



Samaritans Bridgend CIO  
Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements  
For the Year ended 31 March 2023

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## Charity Information

Charity Name:	Samaritans Bridgend CIO
Registered Charity Number:	1170848
Registered Address:	Samaritans Bridgend, 2 Green Street, Bridgend, CF31 1HF
Website:	<a href="http://www.samaritans.org/bridgend">www.samaritans.org/bridgend</a>
Trustees:	JL Griffiths (Director and Chair of Trustees from 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2022) R Harbour A Marshall J Osborne (Secretary) J Wynne (Treasurer)  C Pearcey (Director and Chair of Trustees, resigned 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2022) M Thalayasingam (Secretary, resigned 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2022) C Wellings (Treasurer, resigned 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2022) W Xerri (Trustee, resigned 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2022)
Independent Examiner:	P Whiting, Thaw Cottage, City, Cowbridge, CF71 7RW
Solicitors:	Redkite Law, Old Castle Offices, South Street, Bridgend CF31 3ED
Bankers:	Lloyds Bank plc, 14 High Street North, East Ham E6 2HN

## **Branch Director's Report**

This is my first year as director of Bridgend Samaritans, having been asked to take on the role in June 2022, following Gabby's completion of her three-year term in the post. Leading the branch through the Covid-19 pandemic was a particularly challenging time and I and the trustees would like to thank Gabby and her leadership team and former trustees for their energy and leadership in ensuring that our branch stayed open and a safe place to work during that unsettling time. I would also like to thank everyone in the branch for putting their trust in me to lead our branch and for all the help and support they have given me, especially our leadership team members and trustees, since I accepted the post.

It is a particularly exciting time to be director, as our branch celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and the wider Samaritans organisation its 70<sup>th</sup>. The first Bridgend branch office, which was in Maesteg, was formally opened on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1973. In 1975 it was decided that a more central location was required, and the branch moved to Bridgend town centre. As Bridgend branch covers Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan, this provides a more central location for those in the area who volunteer with us and from which to deliver outreach activities in our community.

The branch has continued to develop over the years, increasing in membership and embracing the inevitable changes that have come about over the last 50 years. As at the beginning, it is made up of a dedicated team of volunteers who freely give of their time to help people who use our services. As a branch and wider organisation, we could not achieve what we do without them. All aspects of branch management are undertaken by our volunteers. This includes the recruitment and selection of volunteers; volunteer training and ongoing development; volunteer support, care, and leadership; and the provision of a safe environment in which to operate. In addition to this, many of our volunteers also undertake regional and organisation-wide roles. I feel very lucky to be part of the Bridgend team and to be able to play a small part in its ongoing development.

We also could not do all that we do without the generosity of our many donors, supporters and partners. Without your valuable contributions we could not maintain our branch and deliver our service. You are all a vital part of what we do, and we all thank you for your ongoing support.

Our plans moving forward are to maintain and extend our service to those who use our services, whether that be by phone or in our local community through our awareness raising and outreach work. We will also focus on our most valuable assets, our volunteers, to ensure everyone feels well equipped to undertake their duties and valued and cared for during their time volunteering with us.

We will also take some time to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> year. The celebrations in fact made an early start last Christmas with a wonderful concert arranged by Bridgend Male Choir. This July, Chris Jones, Welsh Weatherman, has arranged a Walk in the Vale (see Eventbrite) and the members of Cowbridge Male Voice Choir have offered their time for a concert on 30<sup>th</sup> September. We also hope to encourage 50 people, one for every year we have been open, to take part in the Samarathon challenge which encourages those taking part to walk or jog 26.2 miles in July. There will be more celebratory events, please keep in touch if you are interested in hearing about them.

**Julie Griffiths**

**Director and Chair of Trustees  
Bridgend Samaritans**

## Trustees' Annual Report

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

### Objectives

The charity's objects are to: enable persons 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 from appropriately trained Samaritans in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicidal feelings; and 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; and to collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity and its affiliated branches in fulfilling these objects.

### 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; and
- reducing the likelihood that people will 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 services adapt to the changing environment, but the values at 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.

## **Achievements and performance**

The Charity's core activity is to support the Samaritans national helpline which it does by managing volunteer rotas to ensure the national helpline operates 365 days of the year and 24 hours a day. Each rota shift is 3-4 hours long and covered by at least two listening volunteers and a shift leader. On average throughout the year (April 2022 to March 2023) 59 listening volunteers spent 3,777 hours on the phone (last year 69 volunteers spent 4,401 hours on the phone). Our listening volunteers are approximately two thirds of our total membership at any one time. Bridgend branch received 16,673 contacts during the year from callers which included 16,341 inbound phone calls, 78 follow up calls and 127 emails. The majority of the callers were offered emotional support, but 2,924 callers made 'snap' calls, where the contact was less than 10 seconds. Where the gender of contacts could be determined 46.5% percent identified as male, 52.0% percent identified as female and 0.2% identified as transgender or some other preferred term. The gender of a caller was unable to be determined in 2.2% of callers.

A priority at the moment is to increase the amount of time we are available to take calls between the hours of 2am and 6am and, in consultation with branch members, we have adjusted our rota this year to better enable us to meet the needs of those contacting us during this timeframe.

Our rota team, although small, are a vital cog in us getting duties appropriately covered.

## **Our work in the community**

Bridgend branch is recognised within the organisation for its prolific outreach and awareness raising activities, which have always been many and varied. Although a few organisations continued to use online access to our outreach services during the pandemic, social distancing inevitably had a severe impact on the amount of work we could do. We are very grateful to Paul, our deputy director for outreach, and his team who have worked hard to re-establish links and resume our regular activities, as well as responding when needed to support incidents and to deal with ad hoc requests from within the community. Thank you for all you do.

More than 20 volunteers have undertaken at least one outreach event in the last year, with a number of volunteers participating in multiple events. This has involved 260 hours of outreach volunteer time, which has enabled us to engage with approximately 1,400 members of the public as well as providing emotional support in the community to 126 people who have reached out to us while attending events. Outreach activities are additional to our regular phone listening duties and Paul would like to thank everyone who has supported activities and events throughout the year.

These include:

- support for events involving young people such as visits to educational premises, attendance at Bridgend College events and support for young carers;
- awareness raising events including attendance at a Dementia Friendly Group event, RAF St Athan wellbeing event, Tesco Superstore in Bridgend who organized an awareness day for the community, attendance at Bridgend Railway Station supporting Samaritans National Campaign 'Small Talk Saves Lives' distributing information and literature to the travelling public;
- a few zoom events to deliver presentations to the business community, primarily sessions on our 'Working with Compassion' toolkit;
- support at several community events within the Ogmore Valley to increase awareness of our services; and
- as always, a rewarding and enjoyable day at the Elvis Festival in Porthcawl.

We are also pleased to have recently resumed some of our regular activities including Feet on the Street in Bridgend town centre and have plans in place to resume attendance at the Princess of Wales hospital. We are also working with South Wales Police Force Custody Suite Team to plan the resumption of our attendance at the custody suite.

Our partnership with the churches in the Glamorgan Heritage Coast Parish continues, with St Illtyd's Church in Llantwit Major continuing to have our literature on display and we have plans to continue periodic attendance at the open mic nights at the church and to undertake feet on the street outreach events in Llantwit Major.

Following requests from the community for our support, we have in the past year spent a significant amount of time in Cornelly. We have had two local awareness activity events and attended a number of venues including, with thanks to the Trussell Trust, the local foodbank. These activities have been supported by a generous grant from Great Western Railway and we anticipate this level of activity to continue in the coming year.

The grant from Great Western Railway also enabled us to arrange outreach training for our volunteers which is needed for listening volunteers to become qualified to work outside the branch. This additional training has almost doubled the number of volunteers we had trained for outreach duty. Thanks to everyone who gave up their Saturdays to undertake the training.

Looking forward, Paul plans to re-evaluate our offer to schools and colleges following the organisation wide review of educational activities, which is expected to be completed later this year.

### **Supporting prisoners**

Supporting prisoners is important. People in prison are ten times more likely to die by suicide than people in the general population.

Samaritans provide emotional support to prisoners in two key ways:

- (i) Samaritans volunteers in branches talk to prisoners who phone us;
- (ii) by operating the Listener scheme inside prisons.

Samaritans also provide confidential help and emotional support to prison staff and to prisoners' families.

Last year the Samaritans received over 500,000 telephone calls from prisoners, and our Listener teams undertook over 37,000 face-to face contacts inside UK prisons.

The Listeners is a special scheme run by Samaritans inside prisons. The Listeners are prisoners who have been selected and trained by Samaritans to enable them to act as "the Samaritans" inside the prison so that they can provide face-to-face confidential emotional support to their fellow prisoners. Listeners have been operating in UK prisons since the scheme was initiated in HMP Swansea in 1991. From these early beginnings the Listener Scheme spread and nowadays there are Listener Schemes operating in most UK & ROI prisons. Each Listener Scheme is supported by volunteers from the local Samaritans Branch.

At Bridgend Samaritans we have a small, dedicated Branch Prison Support Team of volunteers that supports our local prison, HMP & YOI Parc. Parc is classed as a Cat B/C male prison for about 1700 inmates. It is a private prison run on behalf of the Prison Service by G4S. Every week our Branch Prison Support Team spends time in the prison supporting our Listeners. Our Branch has been supporting the Listener Scheme at HMP & YOI Parc since it opened in 1997.

Throughout 2022/23 we had between 24 and 30 trained Listeners in Parc who regularly provided round the clock emotional support to their fellow prisoners. In addition to our weekly Listener support meetings our volunteers undertook three Selection events to recruit and select suitable candidates to become Listeners and we undertook three Listeners Training courses (6 weeks per course) for new Listeners. Our Branch Prison Team works closely with the Branch Recruitment Team and the Branch Training Team to do this and appreciate their help and assistance.

Our Listener Scheme does save lives and the support our Branch gives to Parc means we can continue to help prisoners who are desperate and despairing without judging them.

Our Branch is grateful for the support we receive from the Management and Safer Custody staff at HMP & YOI Parc for our Listener Scheme.

A grateful "thank you" goes to Grace, our Branch Prison Support Co-ordinator and her team of volunteers and all the other Samaritans in our branch who have been there to support prisons and prisoners this year.

### **Recruitment and selection**

Our recruitment and selection team has been kept busy again this year with three sets of recruitment and selection interviews being held for prospective volunteers. We received a total of 55 incoming enquiries (down on the 72 we received last year). 18 of these withdrew for a variety of reasons, 6 did not respond when we contacted them, one transferred to another branch and 30 were selected and moved on to start their training.

The recruitment challenge is one which the Samaritans organisation, as a whole, has been working hard to address as the statistics have shown a slowing down in enquiries since Covid. Our main source of enquiries is generated through the Samaritans Website and comes through to the Branch Management Tool, the Samaritans automated system, with just a handful from direct emails and from Samaritans Cymru Central Office.

We have been using the Branch Management Tool for managing recruitment and training course lists since the end of April 2021. The system handles a large percentage of the administration, usually carried out by a couple of individuals in the branch, which has helped with automated collection of references and emails sent out to potential volunteers.

Our thanks go to Dave, our deputy director for recruitment and selection, and his team for supporting the branch and embracing the system of remotely interviewing and selecting potential volunteers and for being there right at the start of those potential volunteers' journey in becoming full listening volunteer members of Bridgend Samaritans.

### **Volunteer training**

Our training team, led by Gabby, is small but effective. They have the task of training our new volunteers as well as ensuring the skill levels of all our active listeners is maintained through regular mandatory training sessions. They also train our outreach team members to equip them for delivering our service outside of the branch and our branch leadership team members.

Our new volunteers undergo six months of training before becoming active listening volunteers and this involves our core and embedding training, along with a period working with a mentor. Part of the training is skills practice, and we have a small team of trained skills practitioners who use remote skills sessions to help prepare our new volunteers for their role as listening volunteers. This year the team delivered over 160 hours of core and embedding training, which enabled 24 new Samaritans to start taking calls in our operations room (last year 30). The role of the mentor is crucial in helping these new recruits move forward to take calls. Maintaining safe social distancing when mentoring proved to be a challenge. Despite this, the team managed to pair up all new starters to ensure they had the best possible experience from nurturing volunteers who are devoted to helping the development of their new colleagues.

Our ongoing volunteer development has seen some interesting and successful online training modules made available this year. This has included topics such as safeguarding and various updates to our policies. Our volunteers have been steadfast in completing the mandatory modules to meet target deadlines set by the UK charity. We are now looking forward to re-starting on-going volunteer mentoring, which monitors quality of calls and also a mix of face to face and online volunteer continuous development.



We are very grateful to Gabby and her team of trainers, skill practitioners and mentors for all they do in ensuring our volunteers are provided with the training they require to meet the needs of our callers.

### **Support for volunteers**

Listening to users of our service and providing emotional support can be challenging. It is therefore important for us to have a robust structure in place to care for our volunteers. Our specially trained leaders and volunteer care team members provide the support needed to enable our volunteers to help others while maintaining personal well-being.

### **Leaders**

Our leaders are known as the “eyes and ears of the branch.” They undertake leader duties in addition to their listening shifts. They are trained to support volunteers throughout their shift, and after, if necessary, by providing guidance and emotional support.

There are currently 19 active, regular and experienced leaders within the branch, though this number has fluctuated significantly over the last year. Recruitment of leaders from within the branch has proved an enormous challenge and remained a priority throughout the year. Two new leaders have been recruited but we still need more. When recruiting new leaders, it is important to choose people with the right skills and attributes and for them to have the time to undertake the additional workload. The leaders must be available by telephone throughout the shift they are leading. As a result of limited numbers of leaders, the capacity of the team is stretched resulting in some leaders doing two or even three leaders’ shifts a week. The team includes volunteers who take on numerous other significant roles, whether that be in branch, e.g., deputy directors and trustees, and/or the wider Samaritans organisation.

On the plus side, as a result of having well experienced and capable leaders, the team is strong and competent and always willing to learn and review quality. Being keen to ensure and develop quality within the Branch the leader team has developed a Leaders’ prompt list and they also invite volunteers with different skill sets and knowledge to speak at their meetings, such as the Branch Prison Liaison Co-ordinator so as to improve their support to volunteers taking calls from prisoners.

Elise, the deputy director for Leaders, plans to review the role description for leaders in the coming year to better explain the responsibilities and functions of the role to ensure the support structures around the team are clear for potential leader candidates.

Our thanks go to Elise and her team of Leaders, who are vital to keeping shifts on our rota open.

### **Volunteer Support**

The other vital role in our volunteer support structure is that of volunteer support. We have a hard-working team of 12 volunteers, led by Vicky our deputy director for volunteer care. They support all our volunteers helping where

needed to enable us all to maintain good health and wellbeing and establish good working relations within Bridgend branch.

Each team member is assigned a number of branch Samaritans to care for and support. Their role being to ensure they make regular contact to check all is well. This may be worries about their role or a recent call they have taken, or a personal worry or concern. Whatever the circumstances, the Volunteer Support team provides the required back up in complete confidence. The ethos of Samaritans is "The Care of Others" so therefore it is important we care for our own wonderful hard working branch volunteers. Thank you to Vicky and her team for helping us when we need it.

### **Hub liaison**

Within Samaritans we have a Caller Support & Safeguarding (CSS) Hub and Quality & Service Improvement (QSI) Hubs. The CSS Hub provides support for our most complex callers that initially are supported by a phone call to a branch via 116 123 and also offers a safeguarding advice and guidance service. The QSI Hub exists to ensure we meet our core aim of providing a safe, effective, and positive experience for callers and volunteers. Every branch has a Liaison officer who is champion of these services and a contact point in branch, so that we can work together as branches and central services. This might include providing feedback on any caller support concerns we have, likewise any safeguarding forms that we submit, and to be a point of knowledge for our branch on any caller support, safeguarding and quality resources and training. We are grateful to Wendy for recently agreeing to fulfil this role.

### **Long service awards**

It is important that we acknowledge and celebrate key milestones in our volunteers' journeys with us and as is customary, this year we are celebrating the following long service awards with heartfelt thanks for their hard work, dedication, and support.

Elise	5 years
Sian	5 years
Maria	10 years
Megan	10 years
Doug	15 years
Rose	15 years

### **Structure, governance and management**

Samaritans Bridgend CIO (registered charity number 1170848) is governed by its constitution dated February 2016. The charity is an affiliated branch of the Samaritans (charity 757372), and its service delivery is governed by an operating agreement with that national charity.

The charity is led by a Branch Director (who is also a trustee and the Chair of Trustees) and the trustees who are responsible for its general management. The Branch Director and trustees pay due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. Bridgend Samaritans does not charge for the charitable services it provides.

The trustees and Regional Director for Wales consult with all branch members and then select who should be appointed as Branch Director for a term of three years. Trustees are elected annually by the members at the Annual General Meeting. The members are the currently serving volunteers at Samaritans Bridgend CIO. The minimum number of trustees is 3 and the maximum 13.

Up to two trustees may be appointed by the existing trustees if any gaps in expertise are identified on the Charity's Board of Trustees. Such trustees are required to retire and seek re-election at the next AGM. Trustees may serve for up to 6 consecutive years.

In addition, a team of deputy directors support the Branch Director in the day-to-day operational management.

### **Risk management**

The trustees have considered the principal risks to which the organisation is exposed and have developed strategies and action plans to mitigate the effects of these where possible.

Key risks identified include the health and safety of volunteers, maintenance of the branch premises, ongoing recruitment and retention of volunteers and the continued financial viability of the charity.

The trustees complete an annual review of the risks and controls at the charity, this review was completed in 2022 and safety improvements are underway as a result of this review.

### Financial review

We are grateful to our generous supporters who in total gave the branch £33,370 (last year £37,337), the reduction being due to a one-off substantial gift last year.

Running costs were maintained at £21,556 (last year £22,511) with additional expenditure of £6,489 on materials, recruitment and events supported by Great Western Railway (note 8).

The trustees have adopted a low-risk investment strategy and funds are held with Lloyds Bank and CCLA (see note 6).

### Future plans

The charity continues to develop new plans to achieve its objectives for the helpline, prison support and local outreach. In the coming year the trustees plan to make premises safety improvements, the expected cost of £15,000 has been set aside as a designated fund.

### Reserves policy

The trustees have set a minimum level of free reserves of 12 months of operating costs, this amounts to approximately £30,000. Reserves have not fallen below this level in either year.

	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
Total unrestricted – general funds	106,114	112,934
Less fixed assets	(37,332)	(38,094)
Free reserves	<b>68,782</b>	<b>74,840</b>

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

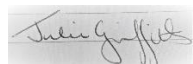
Bridgend Samaritans Branch Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

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

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023.



JL Griffiths, Branch Director and Chair of Trustees

## Independent Examiner's Report

### Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bridgend Samaritans CIO (Charity no. 1170848)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 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').

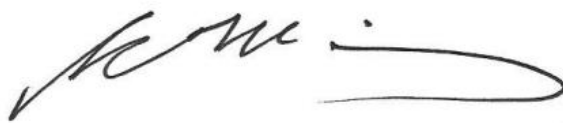
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



21/5/23

Peter Whiting – Chartered Accountant.

Thaw Cottage, City, Cowbridge

## Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

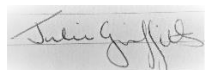
	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
<b>INCOME</b>						
Voluntary income	2a	29,031	-	4,339	33,370	37,337
Charitable income	2b	413	-	-	413	1,637
Interest income		873	-	-	873	23
<b>TOTAL income</b>		<b>30,316</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,339</b>	<b>34,655</b>	<b>38,997</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE on</b>						
Generating funds		452	-	-	452	428
Charitable activities:						
General expenditure	3	21,556	-	6,489	28,045	22,511
Grant to Samaritans (national)		4,366	-	-	4,366	5,286
Depreciation	5	762	-	-	762	-
<b>TOTAL expenditure</b>		<b>27,136</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,489</b>	<b>33,625</b>	<b>28,225</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the year</b>		<b>3,180</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,150)</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>10,772</b>
<b>Fund reconciliation:</b>						
Fund balance brought forward		112,934	5,000	2,150	120,084	109,312
Net income / expenditure		3,180	-	(2,150)	1,030	10,772
Fund transfers		(10,000)	10,000	-	-	-
<b>Fund balance carried forward</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>106,114</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>121,114</b>	<b>120,084</b>

## Balance Sheet

As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Tangible Fixed Assets	5		37,332		38,094
Current Assets					
Bank deposits	6	91,086		91,323	
Prepayments		2,026		2,093	
Total current assets		<b>93,112</b>		<b>93,416</b>	
Current Liabilities					
Creditors		3,380		2,454	
Accruals		5,950		8,972	
Total current liabilities		<b>9,330</b>		<b>11,426</b>	
Net current assets			83,782		81,990
NET ASSETS	7		<b>121,114</b>		<b>120,084</b>
Unrestricted funds			106,114		112,934
Designated funds			15,000		5,000
Restricted funds			-		2,150
TOTAL FUNDS	8		<b>121,114</b>		<b>120,084</b>

Approved by the Trustees on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



JL Griffiths, Branch Director and Chair of Trustees

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 1. Statement of Accounting Policies

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statement followed the guidelines of the revised Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting Charities, effective from 1st January 2015 (the Charities SORP FRSSE version) and uses applicable Accounting Standards.

#### **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.

#### **Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees, in furtherance of the objectives of the charity and have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

#### **Incoming Resources**

Incoming resources are included and recognised in full when deposited in the charity's bank accounts.

No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

#### **Resources Expended**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category.

Fundraising costs are those costs incurred in seeking and receiving voluntary contributions.

#### **Fixed Assets**

Assets costing under £1,000 have been expensed in the year of purchase as they have been deemed to be minor in nature. Freehold property was previously not depreciated, but from April 2022 it is being written down at 2% per year to better reflect the estimated lifetime of the premises. All other assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis at 20% per year.

#### **Taxation**

Bridgend Samaritans is a registered charity and is therefore potentially exempt from taxation of its income and gains to the extent that they fall within section 505 of the Income & Corporation Taxes Act 1998 and section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992. No tax charge has arisen this year.

## 2. Income

2a. Voluntary income	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Donations	24,695	4,339	29,034	30,916
Grant from Samaritans	-	-	-	3,075
Collections and boxes	3,700	-	3,700	3,296
Legacies / in memoriam	636	-	636	50
<b>Total voluntary income</b>	<b>29,031</b>	<b>4,339</b>	<b>33,370</b>	<b>37,337</b>

2b. Income from charitable activity	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Events & raffles	343	-	343	1,449
Sales	70	-	70	188
<b>Total income from charitable activity</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>1,637</b>

## 3. General Expenditure

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Premises	10,135	-	10,135	10,158
Volunteers and training	4,172	1,665	5,837	3,038
Publicity and advertising	-	-	-	-
Materials and literature	2,829	3,221	6,050	2,718
IT and telephones	2,055	1,209	3,264	3,760
Van annual costs	1,217	394	1,611	1,874
General insurance	1,148	-	1,148	963
<b>Total general expenditure</b>	<b>21,556</b>	<b>6,489</b>	<b>28,045</b>	<b>22,511</b>

## 4. Employees and Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year. Trustees were reimbursed for eligible expenses incurred in the year amounting to £1,492 (2022 £4,636).

The charity has no employees (2022 – none).



## 5. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Property	Vehicles	Equipment	Total 2023	Total 2022
Cost:					
Brought forward	38,094	24,823	1,225	64,142	64,142
Disposals	-	-	(1,225)	(1,225)	-
Carried forward	38,094	24,823	-	62,917	64,142
Depreciation:					
Brought forward	-	24,823	1,225	26,048	26,048
Charge in year	762	-	-	762	-
Disposals	-	-	(1,225)	(1,225)	-
Carried forward	762	24,823	-	25,585	26,048
Net book value:					
Brought forward	38,094	-	-	38,094	38,094
Carried forward	37,332	-	-	37,332	38,094

Our branch premises are at 2 Green Street, Bridgend, its freehold is held in the name of the charity and is included above at its original cost. Owning the freehold enables the charity to operate without paying commercial rent. The new 2% depreciation charge on freehold property is made to better reflect the revised estimated lifetime of the premises.

The disposal shown above was a stairlift which was removed during the year.

## 6. Bank deposits

	2023 £	2022 £
Lloyds Bank	12,946	44,051
Lloyds Bank – term deposits	30,000	-
CCLA	48,110	47,272
	<b>91,086</b>	<b>91,323</b>

The Lloyds Bank term deposits mature on 20 July 2023 (£10,000) and 18 Nov 2023 (£20,000). All other funds are available without notice.

## 7. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

Current period	Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
Tangible fixed assets	37,332	-	-	37,332
Current assets	78,112	15,000	-	93,112
Current liabilities	(9,330)	-	-	(9,330)
Net assets 31 March 2023	<b>106,114</b>	<b>15,000</b>	-	<b>121,114</b>
Prior period	Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
Tangible fixed assets	38,094	-	-	38,094
Current assets	86,266	5,000	2,150	93,416
Current liabilities	(11,426)	-	-	(11,426)
Net assets 31 March 2022	<b>112,934</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>120,084</b>

## 8. Movement in Funds

Current period	Opening funds	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Fund transfers	Closing Funds 2023
Unrestricted – general funds	112,934	30,316	27,137	(10,000)	106,114
Designated – building fund	5,000	-	-	10,000	15,000
Restricted funds – GWR	2,150	4,339	6,489	-	-
Total funds	<b>120,084</b>	<b>34,656</b>	<b>33,626</b>	-	<b>121,114</b>
Prior period	Opening funds	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Fund transfers	Closing Funds 2022
Unrestricted – general funds	104,312	36,847	28,225	-	112,934
Designated – building fund	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Restricted funds – GWR	-	2,150	-	-	2,150
Total funds	<b>109,312</b>	<b>38,997</b>	<b>28,225</b>	-	<b>120,084</b>

The designated reserve of £15,000 (2022 - £5,000) comprise funds set aside for premises safety improvements due to be completed in the year to March 2024

The restricted fund in these years was the generous support from the GWR Communities and Education and Community Cohesion Programme which was used to create publicity, awareness raising and recruitment of new local volunteers to support local communities over the last 2 years.

## 9. Ultimate control and related parties

The charity is controlled by its members who are the currently serving volunteers at the Samaritans Bridgend CIO, the charity trustees are also members of the charity.

Samaritans Bridgend CIO is an affiliated branch of Samaritans (charity 219432).

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).