such as Recruitment, Training, Outreach, Volunteer Support, Financial Control, IT and Branch Administration, giving extra time to these duties.
- We are open 365 days a year.
- We operate a combination of shifts, including nights and weekends.
- Everyone is highly trained, mentored, and supported continually.
- We have 20 Outreach trained Listeners.
- We support Thorn Cross Prison and have a dedicated team of 10 who visit and support the in-house trained Listeners.
- We give awareness talks to many organisations and businesses.
- We work in partnership with Network Rail.
- We belong to the Suicide Prevention Schemes that operate in our Region.
- We are active in local schools and colleges giving interactive talks to students.
- We attend local events to raise awareness of what we do.

4. Director's Report

It feels a bit strange, and sad in many ways, to be writing this report as I come to the end of my three-year term as Director of this amazing Branch.

But mostly I just feel an immense sense of pride in what we have all achieved together! Every year we face challenges, but we also have amazing successes, and we can celebrate together knowing that going forward, although there will always be a lot to do, we can do so with confidence that we will continue to grow, be relevant, and will always be there for our callers.

I have summarised some of our achievements on the next page.

Our key strategies have remained the same throughout:

- Strengthening the team.
- Developing the Outreach opportunities.
- Developing a sustainable Fundraising Policy.
- Improving our provision of Night Hours to help meet caller needs.
- Complete the building repairs and improvements.

We have achieved on every single objective, thanks to everyone in the team.

Over and above the objectives above we have:

- Successfully gone through the change to the Listening Centre, which was not without its challenges.
- Pioneered the new Director Selection Process.
- Been part of the Future-Proofing research.
- Redecorated the Training Room and spent monies furthering our strategic objectives.
- Met with our local MP, Andrew Cooper, who endorsed us on his Facebook page.

These are just a few of the things we have achieved together.

I know we are not always at full strength, but I want to say thank you for doing whatever you have been able to do.

I feel honoured to have been your Director, and humbled by the support you have shown me.

You have all been my inspiration all the way through.

I want to thank you all:

The Branch Leadership team for their support, expertise and advice and the amazing work they have done together with their teams; the Trustees for their support and guidance; but **most importantly to every single one of you for continuing to be there for our callers,** no matter what other role you may play.

Thank you.

5. Branch Strategy Review

ALL STRATEGIES ARE DISCUSSED AT BLT MEETINGS MONTHLY, TRUSTEE MEETINGS AND BRANCH MEETINGS THREE OR FOUR TIMES PER YEAR WITH REGULAR UPDATES IN OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER.

Collaboration, communication, co-operation, teamwork!

Action Agreed	How will the action be implemented	Overview of achievements for AGM, JULY 2025
Expand recruitment opportunities to achieve 90 active **listening volunteers** by the end of **2026**.	Recruitment team expanded and initiatives ongoing and expanding.	Recruitment working well, on target for 85 by the end of 2025, (on target for 90 by 2026) and reviewing more flexible volunteering opportunities to ensure we can continue to grow.
	BLT to review the strength of each team.	Each team has increased, to enable maximum strength, and succession planning.
	Training.	July '24 -July '25, 14 trained/training with 16 more planned for this year + Continual Development.
Develop and deliver a wider range of outreach activities.	Expand and strengthen the whole outreach team.	The team now has 20 fully trained Outreach Listeners, with more training planned, more community engagement and talks to groups and businesses.
	Research the branch catchment area for high-risk groups and outreach needs.	A huge range of current and new activities being undertaken, while still searching for new groups and initiatives, especially in high risk groups.
Investigate and implement new approaches to fundraising and financial security.	Build a sustainable fundraising team and make helpful connections with local businesses.	Fundraising has been a real success over the last 3 years, leaving us in a healthy position and allowing us to spend our funds in line with our strategic objectives. A secure plan is in place for continuous fundraising as necessary.
Continue to pursue the delivery of the core night hours service.	Hold meetings to stress the need and look together for ways to achieve our objectives.	Night Rota Secretary has been specifically assigned and we now have a Night Owls team of 24 volunteers, happy to work nights, with their own WhatsApp Group to aid communication, which is extremely effective.
Ensure the building and people's health, safety and security is maintained and in compliance with UK legislation.	Trustees include a health and safety professional and building/construction professional.	H&S Policy, Risk Assessments, Risk Register and other relevant documentation regularly reviewed and updated. Fire safety documents and training also updated. External contractors engaged to ensure compliance with UK legislation. Annual H&S and Property Checklists completed and submitted to Central Charity to ensure compliance.
Complete the building repair and improvements.	Follow the existing project plan.	Building works completed successfully having raised £40,000 through grants and donations. The works were completed with minimal down time. Amazing success!!

6. Treasurer's Report

This is my first Treasurer's report since being appointed Treasurer in August 2024, and I'd like to start by thanking the previous Treasurer, Sue Coles, for the tremendous job that she did in this role for many years. Her support to me during this transition period has been wonderful, and I really appreciate her continuing support as Deputy Treasurer. Thank you, Sue.

My second huge thank you is to Chris Jeffries for being our Independent Examiner. Samaritans of Mid Cheshire is an independent charity, affiliated to Samaritans, and hence is required to have an annual, independent review of its accounts. Chris has concluded and reported that there are no matters to be drawn to the attention of the Members of the charity. Thank you, Chris.

Review of the Financial Year

When compared with the prior year, the charity's income in the 2024/2025 financial year has increased by 34% from **£34,015** to **£45,691**. The key elements to highlight in this change are as follows:

- In the prior year, almost a third of our income (£10,900) was in the form of restricted donations specifically in relation to building work on both the exterior and interior of our premises in Manchester Road. These donations were received from a range of companies, organisations and individual donors and the building work was completed in the prior year.
- In the current year, there has been a focus on raising unrestricted funds that can be used to cover our running costs and in expanding our Outreach activities. As part of these efforts, partnerships have been forged with local businesses, and with local organisations, clubs and churches. As well as raising funds, these partnerships often enable us to talk to people in their offices, or at their meetings, where we have the opportunity to explain who we are, what we do and how to reach us.
- We have undertaken three street collections in the year, raising a total of nearly £3,000, and which again enables us to talk to people in an informal setting.
- Our work with our local Prison is supported by a grant of £2,192. This is lower than in the prior year (prior year £4,179) simply because the charity received the grant for two years in the prior year.
- We have also raised funds from social events in the year, including a very successful quiz night.
- Finally, we are extremely grateful to the families who have donated to our Branch in memory of their loved ones. This thoughtfulness, and recognition of the work we do, is really appreciated.

With regards to expenditure, the expenditure has reduced from **£66,586** in the 2023/24 financial year to **£31,917** in 2024/25. This is primarily due to the one-off £34,000 restricted expenditure in 2023/24 on the Branch building and £2,000 restricted expenditure on the House interior refurbishment. In the current year, the focus has been on

- Meeting the ongoing management and operating costs for the Branch premises including utilities, housekeeping costs, insurance and maintenance.
- Expanding our Outreach activities, including the purchase of a new, robust gazebo to shelter our volunteers from the elements at Outreach events. In the 2024/25 year we were talking to people and raising awareness at events/venues including Brit Fest, the Cheshire Show, Winsford Pride, The Tatton Show and various local fetes.

As a result of the increases in unrestricted funds and the decrease in restricted building costs, the charity made a surplus of **£13,774** in 2024/25. The balance of cash in the bank has thus increased by **£13,774** increased from **£39,988** to **£53,762**. These funds are held in reserve for the benefit of the charity's beneficiaries and will be spent in accordance with the charity's objectives of:

- Maintaining safe and welcoming premises from which to operate the charity and our listening services.
- Recruiting and retaining volunteers.
- Taking every opportunity to increase awareness through Outreach of the Samaritans vision that fewer people die by suicide.

Bernice Philps
Treasurer

Mid Cheshire Samaritans at the North West Regional Conference 2025

7. Financial Statement

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Samaritans of Mid-Cheshire	1170575	CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01-Apr-24	To	31-Mar-25

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	12,735	-	-	12,735	8,979
Legacies and In memorium	7,270	-	-	7,270	350
Corporate donations	8,000	-	-	8,000	375
Organisations, clubs, churches	1,815	650	-	2,465	-
Collections	2,913	-	-	2,913	1,008
Other Fundraising / Events	6,713	-	-	6,713	5,684
Grants	2,039	-	-	2,039	4,179
Gift Aid	2,192	-	-	2,192	1,624
Interest	1,364	-	-	1,364	916
Restricted donations re building work		-	-	-	10,900
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	45,041	650	-	45,691	34,015
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	45,041	650	-	45,691	34,015
A3 Payments					
Utilities and operating contracts	6,339	-	-	6,339	4,887
Telephone	570	400	-	970	1,508
Housekeeping and Refreshments	2,160	-	-	2,160	2,380
National Branch Contribution	708	-	-	708	1,075
Conference costs	1,885	-	-	1,885	-
Fundraising costs	882	-	-	882	1,233
Advertising, publicity and recruitment	792	-	-	792	1,679
Outreach	5,200	250	-	5,450	1,209
Branch, Director and Volunteer expenses	5,875	-	-	5,875	2,413
Insurance	1,307	-	-	1,307	2,391
Non restricted building costs	-	-	-	-	6,337
Non restricted Ops Room refurbishment	-	-	-	-	1,827
House maintenance and equipment	5,036	-	-	5,036	2,316
Prison expenses	513	-	-	513	472
Sundry unrestricted costs	-	-	-	-	838
Restricted: House interior refurb	-	-	-	-	2,021
Restricted: House exterior	-	-	-	-	34,000
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	31,267	650	-	31,917	66,586
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	31,267	650	-	31,917	66,586
Net of receipts/(payments)	13,774	-	-	13,774	- 32,571
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	39,988	-	-	39,988	72,559
Cash funds this year end	53,762	-	-	53,762	39,988

7. Financial Statement (cont'd)

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories / Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
The Co-Operative Bank	25,654	-	-
Nationwide	28,108	-	-
	-	-	-
Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	53,762	-	-

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Property at cost	unrestricted	90,000	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Bernice Philps	BERNICE PHILPS	18/6/25
Susan Coles	SUSAN COLES	18/6/25

8. Thank You

Samaritans would like to thank the following companies, organisations and people for their generous financial support:

AMS Limited

Coveris Limited

Churches and organisations, including St Helen's (Northwich), Plumley Methodist Church, Antrobus Friendly Society, Knutsford Bowling Club, Knutsford Lions, Barthomley WI and Hartford Bridge Club.

Jim Martin Family Trust.

Family and friends in memory of Moira Menelaws and George Shaw, as well as the proceeds of a concert in memory of Barbara Cuthbert.

Fund-raising (The Lion Hotel, Moulton quiz, 60-for-60, 100 Club, 60th Anniversary Raffle, Brew Monday, Samarathon).

Collections in Northwich (twice), Altrincham and at a Sarah Millican performance.

Fetes and festivals (Brit Fest, Knutsford, Weaverham and Northwich River festival).

Donations from individuals, some on a monthly basis together with some significant one-off donations. All are appreciated.

Gift Aid: we also appreciate everyone who enables us to claim Gift Aid on their donations. It really does make a difference.

Our thanks also go to everyone for the generous donation of their time to support our work.

Our thanks go to:

- All our listening volunteers.
- The leadership team and support volunteers who ensure the smooth running of the Branch.
- Everyone who has attended external meetings or external organisations on behalf of the Branch.
- Everyone who has participated in fund-raising in any way.
- Everyone who has been a part of our Outreach activities in any way.

It's really important to remember just how many hours our volunteers and our supporters donate to the activities of the Branch. The donation of time is just as important as the donation of funds, and is equally appreciated. Thank you.

Supported by:

COVERIS™

Providing innovative, sustainable packaging solutions

Supported by:

Advanced Medical Solutions

Empowering Clinicians with Innovative Solutions

9. Incoming Director's Message

Well, here we are again. I've had three years off for good behaviour, and I'm back!

First, a huge 'Thank You' to Annie for doing an absolutely splendid job as Director, keeping us all on our toes, and bringing our Branch forward in such an amazing way. We had our challenges, the building for one and the fundraising needed to invest in it, all of which Annie overcame magnificently. I wish her well and know she will still be here with us to continue her good work.

I treasure the work carried out by everyone associated with our Branch; Trustees, Branch Leadership Team, and every single volunteer, who all keep our Branch running smoothly, and building on the Samaritans' Aims, to provide a safe, effective and positive service for our callers and volunteers.

I'm enormously proud to be taking over as Director again, knowing that we will all continue to be there for our callers and for each other, as a 'family', during times of change and the challenges ahead. I look forward to meeting up with you at the AGM or on shift in the very near future.

Thank you.

Jan 456

We didn't manage to grab a shot of Jan 456 and Annie 431 together before going to print, so here's one we did earlier…

[© Within These Walls, June 2022]

We're here to listen

Call free day or night on

116 123

Email
jo@samaritans.org

Web
samaritans.org/midcheshire

Visit us
1 Manchester Road
Northwich
CW9 5LY

SAMARITANS

Samaritans of Mid-Cheshire is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales (1170575). Our registered office is located at 1 Manchester Road, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 5LY.

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	Registered number
Samaritans of Mid-Cheshire	1170575

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01-Apr-24	To	31-Mar-25

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Interest	1,364	-	-	1,364	916
Restricted donations re building work		-	-	-	10,900
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	45,041	650	-	45,691	34,015
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
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Fundraising costs	882	-	-	882	1,233
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Non restricted Ops Room refurbishment	-	-	-	-	1,827
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Restricted: House exterior	-	-	-	-	34,000
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Sub total	31,267	650	-	31,917	66,586
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	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	31,267	650	-	31,917	66,586
Net of receipts/(payments)	13,774	-	-	13,774	- 32,571
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	39,988	-	-	39,988	72,559
Cash funds this year end	53,762	-	-	53,762	39,988

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	The Co-Operative Bank	25,654	-	-
	Nationwide	28,108	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	53,762	-	-

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Property at cost	unrestricted	90,000	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Bernice Philps	BERNICE PHILPS	18/6/25
	Susan Coles	SUSAN COLES	18/6/25

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Samaritans of Mid Cheshire		
On accounts for the year ended	31 March 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1170575
Set out on pages	1-2		

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2025 .

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

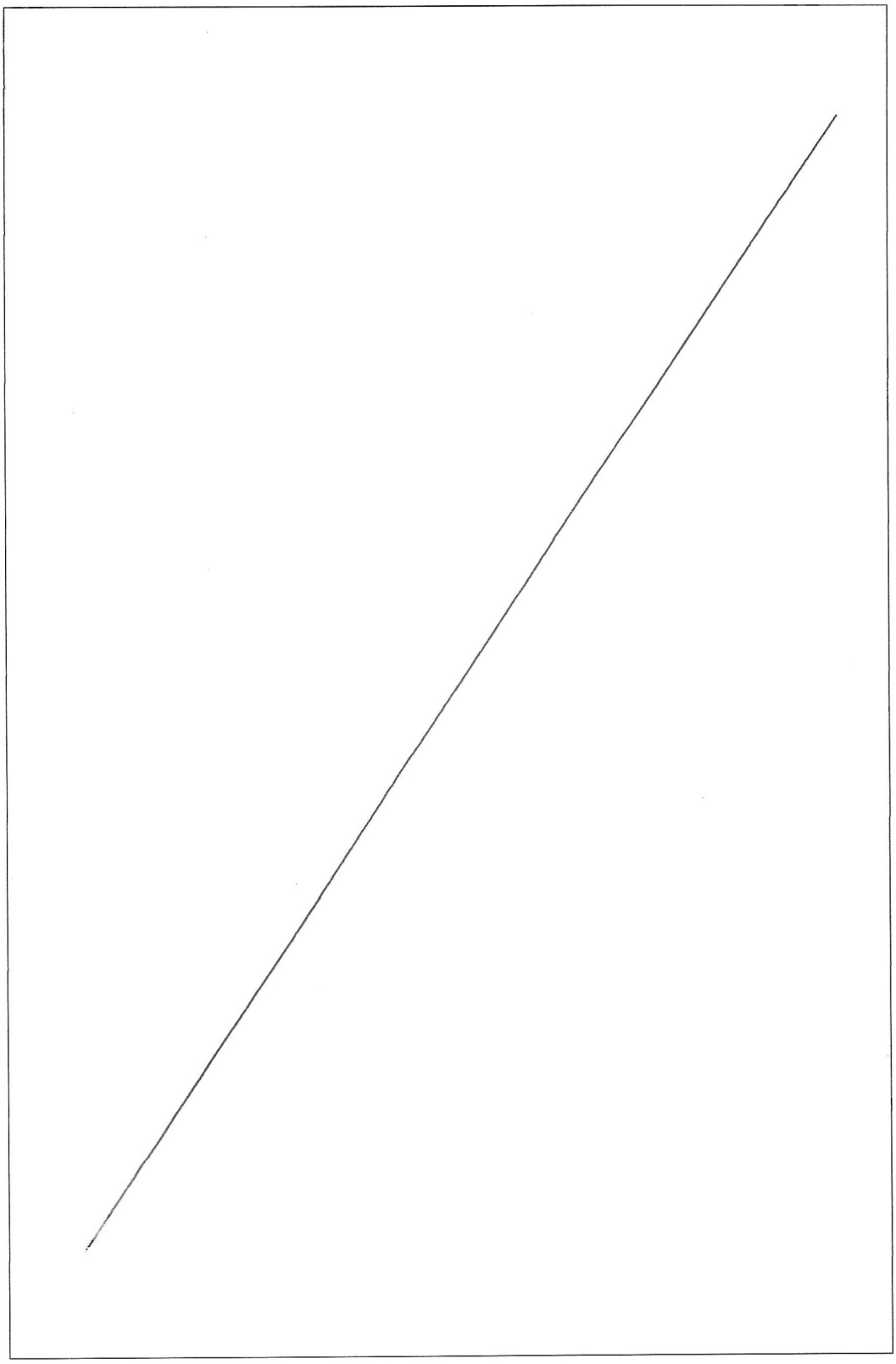
* ~~*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*~~

Signed:	C. G. Jeffries	**Date:**	18 June 2025
Name:	C.G.Jeffries		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FCA Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales		
Address:	1 Queens Road, Chedle Hulme, Stockport, SK8 5HG		

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1170575

Accounts

SAMARITANS

Mid Cheshire

Annual Review 2023-24

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 6th August 2024 at 7.00 pm

Owley Wood Recreation Club

Barrymore Rd, Weaverham, Northwich, CW8 3LS

Contents

1. Samaritans' Vision, Mission, and Values.
2. Samaritans of Mid Cheshire.
3. Director's Report.
4. Branch Strategy Review.
5. Treasurer's Report.
6. Financial Statement.
7. Thank You.
8. Health & Safety and Building Report.
9. Trustees.

1. Samaritans' Vision, Mission, and Values

It's now generally acknowledged that to genuinely reduce suicide we must reach people earlier on in the crisis cycle, which means reaching out to and helping people who would not consider themselves to be suicidal. We want all potential callers to understand that our service is here for anyone who is experiencing pain in their lives.

Our Vision

Our Vision is that fewer people die by suicide.

Our Mission

We make sure there's someone there for anyone who needs someone.

Every year, Samaritans volunteers spend over one million hours answering calls for help via our unique 24-hour listening service, email, letter, face to face and through our Welsh language service.

We give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others.

We want to encourage, promote, and celebrate those moments of connection between people that can protect and even save lives.

To do this, we're working in schools, prisons, workplaces, and communities, and in partnership with organisations like Network Rail.

We campaign to make suicide prevention a national and local priority.

Our staff and volunteers run nationwide and community campaigns to raise awareness and influence decision-makers.

Our Values

We have five core values. They're supported by these behaviours, which we share within the Samaritans organisation: support, trust, aspirational, and respect.

Listening.

Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them.

Confidentiality.

If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings.

Non-judgemental.

We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection. People making their own decisions wherever possible.

People making their own decisions.

We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and that telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them.

Human contact.

Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair.

2. Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire, a charity registered in England (1170575), is a recognised branch of Samaritans Central Charity and is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) and governed by a constitution. As an affiliate branch we are financially independent and responsible for fundraising to meet our operating costs.

Our branch has been providing support to people nationally and in our local area since 1964. We offer emotional support by telephone, by email and soon, we hope, on-line chat. Our branch covers the following areas:

Altrincham	Middlewich
Hale	Northwich
Hale Barns	Timperley
Knutsford	Winsford
Lymm	

The year 2023-2024, as previous years, has proved to be very challenging, but still amazingly rewarding. We finally finished the building works in August 2023, and now have a secure, stable building which will last for many more years to come, allowing us to continue our very valuable work. Changes in the Ops room have also improved the comfort, safety, and operation for our volunteers. And hopefully the costs of maintaining our building will now reduce.

There was minimal disruption throughout this process enabling us to continue to provide emotional support to all our callers, and also to continue to recruit and train new volunteers.
Our normal operating costs are obviously increasing in line with rising prices, and an updated fundraising strategy is underway.

Outreach activities are increasing, and we now have 17 trained team members. This will enable us to reach more people in the community, and build on activities already in place with supporting Thorn Cross Prison, Network Rail and local schools.

Despite the issues highlighted the Branch continues to comply with all aspects of good charity management and is committed to building on previous strengths. Again, the Branch has been recognised by the Central Charity, via the Quality Review Process, as being a Branch with a strong strategic approach to branch development, with an ethos of collaboration, communication, and teamwork.

We have also continued to embrace technology and Central Charity support via the Training School to enable wider, more accessible training both for new recruits and existing volunteers via digital modules. Zoom meetings and WhatsApp groups have enabled more people to be kept in close contact with developments and opportunities.

But we have not forgotten the power of being together, and the return to face to face training and meetings such as the AGM and Branch meetings has been welcomed by all.

3. Director's Report

What an eventful year this has been with some real challenges but a lot of successes too.

The biggest challenge 2022-2023 was the building restoration works which thankfully were finally completed at the end of July last year.

After the AGM, we hosted two major Branch Meetings in person in August 2023 and January 2024 to look at our strategy, and agree tactics together, still with the key operating ethos being communication, collaboration, co-operation, and teamwork. We are a family with lots of talent, passion, and commitment! We were able to continue to build on past successes and recognise and reward new initiatives.

The four main strands remain:

- Strengthening the team.
- Developing our Outreach opportunities.
- Developing a sustainable fundraising policy.
- Improving our provision of night hours to meet callers' needs.

Successes:

- We recruited and trained 15 new Samaritans from mid-2023 – July 2024. There are 6 more potentially for August and 8 more for October…. we could be up to 80 by the end of this year, which will be an amazing result. Realistically we know we do not operate at full strength, all of the time, so **thank you everyone for doing what you can.**
- Our Outreach activities have grown, and we have attended 8 events, several street collections, and as well as raising awareness, and making new contacts we have raised some money! There is so much more scope to reach out and help in the community. Talks to organisations and businesses have started with many more anticipated.
- We have launched our £60 for 60 years initiative which is going well, with six months still to go! And we have a 60th Anniversary raffle to with some amazing prizes donated.
- We have had several editorials in the press to raise awareness and a press and on-line recruitment drive.
- Jen 483 secured a place on the curriculum in Rudheath Senior Academy which started in September 2023, and this year worked with Petty Pool College, and we are going to be in Knutsford Academy from September 2024.
- We have strengthened the prison team and maintained monthly visits to the Listeners.
- Our crucial night hours provision is still showing a great improvement, but we now need to concentrate on growing more, with sustainability for the future.
- We have continued to deliver high quality training, both for NSs and existing volunteers, who have embraced the demands of new initiatives and refresher training. Two new courses that were undertaken were Outreach Training and Veterans Awareness Course. Although there are digital modules for both of these Emma hosted Face to Face sessions as well, which were well received.

These are just a few of the things we have achieved together. There are many more things planned for this coming year, and I am confident we will have more success to share next time.

I want to thank you all.

Thank you to the Branch Leadership team for their support, expertise and advice and the amazing work they have done, together with their teams; to the Trustees for their support and guidance; but most importantly, **to every single one of you for continuing to be there for our callers, helping us deliver our vision that fewer people die by suicide.**

You remain my inspiration, and the reason I want to continue to do my best to help us all achieve our aims. Thank you.

Annie

4. Branch Strategy Review

STRATEGIES ARE DISCUSSED AT MONTHLY BLT MEETINGS, BRANCH MEETINGS 3 OR 4 TIMES PER YEAR AND PUBLICISED IN OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Action Agreed	How will the action be implemented	Target date to implement	Update for review meeting March 2024
Expand recruitment opportunities to achieve 90 active **listening volunteers** by the end of **2026.**	Include recruitment need in every talk, press release and in social media.	Already occurring and ongoing.	*Recruitment team expanded by 3. * Twitter and social media is increasing awareness, *Banner on the outside of the building. *2 recruitment campaigns, *4 editorials through the year including talking about recruitment.
	Recruitment initiatives each year to deliver 20 new Samaritans.	31/12/2023	*New banners for outreach events. *2003-24 we will have 3 new cohorts, 2 F2F and 1 Samaritans Training School. *15 new starters since March last year, and anicipate another 12 by year end.. Even with Leavers we could be at 80 by year end.
	BLT to review the strength of each team to ensure capacity and succession is available.	31/12/2023	*Each team is being reviewed & increased, to enable maximum strength, and succession planning, and this is always on our mind.
Develop and deliver a wider range of Outreach activities.	Expand and strengthen the whole outreach team.	31/12/2024	The team now has 17 fully trained Outreach Listeners. Face to face training was delivered by our DD for training, with more planned.
	Talk to other branches and Central Charity.	31/12/2023	Discussions with other branches happens at Regional meetings and, and with specific Directors on regular zoom meetings.
	Research the branch catchment area for high-risk groups and outreach needs.	31/12/2024	*We are attending the Cheshire Show in conjunction with Warrington and Chester branches which will involve the farming community. *We have many Outreach events organised in conjunction with other organisations, giving us many oportunities to reach the local community. * We have secured places in 2 senior schools where we are on the curriculum for year 9 and above. Rudheath & Knutsford. Also undertaken workshops with Petty Pool, a vocational college for Young Adults with learning difficulties, which was very successful.
	Include outreach and high-risk groups in talks, press releases and in social media.	Already occurring and ongoing.	*We are involved with men's groups and football clubs and are actively looking into any groups who could benefit from talks. *We are in contact now with local Suicide Prevention groups and secure information on high risk groups *Have had a 30 minute live radio interview on Northwich Radio and are hoping to be on other local stations soon.
	Connect with influential people and organisations in the community.	31/12/2025	*We are actively looking for community champions, not only in conjunction with our 60th anniversary but ongoing.
Investigate and implement new approaches to fundraising and financial security.	Build a sustainable fundraising team and make helpful connections with branch volunteers.	31/12/2023	*Project fund raising is handled very capably by our treasurer in conjunction with 2 more of us. *Ongoing fundraising for branch costs has various activities throughout the year with collections and events. I now have a research 'buddy' to help focus on agreed targets and a regular meetings with an influential fundraisers . * £60 for 60 years initiative and raffle started April 1st.
	Establish clear fundraising budgets to enable targeting.	30/09/2023	*Target is £20k per year. Target for '£60 for 60 years' is >£6000, Raffle is £5k, Big band event £2k, and I am targeting £15k-£20k from local businesses, funders, and wealthy altruistic people.
	Use learning from the building fundraise to seek grants and sponsors for specific needs.	Already occurring and ongoing.	*We are still in contact with many of the businesses and funders from this time and know I can count on some support from them again.
Continue to pursue the delivery of the core night hours service.	Send out a reminder of nights strategy with notice of meeting.	31/05/2023	*Successful meetings held, Currently achieving a minimum of 10% of service time as per national requirement. 2 meetings held to maximise attendance.
	Hold a meeting to talk about experience of nights and facilitating nights for other volunteers.	30/06/2023	*We have a Night Rota Secretary specifically assigned *We now have a Night Owls team of 24 volunteers willing and happy to do nights as well as other shifts. *Whats App Group set up to aid communication too. Working well.
Complete the building repair and improvements.	Follow the existing project plan.	Already occurring and ongoing.	*Building works ompleted successfully having raised £40000 through grants and donations. The works were completed with minimal down time. Amazing success.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Trustees have approved the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 on 29th July 2024 and these are attached for reference.

As we all know, there were significant costs in the year for building and refurbishment work. In total the building repairs including surveyors and architects fees, and excluding refurbishment, amounted to just under £42,000. We are extremely grateful that so much of this cost was covered by generous donations from various organisations and individuals. Although some of these donations were received in the prior year, most of the cost fell in this current financial year. Therefore, although we had a surplus of receipts over expenditure last year of £14,407, as expected in the current year, we have an excess of expenditure over receipts of £32,571. However, with cash reserves on hand of £40,000 at the year end, the branch is secure and financially viable for the foreseeable future.

After a vote at last year's AGM, the Trustees agreed that Chris Jeffries, an accountant and volunteer at Stockport Branch, should be our Independent Examiner for the March 2024 financial year. Chris has confirmed that there are no matters of concern to be reported from his review of the Accounts. Thank you, Chris, for performing this Examination for us. We really appreciate your support.

With regards to our income, thanks are due to everyone who has helped raise an amazing £34,000 in the year including

- Diana who organised another Big Band concert to entertain many of you and your friends.
- Everyone who took part in the Samarathon sponsorship when volunteers walked, ran, or cycled the equivalent of 26 miles during July.
- Our 100 Club also continues to contribute towards our income, with some winners donating back their £20 prize. Currently we have around 60 members, but we are always on the lookout for more. Only £12 a year, for £20 monthly prizes and extra in December.
- Those families who, when their loved one has died, ask for donations to be given to us in their memory.
- All individual donations, whether regular or one-off.
- Those who do their internet shopping via www.easyfundraising.org and help to boost our funds.
- Those donations from local organisations, churches and businesses whose generosity is so much appreciated.
- Anyone who is in a position to Gift Aid their donation.

As always, we are so very grateful to everyone who has donated so generously.

With regards to expenditure:

- These are Receipts and Payments accounts and therefore income and costs are accounted for on the date they are paid/received (not the year they relate to e.g. Insurance for both 2023 and 2024 (£2,391) was paid in the year, and both the 2023 and 2024 Grants were received for our Prison work in Thorn Cross (£4,179).
- Regarding our expenditure we have continued to upgrade, repair, and refurbish our property using restricted and unrestricted funds.
- Through careful monitoring we have managed to keep our fuel, telephone, and photocopying costs under control. Changes in broadband and telephone needs nationally have meant we have had to replace/change telephones and providers.
- The National Branch Contribution (NBC) is the money we pay yearly to Central Charity which is based on our income, expenditure, and reserves.

Thanks, as always, to all who helped, pleaded, donated, participated and organised.

Finally, after many years as your Treasurer I have decided to hand over that job to Bernice. I will now be her deputy. You are in very good hands – she is very organised, a trained accountant and knows what she is doing!

6. Financial Statement

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Samaritan of Mid Cheshire

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from 01/04/2023 To 31/03/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	8,979	-	-	8,979	11,365
Memorials	350	-	-	350	485
Organisation and Clubs/churches	375	-	-	375	1,052
Grants	4,179	-	-	4,179	13,040
Collections	1,008	-	-	1,008	1,616
Other fundraising	5,110	-	-	5,110	7,238
100 Club	574	-	-	574	615
Contributions to costs	-	-	-	-	670
Gift Aid	1,624			1,624	2,081
Interest	916	-	-	916	426
Other donations - buiding work, refurb, telephone & outreach		10,900		10,900	15,264
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	23,115	10,900	-	34,015	53,853
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	23,115	10,900	-	34,015	53,853
A3 Payments					
Utilities&contracts	4,887	-	-	4,887	4,480
Telephone	1,508	-	-	1,508	1,776
Housekeeping & Refreshments	2,380	-	-	2,380	1,941
National Branch Contribution	1,075	-	-	1,075	1,150
Fundraising costs	1,233	-	-	1,233	451
Advertising publicity &recruitment	1,679	-	-	1,679	2,119
Conference fees	-	-	-	-	921
Outreach	359	850	-	1,209	206
Director & Volunteer expenses	2,291	-	-	2,291	3,115
Volunteer support	122	-	-	122	139
Stationery etc	278	-	-	278	360
Sundries	560	-	-	560	167
Insurance	2,391	-	-	2,391	-
Prison expenses	472	-	-	472	-
Non-restricted Building costs	6,337	-	-	6,337	
Non-restricted Ops room refurbishments	1,827	-	-	1,827	
Contribution to costs	-	-	-	-	747
House Interior refurb		2,021	-	2,021	6,269
House exterior		34,000	-	34,000	2,125
House maintainence	2,316		-	2,316	13,480
Sub total	29,715	36,871	-	66,586	39,446
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	29,715	36,871	-	66,586	39,446
Total payments	29,715	36,871	-	66,586	39,446
Net of receipts/(payments)	-6,600	- 25,971	-	- 32,571	14,407
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	46,588	25,971	-	72,559	58,152
Cash funds this year end	39,988	-	-	39,988	72,559

6. Financial Statement (cont'd)

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	HSBC Charitable account	3	-	-
	The Co-operative bank	13,013	-	-
	Nationwide	26,972	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	39,988	-	-

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
None	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
None		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Property at cost	unrestricted	90,000	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
None		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Susan Coles	SUSAN COLES	29/7/24
Bernice Philps	BERNICE PHILPS	29/7/24

7. Thank You

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire must thank ....

.... all our donors including:

- Those who give us donations (regular and one-off).
- Those families who, when their loved one has died, ask for donations to be given to us in their memory.
- Those who have supported us for our fund raising events – Fish Lip Soup Big Band Concert.
- Those 100 Club members who take a bit of a gamble while giving us money.
- Those who do their internet shopping via www.easyfundraising.org and help to boost our funds.
- Those who sponsored our volunteers when they ran, walked, or cycled in aid of our Branch.
- Those people who put money in our tins when we do a street collection.
- Those who have responded to newspaper articles and other appeals.
- *With apologies to anyone I might have missed.*

...and:

- Knutsford Bowling Club.
- Norley Methodist Church.
- Knutsford and District Lions Club.
- Barnton Memorial Hall.
- Northwich Rotary Club.
- Cheshire Freemasons.
- Jim Martin Family Trust.
- Brian Wilson Charitable Trust.

8. Health & Safety and Building Report

What's happened at the Centre – 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2024:

1. The following items have been serviced by various external contractors:

   - Gas boiler and radiators
   - Fire extinguishers
   - Fire alarm annual and interim services
   - Emergency lighting
   - Legionella risk assessment

2. The following policies/risk assessments have been developed or reviewed and updated:

   - Health & Safety policy
   - Fire risk assessment
   - First aid risk assessment
   - Pregnant worker/new mother risk assessment
   - Fire Safety policy

3. First Aiders identified – details in the Centre.

4. Annual H&S checklist completed for Central Office.

5. Branch Risk Register reviewed, simplified and updated.

6. Fire awareness training presentation and video developed and cascaded to all volunteers.

7. New light fitting installed at the top of the cellar stairs.

8. Ladder safety checklist developed.

9. Legionella awareness training for Director and Branch Secretary.

10. Other smaller issues that have been identified and rectified include:

    - Lights have all been sorted and are working
    - A light has been installed above the outside sign
    - 2 spotlights near the kitchen/bathroom
    - A robust chain installed on the front door
    - Downstairs toilet door lock replaced
    - New battery pack in the fire alarm system
    - Bags for storing headsets
    - Central Office health and safety documents reviewed against Branch documents
    - Replacement chairs for the Ops room purchased
    - Zone map installed near the fire alarm panel

Items to be arranged/actioned:

- PAT testing
- Fire warden training
- Upstairs kitchen flooring joists

Building Refurbishment Works

We were replacing the building's external render in late July 2022 and, with the old render removed, discovered that the underlying brickwork was severely distressed with the gable end bulging and areas of the front and rear facades with cracked and non-existent mortar - the render works could not continue.

Following three months of abortive claims against our building insurance, we commissioned architect Harry Kennedy with engineer Peter Hewitt to design the remedial works, which was carried out over the winter and completed, with all contract documentation, in February 2023.

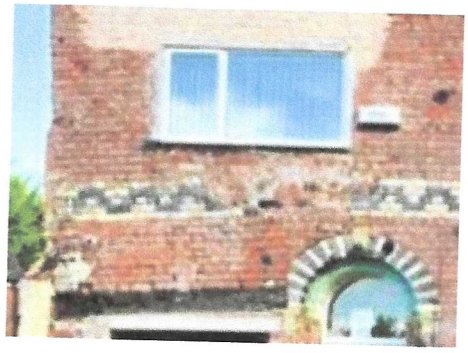
The insurers' loss adjusters had identified the cause as continuing settlement of the gable wall which had no effective foundation, and had indicated that the solution almost certainly lay in propping up the roof while removing and rebuilding the brickwork with a new foundation along the gable wall.

However, Peter Hewitt established that the critical settlement had stopped and future gable settlement, if any, would be minimal. The existing distorted brickwork could be reinforced with steel rods and pressure-injected mortar, tying the gable back to the rest of the building and leaving it with the ability to accommodate any future vertical movement.

This solution removed the need to support the roof while supporting brickwork was replaced, making a significant cost savings and allowing the building to be used for Samaritans' activities throughout the refurbishment period.

The contract was awarded to our lowest tenderer, Bill Timperley Builders of Northwich, who started work at the end of May and achieved Practical Completion on 14th August 2023 with all latent defects remedied before the end of the year.

Across two financial years, the total final cost of the refurbishment works was £42,000, of which £6,000 was spent on design, documentation and supervision, and £36,000 on the construction contract.



9. Trustees

The following individuals have served as Trustees for Samaritans of Mid Cheshire:

Trustee Name	Position	Dates served
Judi Boardman (410)	Secretary (from 01/01/2022)	From April 2017
Diana Brown (301)		From May 2018
Peter Burke (200)		From August 2020
Andrew Clarke (353)		From April 2017
Susan Coles (260)	Treasurer	From April 2017
Annie Mills (431)	Director	From June 2022
John Munnery (490)		From June 2019
Janice Scaplehorn (456)		From April 2017
Ron McLaverty (346)		From July 2023

Bernice Philps (508) will be nominated at the 2024 AGM.

The role of Trustee is advertised to the Branch in the two months prior to an AGM. Volunteers are invited to stand to be elected at the AGM. As per the Constitution there will be a minimum of three Trustees and a maximum of thirteen.

We're here to listen

Call free day or night on

116 123

Email

jo@samaritans.org

Web

samaritans.org/midcheshire

Visit us

1 Manchester Road
Northwich
CW9 5LY

SAMARITANS

Samaritans of Mid-Cheshire is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales (1170575). Our registered office is located at 1 Manchester Road, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 5LY.

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name: Samaritan of Mid Cheshire | No (if any):

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from: Period start date 01/04/2023 To: Period end date 31/03/2024

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Fundraising costs	1,233	-	-	1,233	451
Advertising publicity &recruitment	1,679	-	-	1,679	2,119
Conference fees	-	-	-	-	921
Outreach	359	850	-	1,209	206
Director & Volunteer expenses	2,291	-	-	2,291	3,115
Volunteer support	122	-	-	122	139
Stationery etc	278	-	-	278	360
Sundries	560	-	-	560	167
Insurance	2,391	-	-	2,391	-
Prison expenses	472	-	-	472	-
Non-restricted Building costs	6,337	-	-	6,337	
Non-restricted Ops room refurbishments	1,827	-	-	1,827	
Contribution to costs	-	-	-	-	747
House Interior refurb		2,021	-	2,021	6,269-
House exterior		34,000	-	34,000	2,125
House maintainence	2,316		-	2,316	13,480
Sub total	29,715	36,871	-	66,586	39,446
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	29,715	36,871	-	66,586	39,446
Total payments	29,715	36,871	-	66,586	39,446
Net of receipts/(payments)	-6,600	- 25,971	-	- 32,571	14,407
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	46,588	25,971	-	72,559	58,152
Cash funds this year end	39,988	-	-	39,988	72,559

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	HSBC Charitable account	3	-	-
	The Co-operative bank	13,013	-	-
	Nationwide	26,972	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	39,988	-	-
		OK	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
None	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
None		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Property at cost	unrestricted	90,000	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
None		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Susan Coles	SUSAN COLES	29/7/24
Bernice Philps	BERNICE PHILPS	29/7/24

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of: Charity Name — Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

On accounts for the year ended: 31 March 2024 | **Charity no (if any)**: 1170575

Set out on pages: 1-2 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2024 (31/03/YYYY).

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: C. G. Jeffries **Date:** 29 July 2024

Name: C.G.Jeffries

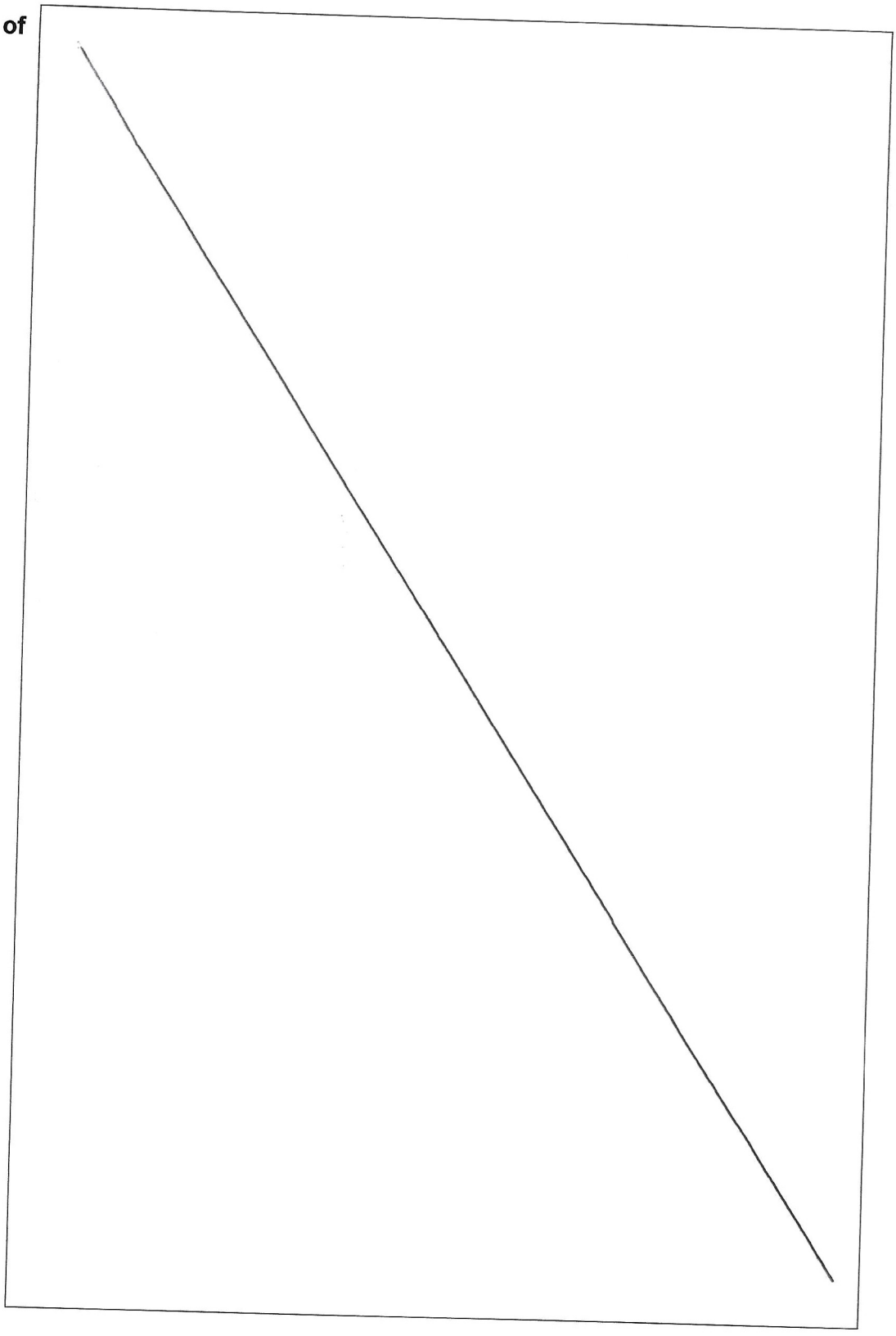
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): FCA Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Address: 1 Queens Road, Chedle Hulme, Stockport, SK8 5HG

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1170575

Accounts

SAMARITANS

Mid Cheshire

Annual Review 2022-23

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 18 July 2023 at 7.00 pm

Owley Wood Recreation Club

Barrymore Rd, Weaverham, Northwich, CW8 3LS

Contents

1. Samaritans' Vision, Mission, and Values
2. Samaritans of Mid Cheshire
3. Director's Report
4. Branch Review
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Financial Statement
7. Thank You
8. Trustees
9. Health & Safety and Building Report

1. Samaritans' Vision, Mission, and Values

It’s now generally acknowledged that to genuinely reduce suicide we must reach people earlier on in the crisis cycle, which means reaching out to and helping people who would not consider themselves to be suicidal. We want all potential callers to understand that our service is here for anyone who is experiencing pain in their lives.

Our Vision

Our Vision is that fewer people die by suicide.

Our Mission

We make sure there’s someone there for anyone who needs someone.

Every year, Samaritans volunteers spend over one million hours answering calls for help via our unique 24-hour listening service, email, letter, face to face and through our Welsh language service.

We give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others.

We want to encourage, promote, and celebrate those moments of connection between people that can protect and even save lives.

To do this, we're working in schools, prisons, workplaces, and communities, and in partnership with organisations like Network Rail.

We campaign to make suicide prevention a national and local priority.

Our staff and volunteers run nationwide and community campaigns to raise awareness and influence decision-makers.

Our Values.

We have five core values. They're supported by these behaviours, which we share within the Samaritans organisation: support, trust, aspirational, and respect.

Listening.

Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them.

Confidentiality.

If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings.

Non-judgemental.

We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection. People making their own decisions wherever possible.

People making their own decisions.

We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and that telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them.

Human contact.

Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair.

2. Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire, a charity registered in England (1170575), is a recognised branch of Samaritans Central Charity and is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) and governed by a constitution. As an affiliate branch we are financially independent and responsible for fundraising to meet our operating costs.

Our branch has been providing support to people nationally and in our local area since 1964. We offer emotional support by telephone, by email and in person when guidelines allow. Our branch covers the following areas:

Altrincham	Middlewich
Hale	Northwich
Hale Barns	Timperley
Knutsford	Winsford
Lymm	

The year 2022-2023, as previous years, has proved to be very challenging, but still amazingly rewarding. In the autumn of 2022, during planned replacement of the external rendering, it was identified that there were major structural defects with the fabric of the building which needed urgent attention. This necessitated raising £35,000, which was achieved through grants and donations, and the works are well under way and nearing completion. The building will be more stable, safe, and fit for purpose going forward, adding longevity to our operational base. Changes in the Ops room have also improved the comfort, safety, and operation for our volunteers. And hopefully the costs of maintaining our building will now reduce.

There was minimal disruption throughout this process enabling us to continue to provide emotional support to all our callers, and also to continue to recruit and train new volunteers.

Our normal operating costs are obviously increasing in line with rising prices, and an updated fundraising strategy is underway in line with our overall Branch ongoing strategy.

We were still limited with our Outreach activities until recently, but these are now improving, and the team is being strengthened to meet the demand. This will enable us to reach more people in the community, and build on works already in place with supporting Thorn Cross Prison, Network Rail and local schools.

Despite the issues highlighted the Branch continues to comply with all aspects of good charity management and is committed to building on previous strengths. Again, the Branch has been recognised by the Central Charity, via the Quality Review Process, as being a Branch with a strong strategic approach to branch development, with an ethos of collaboration, communication, and teamwork.

We have also continued to embrace technology and Central Charity support via the Training School to enable wider, more accessible training both for new recruits and existing volunteers via digital modules. Zoom meetings and WhatsApp groups have enabled more people to be kept in close contact with developments and opportunities.

But we have not forgotten the power of being together, and the return to face to face training and meetings such as the AGM and Branch meetings has been welcomed by all.

3. Director's Report

What an eventful year this has been with some real challenges but a lot of successes too.

I think it is safe to say that the biggest challenge we faced was the problem with the building being found to need a lot of structural work, after the rendering came off! Having to raise £35,000 and pull together a plan for the renovation was a task none of us expected. I want to say a huge 'thank you' to everyone that was involved in any part of this operation. Peter 200 for commissioning and co-ordinating the building works, Andrew 353 for subsequently picking up the reins and being on the spot whenever necessary, Sue 260 for amazing work with organising grants and supporting me in my fundraising learning curve! And obviously to everyone for bearing with us and still being there for our callers. The good news is we should be in the final stages of the renovation as we go to press!

But now to successes.

We were lucky enough to host the Branch Meetings in person and look at our strategy, with the key operating ethos being communication, collaboration, co-operation, and teamwork. We are a family with lots of talent, passion, and commitment! We were able to continue to build on past successes and recognise and reward new initiatives.

We had four main strands:

- Strengthening the team.
- Developing our Outreach opportunities post Covid.
- Developing a sustainable fundraising policy.
- Improving our provision of night hours to meet callers' needs.

These still hold good today, and the Quality Review process during March acknowledged that these were strong objectives, which they ratified, and we agreed targets and extended dates.

Successes:

- We recruited and trained 17 new Samaritans last year and are targeting two intakes of 10 NSs this year.
- We are now making inroads into Outreach, albeit slowly, and have attended three events, and secured donations from them. We have promised to help them in whatever they need.
- We have had several editorials in the press to raise awareness and a press and on-line recruitment drive.
- We have secured for the first time a place on the curriculum in Rudheath Senior Academy, starting in September thanks to Jen 483.
- We have strengthened the prison team and maintained monthly visits to the Listeners.
- Our night hours provision saw us improve by 427% by year end and, following a bit of a blip at the beginning of the year, and with some very constructive meetings, we are now flying high again.
- We have continued to deliver high quality training, both for NSs and existing volunteers, who have embraced the demands of new initiatives and refresher training.

These are just a few of the things we have achieved together.

I want to thank you all.

Thank you to the Branch Leadership team for their support, expertise and advice and the amazing work they have done, together with their teams; to the Trustees for their support and guidance; but most importantly, to every single one of you for continuing to be there for our callers, no matter what other role you play.

You are my inspiration, and the reason I want to continue to do my best to help us all achieve our aims. Thank you.

Annie

4. Branch Review

SAMARITANS Mid Cheshire **Branch Quality Review Outcomes March 2023**

Strengths and Achievements

A strong leadership team that demonstrates close teamworking and mutual respect and support for one another, provide a sound basis for the smooth operation of the branch.

Volunteers throughout the branch have a strong sense of belonging and take pride in being part of the Northwich team.

Clear and effective communication ensures that everyone is aware of what is happening both at local and national level.

Training is considered to be excellent, and volunteers learn to view themselves as a supportive “family” from the start.

Great efforts have been made to raise the necessary finances needed in order to continue with large and unexpected building improvements.

Vision for the Branch

To become a noticeably visible part of our local community, so that we can grow volunteer numbers, establish financial stability and extend the service we provide on the helpline and in the community.

Branch actions agreed at review

- Expand recruitment opportunities to achieve 90 active listening volunteers by the end of 2026.
- Develop and deliver a wider range of outreach activities.
- Investigate and implement new approaches to fundraising and financial security.
- Continue to pursue the delivery of the core night hours service.
- Complete the building repair and improvements.

Quality Mentor’s Comments

It was a pleasure to work with Annie and the rest of the BLT.

The whole ethos of the branch is one of collaboration, communication, forward planning and teamwork. This review has been built around the already excellent strategy the branch had established for future growth and stability. We are confident that the only reason they would not reach their goals would be due to circumstances beyond their control.

Thank you all for the positive way you and the whole branch engaged in the quality review process.

The Board of trustees further congratulated us and wished us all every success.

5. Treasurer's Report

After a vote at last year's AGM, the Trustees agreed that Bernice Phelps should be our Independent Financial Examiner for the financial year April 2022 to end of March 2023. The Trustees have agreed the accounts and are aware that the restricted funds as on 31st March 2023 are currently being spent as per donated purposes and that there will be money in hand to operate for the foreseeable future.

As a result of HSBC starting to charge a monthly fee plus a percentage of any monies (cash or cheques) paid into the bank, the Trustees agreed to change our bank and we are now with The Co-operative Bank.

The start of the year was quite calm but when the rendering was removed and the subsequent issues to our property were revealed, our appeals for money were significantly heightened. As always, we give our sincere thanks to all those who have not only continued to help us keep the Branch going through the past twelve months but have also given so generously towards the building work and the ongoing operations room refurbishment. As you are aware our income relies completely on the support and generosity of the whole community. With that support, Samaritans of Mid Cheshire have been able to continue the good work that we do hopefully not only this year but for many years in the future.

You will see that we applied for and were awarded more grants this year for specific projects. We received £850 from Winsford Decides 2022 to spend on Samaritan awareness material for anyone in Winsford, but specifically for the young people when we visit schools, clubs, or any outreach event. We were granted another £9190 from The National Lottery Community Fund - £5900 towards the re-rendering of the building and the rest towards the continuing refurbishment of the operations room. Many of our other donations were restricted, which means the money has to be spent on what the donor specifies – telephone costs, building work or refurbishment of interior of our building.

As a result of being chosen to be part of the Co-operative Community Fund for Oct 2021 to Oct 2022 we received £1769. I have applied again for this coming year so, hoping we are successful, keep shopping and remembering to use your Co-op membership card.

Regarding our expenditure we have continued to upgrade, repair, and refurbish our property using restricted grant and donation money. The temporary wall cushions have been replaced by acoustic panels, a new carpet fitted, and much improved lighting - all making the operations room a pleasant and comfortable place to work. An issue was found with the boiler outlet pipes which meant some exterior work needs to be done to make things watertight. Otherwise through careful monitoring we have managed to keep our fuel, telephone, and photocopying costs under control.

The National Branch Contribution (NBC) is the money we pay yearly to Central Charity which is based on our income, expenditure, and reserves.

For our income Diana organised another Big Band concert to entertain many of you and your friends and the money raised by Lauren's *'Allo 'Allo* evening the previous year was paid in. Together these evenings raised over £4000. Money was also raised through Samarathon sponsorship when volunteers walked, ran, or cycled the equivalent of 26 miles during July. We received donations from local organisations and churches and businesses. Four Samaritan branches within our region have responded to our appeal for help with the building. Individual donations amounted to over £11,000. We are so very grateful to all who donated so generously.

Gift Aid claimed amounted to £2000. Our 100 Club continues to contribute towards our income. Currently we have around 60 members, but we are always on the lookout for more – only £12 a year - £20 prize every month but in December prizes of £50, £25, and £10.

Thanks, as always, to all who helped, pleaded, donated, participated and organised.

Sue 260

5. Financial Statement

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

	Samaritans of Mid Cheshire			No (if any)	
	Receipts and payments accounts				**CC16a**
	For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2022	To	Period end date 31/03/2023	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	11,365		-	11,365	7,401
Memorials and Legacies	485	-	-	485	868
Organisations and Clubs/churches	1,052			1,052	
Grants	-	13,040	-	13,040	15,900
Collections and bag packing	1,616	-	-	1,616	566
Other Fundraising	7,238	-	-	7,238	3,308
100 club	615			615	
Members contribution to costs	670			670	
Interest	426	-	-	426	73
Gift aid	2,081			2,081	920
Other donations- building work, ops room refurb, telephone & outreach	-	15,264	-	15,264	-
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	25,549	28,304	-	53,853	29,036
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	25,549	28,304	-	53,853	29,036
A3 Payments					
Utilities and contracts	4,480	-	-	4,480	4,652
Telephone	976	800	-	1,776	1,319
Housekeeping & refreshments	1,941	-	-	1,941	2,006
Fundraising costs	451	-	-	451	357
Training	45	-	-	45	605
Conference fees	921	-	-	921	-
Insurance	-	-	-	-	1,107
Advertising/publicity/recruitment	2,119	-	-	2,119	172
Volunteer support	139			139	121
Outreach	206			206	96
Director & volunteer expenses	3,115			3,115	4,377
Stationery/stamps/ink etc	360	-	-	360	189
National Branch Contribution	1,150	-	-	1,150	2,960
Governance	35	-	-	35	1,195
Sundries	87	-	-	87	120
Members contribution to costs	747			747	
House interior refurb		6,269		6,269	6,439
House exterior repairs		2,125		2,125	
House maintenance	13,480	-	-	13,480	2,402
Sub total	30,252	9,194	-	39,446	28,121
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total					
Total payments	30,252	9,194	-	39,446	28,121
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 4,703	19,110		14,407	916
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	51,291	6,861	-	58,152	-
Cash funds this year end	46,588	25,971	-	72,559	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	HSBC Charitable account	3	-	-
	The Co-operative bank	20,529	25,971	-
	Nationwide Business 95 Day Saver	26,056	-	-
	Total cash funds	46,588	25,971	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	None	unrestricted	90,000	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the	Property at cost	90,000	-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Susan Coles	**Susan Coles**	**06/07/2023**
	Diana Brown	**Diana Brown**	**06/07/2023**

6. Thank You

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire must thank ....

.... all our donors including:

- Those who give us donations (regular and one-off).
- Those families who, when their loved one has died, ask for donations to be given to us in their memory.
- Those who have supported us for our fund raising events – *'Allo 'Allo* and Fish Lip Soup Big Band Concert.
- Those 100 Club members who take a bit of a gamble while giving us money.
- Those who do their internet shopping via www.easyfundraising.org and help to boost our funds.
- Those who sponsored our volunteers when they ran, walked, or cycled in aid of our Branch.
- Those people who put money in our tins when we do a street collection.
- Those who have responded to newspaper articles and other appeals.
- And apologies to anyone I might have missed.

.... and

- Knutsford Bowling Club.
- Norley Methodist Church.
- National Lottery Community Fund Grant.
- Knutsford Lions.
- Storengy.
- Coveris Packaging.
- Davenham Ramblers.
- Cheshire Best Kept Station Award Committee.
- Winsford Town Council.
- Delamere Bowling Club Golf Society.
- Southport, Pendle, and Bolton Samaritan branches.
- The Co-operative Community Fund members.

7. Trustees

The following individuals have served as Trustees for Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

Trustee Name	Position	Dates served
Judi Boardman (410)	Secretary (from 01/01/2022)	From April 2017
Diana Brown (301)		From May 2018
Peter Burke (200)		From August 2020
Andrew Clarke (353)		From April 2017
Susan Coles (260)	Treasurer	From April 2017
Annie Mills (431)	Director	From June 2022
John Munnery (490)		From June 2019
Janice Scaplehorn (456)		From April 2017

Ron 461 (Ex Samaritan Listener) will be nominated at AGM.

The role of Trustee is advertised to the Branch in the two months prior to an AGM. Volunteers are invited to stand to be elected at the AGM. As per the Constitution there will be a minimum of three Trustees and a maximum of thirteen.

8. Health & Safety and Building Report

What's happened at the Centre in 12 months – 01/04/2022-31/03/2023:

1. Gas boiler serviced.
2. PAT testing due.
3. Fire extinguisher service completed.
4. Fire alarm service completed.
5. Health & Safety policy and fire risk assessment reviewed and updated.
6. New First Aid risk assessment.
7. New pregnant worker/new mother risk assessment.
8. First Aiders identified – details in the Centre.
9. Annual H&S checklist completed for Central Office.
10. Branch Risk Register updated.

Building upgrade and refurbishment:

1. External Works

With extensive cracking visible on the building's render and persistent leaks through the first floor gable wall, our contractor Render Master removed the existing render in June 2022 prior to replacing it. But the exposed brickwork was seen to be excessively distressed and needing extensive repairs before new render could be applied, so work was halted, and the contractor left site.

There followed a period when the insurers rejected our claim for the repairs to be funded and our subsequent appeal following a full engineering assessment was similarly unfruitful. Ex-Samaritan architect Harry Kennedy then set up and managed a contract for the structure to be rectified with engineer, Peter Hewitt who devised an innovative method of strengthening the brickwork in its distorted shape by introducing reinforcement in the brick beds and then pressure grouting to restore the brickwork's integrity.

A contract was awarded to Bill Timperley Builders who commenced work in late May and effectively completed the structural work by the end of June, ready for the new rendering to be applied, our

signs re-erected and our building looking like new before the end of July. The total cost of these works, including consultants' fees, will be in the order of £42,000.

2. Operations Room Refurbishment.

Following the installation of acoustic glass partitions around the workstations in late 2021, ineffective attempts to install sound-deadening wall panels were made during 2022 before the contractor's services were terminated.

An acoustic specialist contractor has now installed neat sound-absorbing panels around the workstations and on the ceiling, and with new adjustable general and desk lights, re-painting and a new carpet, the Operations Room has been transformed into a very pleasant and efficient place to work.

INTENTIONALLY BLANK

We're here to listen

Call free day or night on

116 123

Email
jo@samaritans.org

Web
samaritans.org/midcheshire

Visit us
1 Manchester Road
Northwich
CW9 5LY

SAMARITANS

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire	No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 4/1/2022	To	Period end date 3/31/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	11,365		-	11,365	7,401
Memorials and Legacies	485	-	-	485	868
Organisations and Clubs/churches	1,052			1,052	
Grants	-	13,040	-	13,040	15,900
Collections and bag packing	1,616	-	-	1,616	566
Other Fundraising	7,238	-	-	7,238	3,308
100 club	615			615	
Members contribution to costs	670			670	
Interest	426	-	-	426	73
Gift aid	2,081			2,081	920
Other donations- building work, ops room refurb, telephone & outreach	-	15,264	-	15,264	-
***Sub total**(Gross income for AR)*	25,549	28,304	-	53,853	29,036
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	25,549	28,304	-	53,853	29,036
A3 Payments					
Utilities and contracts	4,480	-	-	4,480	4,652
Telephone	976	800	-	1,776	1,319
Housekeeping & refreshments	1,941	-	-	1,941	2,006
Fundraising costs	451	-	-	451	357
Training	45	-	-	45	605
Conference fees	921	-	-	921	-
Insurance	-	-	-	-	1,107
Advertising/publicity/recruitment	2,119	-	-	2,119	172
Volunteer support	139			139	121
Outreach	206			206	96
Director & volunteer expenses	3,115			3,115	4,377
Stationery/stamps/ink etc	360	-	-	360	189
National Branch Contribution	1,150	-	-	1,150	2,960
Governance	35	-	-	35	1,195
Sundries	87	-	-	87	120
Members contribution to costs	747			747	
House interior refurb		6,269		6,269	6,439
House exterior repairs		2,125		2,125	
House maintenance	13,480	-	-	13,480	2,402
Sub total	30,252	9,194	-	39,446	28,121
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total					
Total payments	30,252	9,194	-	39,446	28,121
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 4,703	19,110		14,407	916
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-

A6 Cash funds last year end	51,291	6,861	-	58,152	-
Cash funds this year end	46,588	25,971	-	72,559	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	HSBC Charitable account	3	-	-
	The Co-operative bank	20,529	25,971	-
	Nationwide Business 95 Day Saver	26,056	-	-
	Total cash funds	46,588	25,971	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	#REF!	#REF!	#REF!

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
None	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
None	unrestricted	90,000	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Property at cost	90,000	-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
None		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Susan Coles	**Susan Coles**	**7/6/2023**
Diana Brown	**Diana Brown**	**7/6/2023**

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name Samaritans of Mid-Cheshire		
On accounts for the year ended	31 March 2023	**Charity no (if any)**	1170575
Set out on pages	1 and 2 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:	Bernice Philps.	**Date:**	7 July 2023
Name:	Bernice Philps		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FCA. Life member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)		
Address:	14 Reedsmere Walk Comberbach, Northwich Cheshire. CW9 6BZ		

SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1170575

Accounts

SAMARITANS

Mid Cheshire

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

Annual Review 2021-22

AGM Tuesday 7th June 2022 7pm

Owley Wood Recreation Club

Barrymore Rd, Weaverham, Northwich CW8 3LS

Contents

1. Samaritans' Vision, Mission and Values
2. Samaritans of Mid Cheshire
3. Director's Report (Outgoing/Incoming)
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Financial Statement
6. Thank You
7. Trustees
8. Health & Safety and Building Report

1. Samaritans' Vision, Mission and Values

It’s now generally acknowledged that to genuinely reduce suicide we must reach people earlier on in the crisis cycle, which means reaching out to and helping people who would not consider themselves to be suicidal. We want all potential callers to understand that our service is here for anyone who is experiencing pain in their lives.

Our Vision

Our Vision is that fewer people die by suicide

Our Mission

We make sure there’s someone there for anyone who needs someone.

Every year, Samaritans volunteers spend over one million hours answering calls for help via our unique 24-hour listening service, email, letter, face to face and through our Welsh language service.

We give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others.

We want to encourage, promote and celebrate those moments of connection between people that can protect and even save lives.

To do this, we're working in schools, prisons, workplaces and communities, and in partnership with organisations like Network Rail.

We campaign to make suicide prevention a national and local priority.

Our staff and volunteers run nationwide and community campaigns to raise awareness and influence decision-makers.

Our Values

We have five core values. They're supported by these behaviours, which we share within the Samaritans organisation: support, trust, aspirational and respect.

Listening

Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them.

Confidentiality

If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings.

Non-judgemental

We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection. People making their own decisions wherever possible

People making their own decisions

We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and that telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them.

Human contact

Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair.

2. Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire, a charity registered in England (1170575), is a recognised branch of Samaritans Central Charity and is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) and governed by a constitution. As an affiliate branch we are financially independent and responsible for fundraising to meet our operating costs.

Our branch has been providing support to people in our local area since 1965. We offer emotional support by telephone, by email and in person when guidelines allow. Our branch covers the following areas:

- Altrincham
- Hale
- Hale Barns
- Knutsford
- Lymm
- Middlewich
- Northwich
- Timperley
- Winsford

The year 2021-2022, as the previous year, has proved to be very challenging: balancing running an increasingly needed service whilst navigating new rules; continuing to fundraise whilst managing increased expenditure; trying to plan 'normal' outreach activities in unprecedented times whilst still recruiting and training volunteers.

The branch has continued to provide a telephone listening service providing emotional support for our callers. Operational changes initially made in 2020 have continued to ensure safety of volunteers.

Fundraising opportunities have been severely reduced during the pandemic, meaning that the donations we have received are possibly even more appreciated than ever. Securing grants has helped the financial situation; increased expenditure due directly in response to Covid-19 has been covered by one of these. Maintenance of our premises continues to be a major source of expenditure in addition to our normal running costs.

Despite the pandemic the branch continues to comply with all aspects of good charity management. During the last year, Samaritans, the branch has maintained the excellent branch management that was recognised in last year's Central Charity quality review report and despite the difficulties, the charity remains in a healthy state

The Branch Leadership Team have continued to recruit and train new volunteers, albeit still under the new normal, making use of technology to replace face to face when required.

The whole branch are looking forward to more face to face work, hoping to get our presence known in local schools, prison and at train stations.

3. Outgoing Director's Report

Jan reports as she comes to the end of her third and final year in the role of Branch Director:

The dominant feature of the last two and a half years has been the effect of the Coronavirus pandemic which impacted on virtually every aspect of our activities. In just a few short weeks we had to adjust our way of working to take account of social distancing, hygiene precautions and the continual turbulence caused by the need for individual volunteers to self-isolate. We lost the freedom to actively fundraise, or to conduct outreach and face to face activities, both between branch members and with callers. All this could have been disastrous, but thanks to the outstanding efforts and positive engagement by all our volunteers, we overcame the difficulties and have emerged as strong as ever and well placed to face the challenges that lie ahead.

Mid-way through my term we were subjected to a delayed but nevertheless very successful Branch Review, which particularly commended our welcoming environment and culture of inclusivity. I was especially pleased that the review team acknowledged the tremendous support given to me by the Branch Leadership Team.

During the Review we identified a number of key aspirations which are now at various stages of completion:

We have taken back our responsibility for Thorn Cross Prison and have already established effective links with the Listeners and Staff.

We have implemented a programme of improvements to the building. Some of these, for example the Ops Room, have already been started and others, notably the exterior rendering and signage are scheduled to be carried out in the very near future.

Our Recruitment and Training continues to operate at a very high standard. Throughout the pandemic, we have managed to recruit and train a steady stream of high quality and committed volunteers and are now planning to increase the number of training cohorts annually. We enjoy a fine reputation at Regional and National level, that was evidenced when Central Office chose to use our facilities as the location for a short Samaritans-wide training film.

Despite the restrictions on direct fundraising, we have been very successful in obtaining funds through grants and other means to help run and maintain the Branch and, overall, we remain in good financial shape for the forthcoming year.

As I step down after three demanding but thoroughly enjoyable years, I would like to thank the Trustees, Branch Leadership Team and all our wonderful volunteers for your unstinting support and friendship, and for your dedication to our callers and co-volunteers. I know that Annie will be able to count on the same and wish her every success for the next three years. It has been a privilege to serve as your Director and to all of you I just want to say, 'Thank You for Being There'.

Jan 456

Incoming Director's Report

On behalf of everyone at Samaritans Mid Cheshire, I would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to Jan, who has been an amazing Director over these last three, quite difficult, years. The role is quite demanding without the added pressures she faced!

During the pandemic, she kept us all going, while facing unprecedented challenges, always with a smile and positive determination.

We must never forget how much that helped, along with the huge commitment of the whole team here in Northwich, to keep the branch open to our Callers. Together we set an exemplary example, I believe, for everything Samaritans stands for.

We continued to look after our Callers, and just as importantly, each other!

This is why I am so proud to become your next Director, knowing that together we have the strength, passion, determination and skills to always be the best, and I thank you again for all your messages of support

I look forward to working closely with you all, listening to you, realising and recognising expertise in the team, celebrating what we do, and continuing to make us the best Samaritan 'Family' (which I know we all treasure,) so we can continue to be there for our Callers

Finally, it is so lovely that we can say thank you to Jan face to face at our first real live meeting together, celebrating together, as we move forward together.

Thank you

Annie 431

Jan 456 and Annie 431

4. Treasurer's Report

As Trustees of our Organisation after a vote at last year's AGM, we have been fortunate that one of our new Samaritan volunteers is qualified and experienced to do our Independent Financial Examination and so I have persuaded her to do it for us this year and your Trustees agreed. From The Charity Commission regulations she must have nothing to do with our accounts over the year. Thank you, Bernice.

Although this year has again been somewhat different, as always, we give our sincere thanks to all who have helped to keep the branch going through the past 12 months. Our income relies on the support and generosity of the whole community but unfortunately, we were not able to raise funds in our usual way as often as we have done. However with financial support from our donors, Samaritans of Mid Cheshire have been able to continue the good work that we do.

You will see that we applied for and were awarded another 2 grants this year for specific projects. We received £2.8k from The Pears Foundation to spend on new branding external signage, curtains for the ops room and sounding proofing within the telephone stations. We are on target to complete this within the given time frame. The other grant was from The National Lottery Community Fund - £9.8k for transparent acoustic panels for the ops room which includes costs for fitting and making good. The screens are in but there is still subsequent refurbishment to do finish that project.

We also applied and were accepted to be one of 3 local community groups for the year October 2021 to October 2022 who receive donations when Co-Op members use their cards and choose us as their chosen local charity.

As a result of claiming expenses from the Samaritan Central Charity Prison Support Group when our prison team have been supporting the listeners at Thorn Cross Open prison, we were entitled to receive a share of any money left in the prison Grant 'pot'. We were very lucky to receive £2.6k.

Regarding our expenditure, along with spending grant allocated money, we have continued to upgrade, repair and refurbish our property to a cost of just over £2k, which included fitting a new boiler. After negotiating fixed 2 year contracts for both our gas and electricity bills last June, unfortunately our gas supplier went out of business in November. We had an expensive couple of gas months but by the end of the year our 2 year fixed contract has been honoured by another company so things have settled down. Otherwise through careful monitoring we have managed to keep our telephone and photocopying costs under control.

The creditors listed in the accounts include NBC – the money we pay yearly to Central Charity which is based on our income, expenditure and reserves.

For our income, we have only done one street collection but no store collections or any bag packing due to the pandemic. However Diana was able to organise another Big Band concert to entertain many of you and your friends. The fantastic evening raised, along with donations given by those who were still unwilling to be at a public event, raised a magnificent £1436. Money was also raised through the sale of Samaritan raffle tickets and The Samarathon, when 4 of our volunteers walked, ran or cycled the equivalent of 26 miles during July and got sponsored. We were lucky to receive £620 in donations from local organisations and churches and thank them for their continued support. Individual donations amounted to £6,780 and we must thank 2 ex volunteers who remembered us when their loved one died. We are so very grateful to all who donated so generously. Gift Aid for the year up to March 2021 amounted to £920. Our 100 Club continues to contribute towards our income and currently we have around 60 members but we are always lookout for more – only £12 a year - £20 prize every month but in December prizes of £50, £25 and £10.

Thanks as always to all who helped, donated, participated and organised.

Sue 260

5. Financial Statement

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

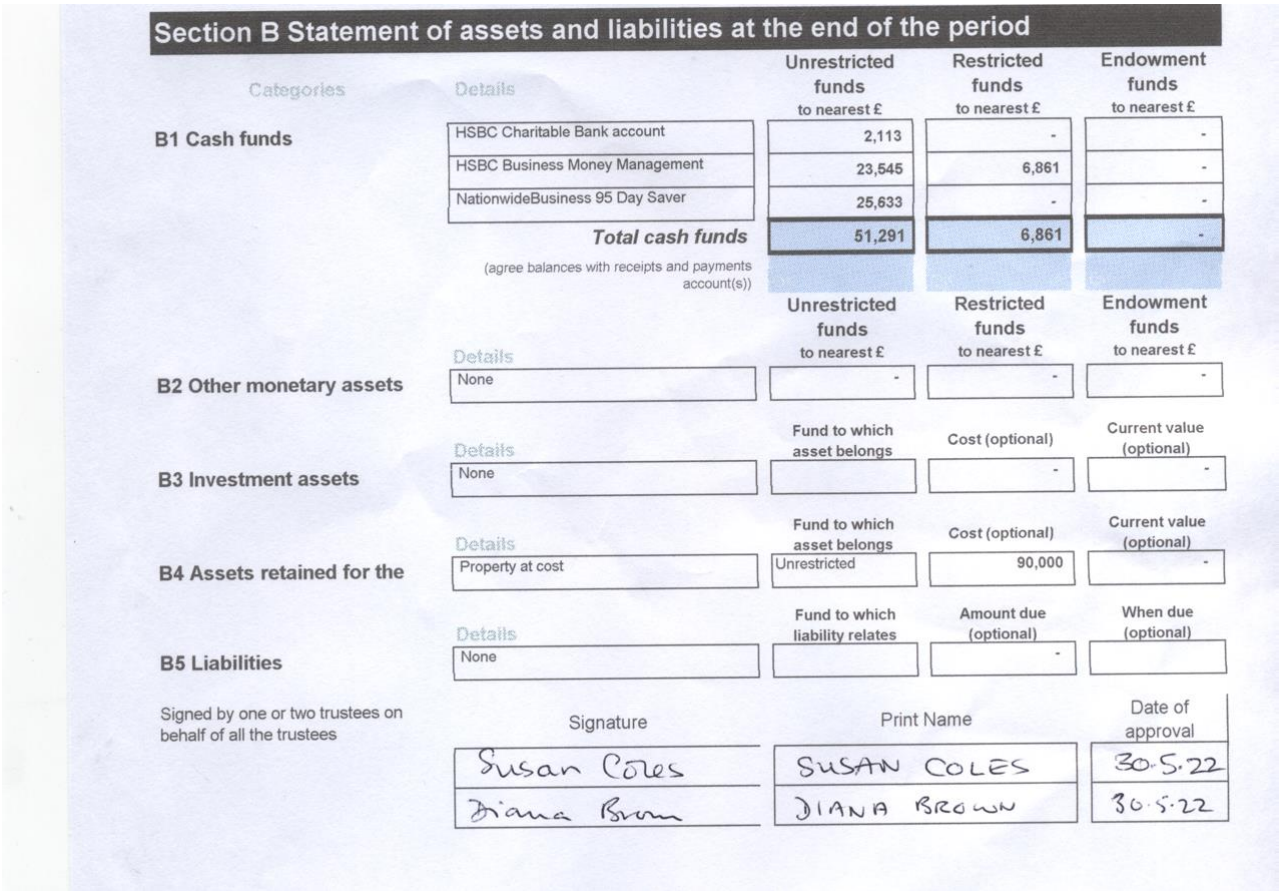
Samaritans of Mid Cheshire C.I.O.	No (if any) 1170575	CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date: 1st April 2021	To	Period end date: 31st March 2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	7,401		-	7,401	8,391
Memorials and legacies	868	-	-	868	975
Grants	2,600	13,300	-	15,900	10,000
Collections and bag packing	566			566	-
Other Fund raising	3,308	-	-	3,308	4,243
Interest	73	-	-	73	79
Gift Aid	920	-	-	920	2,620
Sundries	-	-	-	-	38
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	15,736	13,300	-	29,036	26,346
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	15,736	13,300	-	29,036	26,346
A3 Payments					
Gas, electricity, water, contracts	4,652	-	-	4,652	3,454
Telephone	1,319	-	-	1,319	1,499
House - repairs & refurbishment	2,402			2,402	2,087
Housekeeping & refreshments	2,006			2,006	1,654
Fundraising costs	357	-	-	357	666
Training	605	-	-	605	176
Advertising/publicity/recruitment	172	-	-	172	4,163
Stationery/stamps/cartridges etc	189			189	186
Caller suuport	-	-	-	-	-
Volunteer support	121			121	-
Outreach	96			96	60
Director & volunteer expenses	4,377			4,377	1,691
Grant projects		6,439		6,439	2,674
Insurance	1,107			1,107	926
Sundries	120			120	43
National Branch Contribution	2,960			2,960	- 1,533
Governance	1,195	-	-	1,195	633
Sub total	21,681	6,439	-	28,121	18,377
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	21,681	6,439	-	28,121	18,377
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5,945	6,861	-	916	7,969
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	57,236	-	-	57,236	-
Cash funds this year end	51,291	6,861	-	58,152	7,969



Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	HSBC Charitable Bank account	2,113	-	-
	HSBC Business Money Management	23,545	6,861	-
	NationwideBusiness 95 Day Saver	25,633	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	51,291	6,861	-

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	None	-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	None		-	-
B4 Assets retained for the	Property at cost	Unrestricted	90,000	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	None		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Susan Coles	SUSAN COLES	30.5.22
	Diana Brown	DIANA BROWN	30.5.22

6. Thank You

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire must thank ....

.... all our donors including

- Those who give us donations regular and one-off donations
- Those families who, when their loved one has died, ask for donations to be given to us in their memory
- Those 100 club members who take a bit of a gamble while giving us money
- Those who do their internet shopping via www.easyfundraising.org and help to boost our funds
- Those who sponsored our volunteers when they ran, walked or cycled in aid of our branch
- Those people who put money in our tins when we do a street collection

.... and

- Knutsford Bowling Club
- Norley Methodist Church
- Pears Foundation grant
- National Lottery Community Fund grant
- Knutsford Lions

7. Trustees

The following individuals have served as trustees for Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

Trustee Name	Position	Dates served
Judi Boardman (410)	Secretary (from 01/01/2022)	From April 2017
Diana Brown (301)		From May 2018
Peter Burke (200)		From August 2020
Andrew Clarke (353)		From April 2017
Susan Coles (260)	Treasurer	From April 2017
Helen Gardner (380)	Secretary (to 31/12/2021)	From April 2017
John Munnery (490)		From June 2019
Janice Scaplehorn (456)	Director	From April 2017

The role of trustee is advertised to the branch in the two months prior to an AGM. Volunteers are invited to stand to be elected at the AGM. As per the constitution there will be a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of thirteen.

8. Health & Safety and Building Report

What's happened at the Centre in 12 months – 01/04/2020-31/03/2021:

1. Gas boiler serviced.
2. PAT testing completed.
3. Fire extinguisher service completed.
4. Fire alarm service completed.
5. Health & Safety policy and fire risk assessment reviewed and updated.
6. New first aid risk assessment.
7. New pregnant worker/new mother risk assessment.
8. First aiders identified – details in the Centre.
9. Annual H&S checklist completed for General Office.
10. Branch Risk Register completed.
11. Provision of Covid-19 supplies and posters.

Building upgrade and refurbishment:

Thanks to Peter 200 for all his hard work and patience for the 3 main projects requiring attention at the Centre:

1. Leaks in the Training and small adjacent room

The initial focus of the investigation of the leaks established that the water could only have been entering the building through the rendering on the gable end. A detailed inspection of the front façade render showed it also to be extensively distressed and in need of early replacement. Initial enquiries were for full render replacement to the industry-standard K- Rend system with mesh reinforcement and include for sign removal and replacement and were sent to 3 suitable contractors.

The initial contractor booked to do the works withdrew. A further three contractors were selected to seek prices for the render replacement and in July 2021, the contract was awarded. However, there was an issue with public liability insurance and the pedestrian access routes or the road and they eventually also withdrew.

Enquiries with two other render firms indicated that materials prices continue to be high due to high demand and supply restrictions and it was decided to revisit this in 2022.

By March 2022, 3 further quotes were received, of which was selected to do the work which will start on 18th July 2022. Scaffolding will be erected prior to this date and some shifts may have to be re-arranged. Neighbours have been notified.

2. Settlement of the cabinets in the 1st floor kitchen.

Enquiries were sent out to three local contractors but despite regular reminders none have submitted prices (although one explained that with a six-month workload our work could not be fitted in). It appears that demand on small builders has been very large during the pandemic. Enquiries were sent out to three more contractors - but note that the work is not urgent and was deferred to 2022. No further progress has yet been made on this.

3. Refurbishment of the Operations Room

Three acoustic glass partition installers quoted for providing and installing the countertop-to-ceiling glass partitions.

Preparation joinery work, removing the existing partition and workstation roofs and constructing the below-counter partitions was carried out by a local joiner.

The sub-counter timber partitions were built in early October and after precise measurement and manufacture the acoustic glass partitions were installed in November.

Further work included moving a radiator out of one of the working areas, moving an electric socket outlet and painting the under-counter partitions and other areas, provision and installation of curtain rails, curtains and sound-absorbent panels to walls and the ceiling.

Other works still to be carried out in the Operations Room include installing the sound-absorbent wall and ceiling panels, re-decoration (together with the front entrance door) and then replacement of the carpet and the under-chair protection mats.

We're here to listen

Call free day or night on

116 123

Email
jo@samaritans.org

Web
samaritans.org/midcheshire

Visit us
1 Manchester Road
Northwich
CW9 5LY

SAMARITANS

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire C.I.O.	No (if any) 1170575

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 1st April 2021	To	Period end date 31st March 2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	7,401		-	7,401	8,391
Memorials and legacies	868	-	-	868	975
Grants	2,600	13,300	-	15,900	10,000
Collections and bag packing	566			566	-
Other Fund raising	3,308	-	-	3,308	4,243
Interest	73	-	-	73	79
Gift Aid	920	-	-	920	2,620
Sundries	-	-	-	-	38
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	15,736	13,300	-	29,036	26,346
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	15,736	13,300	-	29,036	26,346
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Gas, electricity, water, contracts	4,652	-	-	4,652	3,454
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Caller suuport	-	-	-	-	-
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Outreach	96			96	60
Director & volunteer expenses	4,377			4,377	1,691
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Insurance	1,107			1,107	926
Sundries	120			120	43
National Branch Contribution	2,960			2,960	- 1,533
Governance	1,195	-	-	1,195	633
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Total payments	21,681	6,439	-	28,121	18,377
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5,945	6,861	-	916	7,969
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A6 Cash funds last year end	57,236	-	-	57,236	-
Cash funds this year end	51,291	6,861	-	58,152	7,969

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	HSBC Charitable Bank account	2,113	-	-
	HSBC Business Money Management	23,545	6,861	-
	NationwideBusiness 95 Day Saver	25,633	-	-
	Total cash funds	51,291	6,861	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
None	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
None		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Property at cost	Unrestricted	90,000	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
None		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Susan Coles	Susan Coles	30/05/2022

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of (Charity name) SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE C.I.O.

On accounts for the year ended 31 MARCH 2022 **Charity no (if any)** 1170575

Set out on pages (Enter the page numbers of the accounts) 1 and 2 of Form CC16a

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: Bernice Philps **Date:** 6 June 2022

Name: BERNICE PHILPS

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
ICAEW Member No. 7485463

Address: 14 REEDSMERE WALK
COMBERBACH, NORTHWICH
CHESHIRE CW9 6BZ

Section B	Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

NONE

SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1170575

Accounts

SAMARITANS

Mid Cheshire

Annual review 2020–21

1. Samaritans' Vision, Mission and Values

It’s now generally acknowledged that to genuinely reduce suicide we must reach people earlier on in the crisis cycle, which means reaching out to and helping people who would not consider themselves to be suicidal. We want all potential callers to understand that our service is here for anyone who is experiencing pain in their lives.

The Vision

Samaritans Vision is that fewer people die by suicide

The Mission

We make sure there’s someone there for anyone who needs someone.

- Every year, we answer more than 5 million calls for help via our unique 24-hour listening service, email, letter, face to face and through our Welsh language service.

- We give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others.

We want to encourage, promote and celebrate those moments of connection between people that can protect and even save lives.

- To do this, we're working in schools, prisons, workplaces and communities, and in partnership with organisations like Network Rail.

We campaign to make suicide prevention a national and local priority.

- Our staff and volunteers run nationwide and community campaigns to raise awareness and influence decision-makers.

The Values

We have five core values. They're supported by these behaviours, which we share within the Samaritans organisation: support, trust, aspirational and respect.

Listening

- Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them.

Confidentiality

- If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings.

Non-judgemental

- We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection. People making their own decisions wherever possible

People making their own decisions

- We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and that by not telling people what to do empowers them.

Human contact

- Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair

2. Samaritans of Mid Cheshire

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire, a charity registered in England (1170575), is a recognised branch of Samaritans Central Charity and is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) and governed by a constitution. As an affiliate branch we are financially independent and responsible for fundraising to meet our operating costs.

Our branch has been providing support to people in our local area since 1965. We offer emotional support by telephone, by email and in person when guidelines allow. Our branch covers the following areas:

- Altrincham
- Hale
- Hale Barns
- Knutsford
- Lymm
- Middlewich
- Northwich
- Timperley
- Winsford

The year 2020-2021, as the previous year, has proved to be very challenging: balancing running an increasingly needed service whilst navigating new rules; continuing to fundraise whilst managing increased expenditure; trying to plan 'normal' outreach activities in unprecedented times whilst still recruiting and training volunteers.

The branch has continued to provide a telephone listening service providing emotional support for our callers. Operational changes were made to ensure safety of volunteers.

Fundraising opportunities have been severely reduced during the pandemic meaning that the donations we have received are possibly even more appreciated than ever. Securing grants has helped the financial situation; increased expenditure due directly in response to Covid-19 has been covered by one of these. Maintenance of our premises continues to be a major source of expenditure in addition to our normal running costs.

Despite the pandemic the branch continues to comply with all aspects of good charity management. During the last year, Samaritans central charity has conducted a quality review looking at all aspects of branch management including finances, operating procedures and legal compliance. The report was excellent and confirmed that the charity is in a healthy state

The Branch Leadership Team have continued to recruit and train new volunteers, albeit, under a new normal, making use of technology to replace face to face when required.

The whole branch are looking forward to more face to face work, hoping to get our presence known in local schools, prison and at train stations.

3. Director's Report

Jan reports as she comes to the end of her second and penultimate year in the role of Branch Director:

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire has been an affiliated branch of the Samaritans since 2017. We have the responsibility of managing not only the delivery of service but the building we own and all our volunteers. This means we are responsible for all our recruitment, training, funding and upgrading of equipment as deemed necessary when change and legislation dictate. This includes Health and Safety, Data Protection and Safeguarding.

Since our last AGM we have continued to recruit and train new listening volunteers and increased our support team. We now have 31 trained mentors which represents 18% of our listening volunteers and ensures our ability to mentor new listeners as well as our ongoing mentoring of volunteers. Our aim going forward is to train all volunteers as mentors.

Since our Link system replaced Connect, I believe the system has been less prone to downtime, even if we see a few glitches from time. We have seen the withdrawal of our SMS service but are soon to see the introduction of Online Chat.

Our email system is in need of an overhaul, and this has been promised by Samaritans Central Office (SCO) as a future project. We are also soon to see the introduction of the Branch Management Tool (BMT) which will aid in recruitment, training and the progress of volunteers.

In November 2020, we had our virtual Branch quality review. Our report was excellent, and this was down to the Branch Leadership Team and to each and every one of our volunteers. We have a few areas to work on which were chosen by ourselves as aims and goals for the future and we are well ahead in our progress.

Sadly, over the last year, we have been badly affected by Covid-19. This has meant fewer face to face activities both inside the Centre and in the local communities that we cover. It has taken down the number of potential volunteers we can recruit and train and also affected the way this is done. Our shift rota lost a lot of volunteers temporarily to self-isolation, but we have managed this and our service both locally and nationally held together well. Many volunteers undertook different roles while self-isolating, eg NHS Support Line, Leading and other Branch roles. We hope to be fully operational as soon as the worries of Covid-19 allow us. On the positive side, technology has helped considerably with meetings and training, the Ops Room stations have never been so clean, and we have learnt a lot from the changes we have had to make.

Going forward we are looking forward to seeing a newly re-furbished Ops Room and a newly rendered building with new signage. This will also mean that we can attend to some damp and decorating inside the building. Our hope that when this work is done, the refurbishments will improve the soundproofing in the Ops Room and the maintenance of the building.

I want to say a big thank you to the Trustees, the Branch Leadership Team and to all our volunteers for being there for our callers and for the time and support you have given to the Branch and each other. You are all brilliant. Thank you.

Jan 456

4. Treasurer's Report

As Trustees of our Organisation, after a vote at last year's AGM, we have again used the services of a local firm of accountants to examine the accounts. Once again they have produced an 11 page report, copies of which are available for anyone if they wish, but for the purposes of this review I have summarised it

This year has been somewhat different but as always we give our sincere thanks to all who have helped to keep the branch going through the past 12 months. Our income relies on the support and generosity of the whole community but unfortunately we have not been able to raise funds in our usual way. However with financial support from our donors, Samaritans of Mid Cheshire have been able to continue the good work that we do.

Looking at the accounts you will see we were lucky to be awarded 2 grants.£10k from Cheshire West and Chester Council helped us with added costs due to the pandemic – the reorganisation of the ops room to allow safe distancing, including sanitising essentials, plus equipment to allow for remote training for new volunteers and remote branch meetings. The other grant from The Arnold Clarke Community Fund of £1k was used for added screen protection in the ops room which can also be used in the training room.

Regarding our expenditure, we have continued to upgrade, repair and refurbish our property to a cost of just over£2k. Otherwise through careful monitoring we have managed to keep the costs of energy and our annual contracts down.
The creditors listed in the accounts are for NBC – the money we pay yearly to Central Charity based on income and expenditure and the accountant's examination fee.

For our income, we have been unable to do any street or store collections or any bag packing income due to the pandemic. However through the sale of Samaritan raffle tickets, sale of Samaritan Christmas cards and several sponsorship events, including The Samarathon in July, organised by our volunteers. We were lucky to receive £750 in donations from local organisations and churches and thank them for their continued support. Individual donations amounted to £6,250. We are so very grateful to all who donated so generously. Gift Aid and GASDS for the year up to April 2019 amounted to £2.6k and we received just under £1k in legacies. Our 100 Club continues to contribute towards our income and currently we have around 60 members but we are always lookout for more– only £12 a year - £20 prize every month but in December prizes of £50, £25 and £10.

Thanks as always to all who helped, donated participated and organised.

Sue 260

5. Financial Statement

Samaritans of Mid - Cheshire Accounts for 1/4/2020 to 31/3/2021

			to 31/03/21	to 31/03/20
INTEREST	HSBC		£12	£46
	Nationwide Building Society		£68	£216
		TOTAL INTEREST	£79	£262
INCOME	Donations			
		Individuals	£6,291	£4,799
		Companies	£0	£172
		Organisations/ Clubs	£350	£3,178
		Local/church/parish Council	£400	£100
	Memorials		£975	£0
	Cash Sales			
	Fund Raising			
		Collections	£0	£1,515
		Bag packing	£0	£2,816
		Branch organised	£3,522	£3,302
	Conference Contributions		£0	£0
	100 Club		£721	£618
	Gift Aid tax		£2,620	£2,610
	Grants COVID		£10,000	£0
	Sundries		£38	£0
	Restricted donations		£1,350	**£0**
		TOTAL CASH	**£26,267**	**£19,111**
		TOTAL INCOME	£26,346	£19,373
EXPENDITURE	Telephone		£1,499	£1,377
	Premises-ulilities & contracts		£3,454	£3,133
	Premises maintenance /refurbishment		£2,087	£2,554
	Housekeeping/Refreshments		£1,654	£2,185
	Publicity / Advertising/Recruitment		£4,163	£3,825
	Fund Raising costs		£666	£333
	Insurance		£926	£926
	NBC adjustment		-£1,553	£2,847
	Training		£176	£490
	Volunteer & Director expenses		£1,691	£2,754
	Volunteer Support		£0	£46
	Caller Support		£0	£0
	Sundries		£43	£74
	Stationary incl cartridges		£186	£47
	Conference Fees		£0	£0
	Governance/data protection		£633	£552
	Outreach		£60	£48
	Capital expenses		£22	£4,631
	COVID related		£2,674	£0
		TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**£18,377**	**£25,822**
		INCOME - EXPENDITURE	£7,969	-£6,449
	Funds brought forward		£137,116	£143,565
	Funds carried forward		**£145,085**	**£137,116**

BALANCE SHEET
Branch
Assets

	31 Mar 2021	31 Mar 2020
Creditors	-£2,151	-£2,598
House at w.d.v.	£90,000	£90,000
HSBC current account	£2,771	£5,328
HSBC deposit account	£28,902	£18,891
Nationwide Building Society	£25,563	£25,496
TOTAL	**£145,085**	**£137,116**

6. Thank You

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire must thank ....

.... all our donors including

- Those who give us donations
- Those families who, when their loved one has died, ask for donations to be given to us in their memory
- Those 100 club members who take a bit of a gamble while giving us money
- Those who do their internet shopping via www.easyfundraising.org and help to boost our funds
- Those who sponsored our volunteers when they ran, walked or cycled in aid of our branch

.... and

- Hartford PC
- Vale Royal Lions
- Norley Methodist Church
- Arnold Clarke
- and not forgetting Camilla's 'girls' who lay eggs for donations to us throughout the year.

7. Trustees

The following individuals have served as trustees for Samaritans of Mid-Cheshire

Trustee Name	Position	Dates served
Judi Boardman (410)		From April 2017
Diana Brown (301)		From May 2018
Peter Burke (200)		From August 2020
Andrew Clarke (353)		From April 2017
Susan Coles (260)	Treasurer	From April 2017
Helen Gardner (380)	Secretary	Until September 2021
John Munnery (490)		From June 2019
Janice Scaplehorn (456)	Director	From April 2017

The role of trustee is advertised to the branch in the two months prior to an AGM. Volunteers are invited to stand to be elected at the AGM. As per the constitution there will be a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of thirteen.

We're here to listen

Call free day or night on

116 123

Email
jo@samaritans.org

Web
samaritans.org/midcheshire

Visit us
1 Manchester Road
Northwich
CW9 5LY

SAMARITANS

Samaritans of Mid-Cheshire is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales [1158078]. Our registered office is located at 1 Manchester Road, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 5LY.

Samaritans of Mid - Cheshire Accounts for 1/4/2020 to 31/3/2021

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BALANCE SHEET			
Branch Assets		**31 Mar 2021**	**31 Mar 2020**
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	Nationwide Building Society	£25,563	£25,496
	TOTAL	**£145,085**	**£137,116**

Charity Registration No. 1170575

Company Registration No. CE009265 (England and Wales)

SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Ms Jan Scaplehorn Ms Judi Boardman Miss Helen Gardner Mr Andrew Clarke Ms Sue Coles Ms Diana Brown Mr John Munnery Mr Peter Burke	 (Appointed 4 August 2020)
Charity number	1170575	
Company number	CE009265	
Principal address	1 Manchester Road Northwich Cheshire CW9 5LY	
Independent examiner	Andrew Hague BEng BFP FCA WR Partners Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor Drake House Gadbrook Park Northwich Cheshire CW9 7RA	

SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1
Independent examiner's report	2
Statement of financial activities	3
Balance sheet	4
Notes to the financial statements	5 - 11

SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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

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 [governing document], the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are to offer emotional support to people of Mid Cheshire who are going through difficult times.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Financial review

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees considers that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

The trustees has assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) regulated by the Charity Commission.

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

Ms Jan Scaplehorn
Ms Judi Boardman
Miss Helen Gardner
Mr Andrew Clarke
Ms Sue Coles
Ms Diana Brown
Mr John Munnery
Mr Peter Burke (Appointed 4 August 2020)

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

Susan Coles

Ms Sue Coles
Trustee
Dated: 9 September 2021

SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Samaritans of Mid Cheshire (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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

4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Andrew Hague BEng BFP FCA
WR Partners
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
Drake House
Gadbrook Park
Northwich
Cheshire
CW9 7RA

Dated: 9 September 2021

SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	21,357	1,350	22,707	11,478
Fundraising	4	3,522	-	3,522	7,633
Investments	5	79	-	79	262
Other income	6	38	-	38	-
Total income		24,996	1,350	26,346	19,373
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	7	17,027	1,350	18,377	25,822
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		7,969	-	7,969	(6,449)
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		137,116	-	137,116	143,565
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		145,085	-	145,085	137,116

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

SAMARITANS OF MID CHESHIRE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		90,000		90,000
Current assets					
Debtors	12	957		17	
Cash at bank and in hand		57,236		50,136	
		58,193		50,153	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(3,108)		(3,037)	
Net current assets			55,085		47,116
Total assets less current liabilities			145,085		137,116
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds			145,085		137,116
			145,085		137,116

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

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 9 September 2021

Susan Coles

Ms Sue Coles
Trustee

Company Registration No. CE009265

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Samaritans of Mid Cheshire is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is .

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (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 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 Incoming resources

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.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

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

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.

No depreciation is charged on the freehold property as there is sufficient expenditure on the maintenance and upkeep of the property to render any depreciation which would otherwise be charged as immaterial.

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 net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

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

1.9 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.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans 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.

Trade 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.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	9,661	1,350	11,011	10,860
Legacies receivable	975	-	975	-
COVID-19 government grant	10,000	-	10,000	-
100 club membership fees	721	-	721	618
	21,357	1,350	22,707	11,478

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Fundraising events	3,522	7,633

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest receivable	79	262

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2021	2020
	£	£
Other income	38	-

7 Charitable activities

	Charitable Expenditure 2021 £	Charitable Expenditure 2020 £
Property repairs	2,087	2,554
Insurance	926	926
Telephone	1,499	1,377
Postage and stationery	186	47
Advertising	4,163	3,825
Volunteer expenses	1,691	2,754
Volunteer support gifts	-	46
NBC	(1,553)	2,847
	8,999	14,376
Share of support costs (see note 8)	8,745	10,894
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	633	552
	18,377	25,822
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	17,027	25,822
Restricted funds	1,350	-
	18,377	25,822
For the year ended 31 March 2020		
Unrestricted funds	25,822	

8 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Premises expenses	6,124	-	6,124	3,133
Training costs	176	-	176	490
Sundry expenses	43	-	43	74
Outreach	60	-	60	48
Computer expenses	22	-	22	4,631
Housekeeping	1,654	-	1,654	1,845
Refreshments	-	-	-	340
Fundraising costs	666	-	666	333
Independent examination fee	-	633	633	552
	8,745	633	9,378	11,446
Analysed between				
Charitable activities	8,745	633	9,378	11,446

9 Trustees

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

10 Employees

There were no employees during the year (2020 - 0).

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2020	90,000
At 31 March 2021	90,000
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2021	90,000
At 31 March 2020	90,000

12 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors	-	17
Prepayments and accrued income	957	-
	957	17

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
NBC creditor	2,510	1,536
Accruals and deferred income	598	1,501
	3,108	3,037

14 Related party transactions

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