

BRAILLE IT

England & Wales · Charity number 1195127

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2021-07-09

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

Contact

Address 30 Cringle Way
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2ES

Phone 01200426063

Email info@brailleit.co.uk

Website <https://brailleit.wordpress.com/>

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF MEMBERS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED COMMUNITY, THEIR FAMILIES, CARERS AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN THE UNDERSTANDING OF VISUAL IMPAIRMENT THROUGH:3.1 THE PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR ADULTS;3.2 THE AREA COVERED BY THE ASSOCIATION SHALL BE IN EAST LANCASHIRE AND SURROUNDING AREA.

Activities: Braille It delivers free UEB Braille Classes to adults in the community in East Lancashire.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Lancashire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£56,029	£56,728	-	-
2024-09-30	£60,258	£52,106	-	-
2023-09-30	£77,921	£53,654	-	-
2022-09-30	£59,280	£30,389	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ann Jolly		2025-11-13
Dorothy Buller		2020-12-02
Melanie Kilmister		2020-12-02
Rebecca Thornber		2025-02-01
Stuart Ian Barnes		2025-02-01

BRILLE IT

England & Wales - Charity number 1195127

Accounts

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 September 2025
for
Braille IT CIO**

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

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**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

Braille IT continues to offer high-quality, learner-centred education, outreach, and support to blind and visually impaired adults across East Lancashire and beyond. We are pleased to present this year's report to all the funders whose funding has been instrumental in enabling us to deliver our core educational programmes, expand our community initiatives, and invest in future sustainability.

As in previous years, our core focus remains the delivery of accessible braille education, personal empowerment, and improving access to written information for blind and partially sighted individuals.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objects and aims of the charity are:

To advance the education of members of the visually impaired community, their families, carers and others interested in the understanding of visual impairment through:

- The provision of educational and training facilities for adults.
- The area covered by the Association shall be in East Lancashire and surrounding area.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and reviewing our activities to ensure they continue to reflect the charities aims we have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Our objectives and aims benefit the public and local community by enhancing the lives of anyone affected by visual impairments. This is done by providing education and equipment to group attendees at four centres in East Lancashire, which promote learning, support and engagement with others to assist their general health and mental wellbeing.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Educational Impact and Achievements

This year has seen the continued growth and success of our accredited qualification programmes, which were awarded Ofqual recognition in late 2023. We now offer:

- Level 1 and Level 2 in UEB Braille
- Level 3 in Supporting the Teaching of UEB Braille

We are proud to announce that Braille IT now holds AIV (Authorised Internal Verifier) status with Open Awards, allowing us to make direct claims for learner certification—a significant step forward in streamlining delivery and recognising learner achievement efficiently. This milestone reflects our commitment to high standards in assessment and teaching, and builds on the administrative and academic groundwork laid last year.

Learner Engagement and Enrolment

We have successfully enrolled learners across all three qualification levels. Our learners demonstrate enthusiasm, perseverance, and curiosity—echoing the positive emotional and cognitive engagement noted in last year's report. In response to course drop-outs in prior years, we have amended the enrolment process to include a non-completion penalty clause, helping manage costs and encourage commitment.

Community Engagement and Outreach Library & Venue Partnerships

We began 2025 with an unexpected venue closure but were swiftly supported by Clitheroe Library, allowing classes to continue uninterrupted. We are pleased to have now secured a permanent venue at Accrington Library on St James's Street, without incurring venue fees. Our strong partnership with the Lancashire Libraries continues to be a cornerstone of our community presence, and Clitheroe Library was recently nominated for a Connect Award, recognising our collaborative events and contributions.

National Lottery Open Week

As part of National Lottery Open Week (March 2025), Braille IT ran open events across our venues. Free Braille taster sessions, workshops, and information days were delivered in Burnley, Clitheroe, Accrington, Blackburn, and Mill Hill. We saw an increase in enquiries and learner registrations as a direct result of these activities.

Literacy and Cultural Engagement

We continue to provide free transcription services to promote braille literacy and accessibility. Highlights from this year include:

- Production of a Braille guidebook for Gawthorpe Hall and Clitheroe Museum exhibitions.
- Transcription of two local authors' works (Andrew and Shirley) into Braille, which are being archived nationally.
- Collaboration with author and actor Michael Davis, who led a creative writing session and is working with us to make his publications accessible in Braille.
- Secured permissions from JK Rowling's publisher and author Neil Gaiman to use excerpts of their work in braille classroom settings.

Media and Public Profile

Our profile has continued to rise through:

- Social media campaigns
- Flyers, radio and press features
- SEND magazine interviews
- A visit from BBC Northwest Tonight (February 2025), which included learner interviews and classroom filming

We were also delighted to receive a visit from Emma of the National Lottery in February 2025, who visited the Clitheroe class and reported very positively on our impact.

Awards and Recognition

In May 2025, our management committee Chairperson, Chris Tattersall, was awarded the Clitheroe Town Award in recognition of his outstanding voluntary service and contributions to the visually impaired community. This honour highlights not only Chris's commitment, but the impact of Braille IT's work across East Lancashire.

Events and Activities

We've continued to offer Braille IT Extend, our extracurricular programme to reduce social isolation and improve wellbeing. Activities have included:

- Cultural cooking sessions
- Author visits
- National Trust visits (e.g. Gawthorpe Hall)
- Creative workshops with Cultrapedia
- Educational participation in Hi VIS Fortnight (June 2025)

In response to learner requests, we are currently planning future events, including ski slope snowboarding, theatre and spa trips. These will be risk assessed and delivered based on available funding and sufficient sighted volunteer support.

Schools and Youth Engagement

Braille IT has expanded engagement with schools. This year, we participated in:

- Ribblesdale High School's Wellbeing Day, educating students about braille, blindness, and guide dogs
- Supporting local SEND teachers and school staff through guidance, resources, and taster sessions

Wellbeing and Social Impact

Learner wellbeing continues to be a major focus. We provide safe spaces for connection and support, and address issues like anxiety, depression, isolation, and accessibility challenges. Braille IT is proud to still be recognised by the NHS as a Social Prescribing organisation for the fourth consecutive year.

Professional Development

Braille IT staff and volunteers have invested significantly in their Continued Professional Development (CPD). This year's CPD has included:

- AIV Training (Open Awards)
- UEB Braille Literacy (RNIB & UEB Online)
- Mentor and Coaching Certificate (Level 3)
- Safeguarding, Assessment, Inclusion and Equality
- Bullying and Harassment
- Health & Safety (IOSH accredited)
- HMRC Digital Transition Workshop
- CPD aligned with OFQUAL requirements

Volunteering and Skills Development

We currently have six classroom volunteers. Several are now progressing to professional qualifications or employment thanks to experience gained with Braille IT. We believe in empowering our volunteers by involving them in planning, delivery and service development-making our model truly community-led.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Sustainability and Environment

We continue to embed sustainable practices in fundraising, delivery, and resource use:

- Use of electric vehicles for travel
- Hybrid working to reduce travel emissions
- Sustainable printing (FSC-certified materials, less packaging)
- Reuse of undated promotional materials
- Engaging suppliers with strong environmental commitments

A Green Plan is in development to ensure sustainability remains at the heart of our operations.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

The organisation's main source of funding is from the application for grants from The National Lottery, local councils and various charitable funds. In the year a total of £56,028 was received, including £54,505 in grants and £1,523 in donations from individuals and organisations.

In accordance with the charitable objectives of the organisation, £11,117 of new equipment has been purchased for use in classes and for lending to our learners. Costs for session workers, travel and session expenses totalled £36,486 with general governance and support costs of £9,124.

Income and costs have led to a deficit of £699 for the year, which are held in reserves for future expenditure.

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity. Their policy is to hold sufficient funds to meet at least twelve months operating costs, as well as to accumulate reserves for future expenditure within the aims and objectives of the charity.

Total funds of £60,611 are held in the organisation's bank account at the year end. This is made up of £14,181 unrestricted funds and £46,430 in restricted funds provided from grant income.

Unrestricted funds are made up of £4,961 general funds and £9,220 designated funds.

FUTURE PLANS

Over the next year, Braille IT aims to:

- Expand its qualification offer to new geographic areas
- Increase outreach to younger learners and parents
- Further develop the Braille IT Extend programme

Conclusion

Braille IT remains deeply grateful to all of the funders for their continued support. This funding has allowed us to break down barriers, expand access to Braille, and transform lives through literacy, learning, and community. As always, we work to ensure every penny spent brings maximum benefit to our learners and their futures.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Braille IT is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered charity; No. 1195127 (England & Wales).

The organisation is governed by a Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees, dated 21st January 2021.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

There must be at least three charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees, or appoint a new charity trustee.

The maximum number of charity trustees is twelve. The charity trustees may not appoint any charity trustee if as a result the number of charity trustees would exceed the maximum.

Appointment of charity trustees

(1) At the first annual general meeting of the members of the CIO all the charity trustees shall retire from office.

(2) At every [subsequent] annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one third shall retire from office, but if there is only one charity trustee, he or she shall retire;

(3) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;

(4) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub-clause (5) of this clause;

(5) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;

(6) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Reappointment of charity trustees

Any person who retires as a charity trustee by rotation or by giving notice to the CIO is eligible for reappointment. A charity trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of at least three years.

Organisational structure

Braille IT is led by five trustees, Melanie Kilmister is the Chairperson and operates under the direction of the Chris Tattersall, and Project Manager, Alison. Our management approach remains learner-centred, flexible, and collaborative. The Project Manager continues to be the operational lead for all programmes and support services.

This year, the Project Manager has addressed a wide range of learner issues, including:

- Signposting to medical services
- IT and digital literacy support
- Financial advice and benefit claims
- Accessible travel and ticketing
- Housing, mental health, and recovery support

The trustees and team remain committed to adapting to learners' evolving needs and continuing to deliver outstanding impact with the support of our funders.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Decision making

Any charity trustee may call a meeting of the charity trustees.

Subject to that, the charity trustees shall decide how their meetings are to be called, and what notice is required.

No decision shall be taken at a meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the decision is taken. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of those eligible to vote. In the case of an equality of votes, the chair shall have a second or casting vote.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1195127

Principal address

30 Cringle Way
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2ES

Trustees

M J Kilmister
D Buller
C Tattersall (resigned 1.2.25)
S Kay (appointed 1.2.25)
R Thornber (appointed 1.2.25)
S I Barnes (appointed 1.2.25)

Independent Examiner

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 30/4/2026 and signed on its behalf by:


Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Braille IT CIO**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Braille IT CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Braille IT CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 30 September 2025.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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.



Mrs A M Smith FCCA
The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

Date: 30/04/2026

Braille IT CIO**Receipts and Payments Account
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	30.9.25 Total funds £	30.9.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		648	-	648	354
Grants		874	54,507	55,381	59,904
		<u>1,522</u>	<u>54,507</u>	<u>56,029</u>	<u>60,258</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Advance the education of members of the visually impaired community		<u>1,771</u>	<u>54,957</u>	<u>56,728</u>	<u>52,106</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(249)	(450)	(699)	8,152
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>14,430</u>	<u>46,880</u>	<u>61,310</u>	<u>53,158</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>14,181</u>	<u>46,430</u>	<u>60,611</u>	<u>61,310</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Assets and Liabilities
30 September 2025

	2025	2024
	Total funds £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank	60,611	61,310
LIABILITIES		
Accruals	(1,260)	(1,200)
ASSETS		
Grant income	4,503	-
Retained for own use - equipment	33,130	22,024
	<u>96,984</u>	<u>82,134</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 30/04/2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
S I Barnes - Trustee *S I Barnes*

.....
R Thornber - Trustee *R Thornber*

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

In accordance with guidance from the Charities Commission, receipts and payments reported in this period include all those for the period covering 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025.

Income

Income is recognised when it is received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when it is paid.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 September 2025 nor for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Trustees' expenses

The charity reimbursed Chris Tattersall a total of £180 for mobile telephone costs incurred while performing voluntary services on behalf of the organisation. Expenses reimbursed for the year ended 30 September 2024 were £625.20.

3. COMPARATIVES FOR THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	354	-	354
Grants	6,400	53,504	59,904
	<u>6,754</u>	<u>53,504</u>	<u>60,258</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Advance the education of members of the visually impaired community	<u>(228)</u>	<u>52,334</u>	<u>52,106</u>
NET INCOME	6,983	1,169	8,152
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>7,447</u>	<u>45,711</u>	<u>53,158</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>14,430</u>	<u>46,880</u>	<u>61,310</u>

4. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**Restricted Funds**

	2025	2024
	£	£
INCOME		
Donations	-	-
Braille IT	-	-
Grants	54,505	53,505
	<u>54,505</u>	<u>53,505</u>
Total restricted income	54,505	53,505
EXPENDITURE		
AGM	1,150	416
Insurance	283	251
Repairs	1,000	1,556
Excursions	-	3,495
Printing, Postage & Stationary	884	1,643
Electrical / Computer Equipment	11,106	3,683
Volunteer Travel & Expenses	550	616
Sessional Workers	32,650	32,252
Volunteer Gifts	179	113
Venue Hire	449	502
Consumables/ PPE	386	17
Refreshments	364	525
Training	2,933	3,565
Membership Fees	979	1,483
Mobile Phone	585	540
Marketing	203	173
Independent Examination	1,200	1,440
Bank Charges	54	64
	<u>54,955</u>	<u>36,725</u>
Total restricted expenditure	54,955	36,725
TRANSFERS TO UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		
Total transfers to unrestricted funds	-	-
Restricted funds carried forward	<u>46,430</u>	<u>46,880</u>

Restricted funds carried forwards are split between the following funders-

Hedley Foundation	815	3,594
RVBC - Voluntary Organisation Grant	3,597	3,597
Albert Hunt Trust	2,000	2,000
HRVCVS	3,620	3,620
LCC Arts and Culture Fund	4,321	4,321
The National Lottery Community Fund	33,977	29,748
Fort Vale Foundation	(1,900)	-
	<u>46,430</u>	<u>46,880</u>
Restricted funds carried forward	<u>46,430</u>	<u>46,880</u>

The negative fund for the Fort Vale Foundation is for expenditure incurred for an awarded grant which was not received into the bank account at the year end but was banked on 10 October 2025.

4. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Designated Funds

Designated funds have been classed as such by the charity as funds which have been received but which have no restricted covenants. The charity has separated them so that they can report back to the donor as to how and when the funds have been expended.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Ulverston Trust	372	372
Garfield Weston	-	917
Co-op	1,595	1,095
LCC Disabled Champions	1,000	1,000
Tesco Groundworks	2,000	1,625
Donation Ribble Valley Talking Books	3	856
Lancashire & Cumbria Integrated Care Board	<u>4,250</u>	<u>4,250</u>
Total designated funds	<u><u>9,220</u></u>	<u><u>3,168</u></u>

5. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 30 September 2025.

Braille IT CIO**Detailed Receipts and Payments Account
for the Year Ended 30 September 2025**

	30.9.25 £	30.9.24 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	648	354
Grants	<u>55,381</u>	<u>59,904</u>
	<u>56,029</u>	<u>60,258</u>
Total incoming resources	56,029	60,258
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Electrical/ computer equip	11,106	3,683
Volunteer travel & expenses	3,086	475
Session Workers	32,650	32,252
Venue Hire	386	502
Excursions	-	4,060
Refreshments	<u>364</u>	<u>526</u>
	47,592	41,498
Support costs		
Management		
AGM	1,150	416
Insurance	283	251
Printing, postage & stationary	884	1,643
Consumables/ PPE	449	17
Memberships	979	1,483
Training	2,933	3,565
Marketing	203	173
Repairs & renewables	<u>1,001</u>	<u>1,556</u>
	7,882	9,104
Finance		
Bank charges	54	64
Governance costs		
Independent Examiners Fee	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,440</u>
Total resources expended	<u>56,728</u>	<u>52,106</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(699)</u>	<u>8,152</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

BRILLE IT

England & Wales - Charity number 1195127

Accounts

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 September 2024
for
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Braille IT CIO

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objects and aims of the charity are:

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- The provision of educational and training facilities for adults.
- The area covered by the Association shall be in East Lancashire and surrounding area.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and reviewing our activities to ensure they continue to reflect the charities aims we have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Our objectives and aims benefit the public and local community by enhancing the lives of anyone affected by visual impairments. This is done by providing education and equipment to group attendees at four centres in East Lancashire, which promote learning, support and engagement with others to assist their general health and mental wellbeing.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The work that Braille IT does and its effectiveness has been evident in feedback we have received and the engagement of new learners from a wide geographical areas. Braille IT are making a difference to people's lives and transforming how people learn braille; they are excited, curious, and have a sense of ownership over their learning. Learner engagement and commitment is evident in the quantity and quality of a learner's participation in their course. It encompasses both cognitive and emotional aspects, where learners not only understand and process information but also connect with the subject matter on a personal level. The ability to read and write braille provides the vital access to the written word that sighted people have. It can mean greater equality, enabling blind and partially sighted people to have the use, power, fluidity and enjoyment of the written word that sighted people have.

Braille IT are very grateful for the funding received from the National Lottery for a second year that has made this possible.

In December 2023 Braille IT successfully achieved Ofqual status for three qualifications. Level 1 and 2 in UEB Braille and Level 3 Supporting the Teaching of UEB Braille. This has been a huge learning curve for us at Braille IT and we have spent many hours in preparing the associated paperwork for all three qualifications. Recently we have had an increase in engagement with teaching staff who support blind learners in schools. All this has been as a result of our outreach marketing strategy. We have continued to contact schools and community organisations within East Lancashire and are building stronger relationships with National organisations who are working with the visually impaired (RNIB, Brailist Foundation, Galloways & ICEB).

On the 1st February 2024 Chris (Trustee) along with Alison (Project Manager) were joined by Rachel from Open Awards to have an interview on BBC Radio Lancashire's 'Graham Liver Breakfast Show' to tell his audience all about the new qualifications on offer. This was a very interesting experience in promoting Braille IT on the radio. The feedback was fantastic and we have acquired new learners as a result of this promotional exercise.

In February, the University of Cambridge contacted Braille IT with regards to learners who require information in Braille format. We collaborated with the university to provide advice and produce for them the 2024/2025 prospectus guide for new visually impaired and blind learners in Braille format. We continue to provide transcription services for free.

In March, Cllr Hind took part in a blindfolded walk to gain understanding and emphasise the difficulties of navigating around areas subject to road works and building projects in our locality. Braille IT's blind and visually impaired learners provided input into the challenges encountered when navigating the routes to Braille classes. This information was disseminated to the highways team in Lancashire.

On the 9th April Members of Braille IT visited the Sight Village exhibition at Blackpool. Sight Village is the UK's leading exhibition and an integral part of the blind and low-vision landscape, attracting thousands of visitors eager to explore the latest technology, products, and support services.

We have continued to offer extracurricular activities to our adult learners after consultation with them about what they would like Braille IT to offer to support their needs. This social interaction has enabled the learners to connect with peers who share similar interests, fostering a sense of community belonging. This is proving to be highly successful. We have called this 'Braille IT Extend'. Braille IT Extend activities are breaking down financial, cultural and physical barriers. Braille IT are very grateful for funding from various donors in facilitating these activities.

On the 18th May several members went to see Eric Clapton at the new CO-OP Arena in Manchester and a few weeks later we delivered a mediation and mindfulness event at Clitheroe Library. On the 17th July a multicultural lunch event took place in Burnley. All the activities/events have been well received by learners and free for participants. We will continue to offer activities going forward; funds permitting.

Braille IT CIO

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 30 September 2024

On the 11th September, the initial meeting with Lancashire Libraries and RNIB took place to organise an event to celebrate 200 years of braille at Clitheroe Library. This is to be held on 5 December. Braille IT will provide braille taster sessions throughout the day to encourage and educate anyone who wishes to attend the open event. This event will be attended by other organisations who are working with blind and visually impaired adults so it will be a valuable opportunity to collaborate and network with other organisations working in our field of expertise.

On the 24th September we had our second visit to Sight Village which was held in Leeds and was considerably larger. We introduced Braille IT to several organisations and discovered the new franchise holders who are selling the sort after but somewhat elusive Orbit Reader 40 braille display.

In October Open Awards paid their annual EQA (External Quality Assurance) visit. Two members of the EQA team spent several hours looking at learners work. The feedback from this visit was extremely positive and offered Braille IT great encouragement that the learners were fulfilling the required criteria for each of the qualifications that we are currently delivering. Braille IT is hoping to gain 'direct claim status with Open Awards as soon as possible.

Gawthorpe Hall Museum have contacted Braille IT for advice on how they can make their museum more accessibility friendly for blind and visually impaired visitors. We are working with them to produce Braille format guides and information for the artefacts and information points within the museum. We are delighted to be offering this transcription service for free.

Braille IT have been raising our profile within our community. We have attended workshops, networking events, online training, and exhibitions. We have had visits from Social Prescribers, Rehabilitation Officers for the Blind (ROVI's) and Eye Care Liaison Officers (ECLOS). Braille IT launched a support group for parents who have children in education last year. This is growing in popularity and the demographic and ways of communicating are varied.

All learners have different abilities and needs and we are focusing on delivery that is learner centred. We are showing learners that they can overcome barriers and increase their potential and achieve their goals. We are providing a point of contact and a positive focus on mental health. Learners have expressed issues including anxiety, isolation, depression and loneliness and we are working with them either directly in class or remotely to support their general health and mental wellbeing. Braille IT have been recognised for the last four years by the NHS as social prescribers.

Day to day running - The Project Manager has been working well with the trustees, steering group, volunteers and learners and is the first point of call for all enquiries. The Project Manager has been overseeing the entire project including the development of qualifications and subsequent delivery.

The project manager has executed all learning programmes and activities effectively, established process to an agreed-upon outcome, on time and within budget. This has been a great commitment and we appreciate all the long hours that have been worked in doing so.

The project manager is a good communicator and has a wide range of skills and qualifications. There have been a diverse array of problems dealt with this year by the Project Manager; these include, referrals to visual and blind groups and services available in their area, financial concerns, IT problems, access to medical services, general anxieties, work stress, social anxiety, and purchase of accessible tickets, housing and recovery from drug and alcohol addiction.

The organisation has 3 trustees and is led by its members. The organisation is led by the Chairperson (Chris Tattersall), who is also the lead tutor. Chris is blind and works with a Guide Dog called Goughy. He fully understands the needs of the blind and visually impaired community. All the trustees, elected officers, members, staff and volunteers have been affected by blindness or visual impairment and fully understand the needs of the beneficiaries.

We have links with Accrington Blind Society; which has recently been taken over by Galloways, VIC (Visually Impaired Children), The Lancashire County Council VI Forum (Visually Impaired), Lancashire County Council Visually Impairment Team, Ribble Valley Visual Impairment Group, East Lancashire Visually impaired Network (ELVIN), CCG NHS Local Prescriptions to Health, CVS, Burnley, Clitheroe, Accrington and Blackburn Libraries, Blackburn with Darwen Community Mill Hill Centre.

We have 6 volunteers currently in the classroom setting and we believe that providing volunteering opportunities, provides opportunities for development and potential routes to other roles/employment. We encourage volunteers to be informed in the development and delivery of activities, projects or services by bringing in new opinions, ideas or approaches. This helps the organisation to adapt, stay relevant to what our beneficiaries and community need as well as identifying opportunities to improve what we do. One of our volunteers is now working as in mental health settings with the skills acquired with Braille IT. Another of our volunteers is working towards a mentor and coaching qualification in order to provide pastoral support in the classroom setting.

Braille IT has again been looking at ways to reduce our carbon footprint in fund raising and beyond. Braille IT is developing a Green Plan to embed sustainability across all our operations, including fundraising. We have moved to hybrid working and stay connected via technology including video conferencing/telephone and email. We are using an electric vehicle to transport tutors to and from classroom venues.

Braille IT have made several sustainable swaps including; FSC certified paper, sustainable printers, reducing mail outs, reducing plastic items and packaging, removing the dates on literature and merchandise where possible so they stay current. Communicating with suppliers to learn more about their sustainability processes and including this as part of tender processes. Encouraging local events and sustainable transport, and including a digital attendance option where possible.

Braille IT are identifying what the learners want to achieve and delivering it free of charge; adapting our delivery in response to feedback from our learners.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

The organisation's main source of funding is from the application for grants from The National Lottery, local councils and various charitable funds. In the year a total of £60,258 was received, including £59,904 in grants and £354 in donations from individuals and organisations.

In accordance with the charitable objectives of the organisation, £3,683 of new equipment has been purchased for use in classes and for lending to our learners, and artistic and recreational excursions costing £4,060 have been organised for learners. Costs for session workers, travel and session expenses totalled £32,727, with general governance and support costs of £10,544.

Income and costs have led to a surplus of £8,152 for the year, which are held in reserves for future expenditure.

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity. Their policy is to hold sufficient funds to meet at least twelve months operating costs, as well as to accumulate reserves for future expenditure within the aims and objectives of the charity.

Total funds of £61,310 are held in the organisation's bank account at the year end. This is made up of £14,430 unrestricted funds and £46,880 in restricted funds provided from grant income.

Unrestricted funds are made up of £4,315 general funds and £10,115 designated funds.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Braille IT is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered charity; No. 1195127 (England & Wales).

The organisation is governed by a Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees, dated 21st January 2021.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

There must be at least three charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees, or appoint a new charity trustee.

The maximum number of charity trustees is twelve. The charity trustees may not appoint any charity trustee if as a result the number of charity trustees would exceed the maximum.

Appointment of charity trustees

(1) At the first annual general meeting of the members of the CIO all the charity trustees shall retire from office.

(2) At every [subsequent] annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one third shall retire from office, but if there is only one charity trustee, he or she shall retire;

(3) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;

(4) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub-clause (5) of this clause;

(5) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;

(6) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Reappointment of charity trustees

Any person who retires as a charity trustee by rotation or by giving notice to the CIO is eligible for reappointment. A charity trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of at least three years.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Any charity trustee may call a meeting of the charity trustees.

Subject to that, the charity trustees shall decide how their meetings are to be called, and what notice is required.

No decision shall be taken at a meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the decision is taken. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of those eligible to vote. In the case of an equality of votes, the chair shall have a second or casting vote.

The organisation has 3 trustees and is led by its members. The organisation is led by the Chairperson (Chris Tattersall), who is also the lead tutor. Chris is blind and works with a Guide Dog called Goughy. He fully understands the needs of the blind and visually impaired community. All the trustees, elected officers, members, staff and volunteers have been affected by blindness or visual impairment and fully understand the needs of the beneficiaries. We have links with Accrington Blind Society, VIC (Visually Impaired Children), The Lancashire County Council VI Forum (Visually Impaired), Lancashire County Council Visually Impairment Team, Galloways, Ribble Valley Visual Impairment Group, East Lancashire Visually impaired Network (ELVIN), CCG NHS Local Prescriptions to Health, CVS, Burnley, Clitheroe, Accrington and Blackburn Libraries.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1195127

Principal address

30 Cringle Way
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2ES

Trustees

M J Kilmister
D Buller
C Tattersall

Independent Examiner

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 26 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Trustee - M J KILMISTER

.....
TRUSTEE - STUART IAN BARNES

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Braille IT CIO**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Braille IT CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Braille IT CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 30 September 2024.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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.



Mrs A M Smith FCCA
The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

Date: 26 June 2025

Braille IT CIO**Receipts and Payments Account
for the Year Ended 30 September 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	30.9.24 Total funds £	30.9.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		<u>6,755</u>	<u>53,503</u>	<u>60,258</u>	<u>77,921</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	2	-	-	-	5,632
Charitable activities					
Advance the education of members of the visually impaired community		(228)	52,334	52,106	44,257
Other		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,765</u>
Total		<u>(228)</u>	<u>52,334</u>	<u>52,106</u>	<u>53,654</u>
NET INCOME		6,983	1,169	8,152	24,267
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>7,447</u>	<u>45,711</u>	<u>53,158</u>	<u>28,891</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>14,430</u>	<u>46,880</u>	<u>61,310</u>	<u>53,158</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Braille IT CIO

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities
30 September 2024**

	2024	2023
	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank	61,310	53,158
	_____	_____
LIABILITIES		
Accruals	(1,200)	(1,440)
	_____	_____
Assets		
Retained for own use - equipment	22,024	18,341
	_____	_____
	82,334	70,059
	=====	=====

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on
.....26 June 2025..... and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
S I Barnes - Trustee



.....
M J Kilmister - Trustee

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30 September 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

In accordance with guidance from the Charities Commission, receipts and payments reported in this period include all those for the period covering 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023.

Income

Income is recognised when it is received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when it is paid.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	30.9.24	30.9.23
	£	£
Grantmaking fees	-	699
Transfer to restricted grant	-	4,865
Support costs	-	68
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,632</u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 September 2024 nor for the year ended 30 September 2023.

Trustees' expenses

The charity reimbursed Chris Tattersall a total of £625.20 for mobile telephone, travel and DBS check costs incurred while performing voluntary services on behalf of the organisation.

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	<u>4,677</u>	<u>73,244</u>	<u>77,921</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	4,877	755	5,632
Charitable activities			
Advance the education of members of the visually impaired community	12,053	32,204	44,257
Other	<u>-</u>	<u>3,765</u>	<u>3,765</u>
Total	<u>16,930</u>	<u>36,724</u>	<u>53,654</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)			
Transfers between funds	(12,253) <u>16,653</u>	36,520 <u>(16,653)</u>	24,267 <u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	4,400	19,867	24,267
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	3,046	25,845	28,891
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>7,446</u>	<u>45,712</u>	<u>53,158</u>

5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**Restricted Funds**

	2024	2023
	£	£
INCOME		
Donations	-	385
Grants	53,505	72,860
	<u>53,505</u>	<u>72,860</u>
Total restricted income	53,505	72,245
EXPENDITURE		
AGM	416	-
Insurance	251	251
Repairs	1,556	775
Excursions	3,495	2,252
Printing, Postage & Stationary	1,643	650
Electrical / Computer Equipment	3,683	11,682
Volunteer Travel & Expenses	616	1,125
Sessional Workers	32,252	17,149
Volunteer Gifts	113	-
Venue Hire	502	502
Consumables/ PPE	17	-
Refreshments	525	194
Training	3,565	540
Membership Fees	1,483	74
Mobile Phone	540	-
Marketing	173	62
Grantmaking Fees		699
Independent Examination	1,440	720
Bank Charges	64	50
	<u>52,334</u>	<u>36,725</u>
Total restricted expenditure	52,334	36,725
TRANSFERS TO UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		
Total transfers to unrestricted funds	-	16,653
Restricted funds carried forward	<u>46,880</u>	<u>45,711</u>

Restricted funds carried forwards are split between the following funders-

Hedley Foundation	3,594	3,594
RVBC - Voluntary Organisation Grant	3,597	3,597
Albert Hunt Trust	2,000	2,000
HRVCVS	3,620	3,620
LCC Arts and Culture Fund	4,321	7,299
The National Lottery Community Fund	29,748	25,601
	<u>46,880</u>	<u>45,711</u>
Restricted funds carried forward	46,880	45,711

Designated Funds

Minor and negative designated funds of (547) have been reclassified in the year as general funds.

5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

	2024	2023
	£	£
PB	-	1
Ulverston Trust	372	372
Garfield Weston	917	917
Co-op	1,095	70
LCC Community Foundation	-	(548)
LCC Disabled Champions	1,000	1,000
Tesco Groundworks	1,625	500
Donation Ribble Valley Talking Books	856	856
Lancashire & Cumbria Integrated Care Board	<u>4,250</u>	<u>-</u>
Total designated funds	<u><u>10,115</u></u>	<u><u>3,168</u></u>

6. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Braille IT CIO**Detailed Receipts and Payments Account
for the Year Ended 30 September 2024**

	30.9.24 £	30.9.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	354	2,662
Grants	<u>59,904</u>	<u>75,259</u>
	<u>60,258</u>	<u>77,921</u>
Total incoming resources	60,258	77,921
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Grantmaking fees	-	699
Transfer to restricted grant	<u>-</u>	<u>4,865</u>
	-	5,564
Charitable activities		
Electrical/ computer equip	3,683	11,744
Volunteer travel & expenses	475	2,612
Session Workers	32,252	26,784
Venue Hire	502	502
Excursions	4,060	2,252
Refreshments	<u>526</u>	<u>363</u>
	41,498	44,257
Support costs		
Management		
AGM	416	-
Insurance	251	251
Printing, postage & stationary	1,643	835
Consumables/ PPE	17	46
Memberships	1,483	333
Training	3,565	540
Marketing	173	62
Repairs & renewables	<u>1,556</u>	<u>978</u>
	9,104	3,045
Finance		
Bank charges	64	68
Governance costs		
Independent Examiners Fee	<u>1,440</u>	<u>720</u>
Total resources expended	<u>52,106</u>	<u>53,654</u>
Net income	<u><u>8,152</u></u>	<u><u>24,267</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

BRILLE IT

England & Wales - Charity number 1195127

Accounts

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 September 2023
for
Braille IT CIO**

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

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**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 September 2023**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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

Objectives and aims

The objects and aims of the charity are:

To advance the education of members of the visually impaired community, their families, carers and others interested in the understanding of visual impairment through:

- The provision of educational and training facilities for adults.
- The area covered by the Association shall be in East Lancashire and surrounding area.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and reviewing our activities to ensure they continue to reflect the charities aims we have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Our objectives and aims benefit the public and local community by enhancing the lives of anyone affected by visual impairments. This is done by providing education and equipment to group attendees at four centres in East Lancashire, which promote learning, support and engagement with others to assist their general health and mental wellbeing.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Braille IT has successfully submitted three new qualifications to Open Awards for accreditation. These are level 1 and level 2 in UEB Braille and Level 3 in Developing the Skills to Support Teaching Braille. We have been super busy preparing learning outcomes and assessment criteria. (24th October 2023 - Braille IT finally found out from the Open Awards that our qualifications had been through the final process before roll out. We are facing many challenges still with Open Awards to finalise the small print, but we are delighted with the progress in developing these qualifications and have been supported by St Vincent's School - A Specialist School for Sensory Impairment and Other Needs, who are based in Liverpool). This is now a national qualification and is accredited by Open Awards. It is visible on the Ofqual list of accredited Braille accredited certificates. This has taken a great deal of our time, preparing and negotiating with Open Awards to ensure it was successful when it went to panel. We will be rolling this out from January 2024 to learners.

We held an 'Inspire Day' open event on the 16th November at Clitheroe Library to celebrate this news. This was well attended and has resulted in widening our community outreach to potential new learners.

The work that Braille IT does and its effectiveness has been evident in feedback we have received and the engagement of new learners from a wide geographical areas. Braille IT are making a difference to people's lives and are grateful for the funding received from the National Lottery that has made this possible.

Recently we have had an increase in engagement with new mothers who have recently had babies who are born blind and teaching staff who support blind learners in schools. All this has been as a result of our outreach marketing strategy. We have been contacting schools and community organisations within East Lancashire and building relationships with National organisations who are working with the visually impaired. (Braillist Foundation & ICEB). We have been speaking with a PR Consultant called Bob Hardman, who is working on a strategy to promote us in 2024 in the papers, and on the TV in association with Open Awards (our awarding body).

Braille IT have been raising our profile within our community. We have attended workshops, networking events, online training, and exhibitions. We have had visits from Social Prescribers, Rehabilitation Officers for the Blind (ROVI's) and Eye Care Liaison Officers (ECLOS). These proved to be very helpful in discussing with other organisations the changes they are encountering post Covid. We have made strong links with two talking newspapers. One of which is now providing this service to local residents in Clitheroe after our input. The other is reading our resources onto digital files for us to disseminate to learners.

Braille IT has launched a support group for parents who have children in education. This is to create a network of help within the VI community. This is proving to be well attended.

We have also been offering extracurricular activities to our adult learners after consultation with them about what they would like Braille IT to offer to support their needs. This social interaction has enabled the learners to connect with peers who share similar interests, fostering a sense of community belonging. This is proving to be highly successful. We have called this 'Braille IT Extend'.

All learners have different abilities and needs and we are focusing on delivery that is learner centred. We are showing learners that they can overcome barriers and increase their potential and achieve their goals. We are providing a point of contact and a positive focus on mental health. Learners have expressed issues including anxiety, isolation, depression and loneliness and we are working with them either directly in class or remotely to support their general health and mental wellbeing.

Braille IT's focus is about promoting learning, support and engaging learners to remain positive in all aspects of their lives, therefore reducing the strain of the current social isolation. We are promoting the use of technologies, self-care accessible software (e.g. My GP, NHS track and trace health app) and apps/video conferencing for contacting health care providers in addition to remote/distance learning resources and audio books. We have been recognised for the last three years by the NHS as social prescribers.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 September 2023**

Day to day running - The Project Manager has been overseeing the entire project and we have really felt the benefit of her presence in class and out of class. All the learners are very comfortable in her presence and have been approaching her with numerous problems that they have encountered. Information, guidance and signposting have been provided for many things. These include, visual and blind groups and services available in their area, safeguarding concerns at home, financial worries, IT problems, access to medical services, general anxieties regarding lifting of Covid restrictions, access to work, work stress, social anxiety, purchase of accessible theatre tickets, housing and recovery from alcohol addiction.

We have 9 volunteers currently in the classroom setting and we believe that providing volunteering opportunities, provides opportunities for social inclusion, skills development and potential routes to other roles/employment. We encourage volunteers to be informed in the development and delivery of activities, projects or services by bringing in new opinions, ideas or approaches. This helps the organisation to adapt, stay relevant to what our beneficiaries and community need as well as identifying opportunities to improve what we do.

Braille IT has been looking at ways to reduce our carbon footprint in fund raising and beyond. Braille IT is developing a Green Plan to embed sustainability across all our operations, including fundraising. We have moved to hybrid working and stay connected via technology including video conferencing/telephone and email. We are using an electric vehicle to transport tutors to and from classroom venues.

Braille IT have made several sustainable swaps including; FSC certified paper, sustainable printers, reducing mail outs, reducing plastic items and packaging, removing the dates on literature and merchandise where possible so they stay current. Communicating with suppliers to learn more about their sustainability processes and including this as part of tender processes. Encouraging local events and sustainable transport, and including a digital attendance option where possible.

The future for Braille IT is ever changing and we are adapting our delivery in response to feedback from our learners.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

The organisation's main source of funding is from the application for grants from local councils and various charitable funds. In the year a total of £77,921 was received, including £75,259 in grants and £2,662 in donations from individuals and organisations.

In accordance with the charitable objectives of the organisation, £11,744 of new equipment has been purchased for use in classes and for lending to our learners, and artistic and recreational excursions costing £2,252 have been organised for learners. Costs for session workers, travel and session expenses totalled £29,396, with general governance and support costs of £3,765.

Income and costs have led to a surplus of £24,267 for the year, which are held in reserves for future expenditure.

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity. Their policy is to hold sufficient funds to meet at least twelve months operating costs, as well as to accumulate reserves for future expenditure within the aims and objectives of the charity.

Total funds of £53,158 are held in the organisation's bank account at the year end. This is made up of £7,446 unrestricted funds and £45,712 in restricted funds provided from grant income.

Unrestricted funds are made up of £4,278 general funds and £3,168 designated funds.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 September 2023**

Braille IT is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered charity; No. 1195127 (England & Wales).

The organisation is governed by a Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees, dated 21st January 2021.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

There must be at least three charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees, or appoint a new charity trustee.

The maximum number of charity trustees is twelve. The charity trustees may not appoint any charity trustee if as a result the number of charity trustees would exceed the maximum.

Appointment of charity trustees

(1) At the first annual general meeting of the members of the CIO all the charity trustees shall retire from office.

(2) At every [subsequent] annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one third shall retire from office, but if there is only one charity trustee, he or she shall retire;

(3) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;

(4) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub-clause (5) of this clause;

(5) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;

(6) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Reappointment of charity trustees

Any person who retires as a charity trustee by rotation or by giving notice to the CIO is eligible for reappointment. A charity trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of at least three years.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Any charity trustee may call a meeting of the charity trustees.

Subject to that, the charity trustees shall decide how their meetings are to be called, and what notice is required.

No decision shall be taken at a meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the decision is taken. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of those eligible to vote. In the case of an equality of votes, the chair shall have a second or casting vote.

The organisation has 3 trustees and is led by its members. The organisation is led by the Chairperson (Chris Tattersall), who is also the lead tutor. Chris is blind and works with a Guide Dog called Goughy. He fully understands the needs of the blind and visually impaired community. All the trustees, elected officers, members, staff and volunteers have been affected by blindness or visual impairment and fully understand the needs of the beneficiaries. We have links with Accrington Blind Society, VIC (Visually Impaired Children), The Lancashire County Council VI Forum (Visually Impaired), Lancashire County Council Visually Impairment Team, Galloways, Ribble Valley Visual Impairment Group, East Lancashire Visually impaired Network (ELVIN), CCG NHS Local Prescriptions to Health, CVS, Burnley, Clitheroe, Accrington and Blackburn Libraries.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1195127

Principal address

30 Cringle Way
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2ES

Trustees

M J Kilmister
D Buller
C Tattersall

Independent Examiner

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 30th July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
C Tattersall - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Braille IT CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Braille IT CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Braille IT CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 30 September 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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.

Mrs A M Smith FCCA
The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

Date:

Braille IT CIO

**Receipts and Payments Account
for the Year Ended 30 September 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	30.9.23 Total funds £	30.9.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		<u>4,676</u>	<u>73,245</u>	<u>77,921</u>	<u>59,280</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	2	4,877	755	5,632	190
Charitable activities					
Advance the education of members of the visually impaired community		12,053	32,204	44,257	29,521
Other		<u>-</u>	<u>3,765</u>	<u>3,765</u>	<u>678</u>
Total		<u>16,930</u>	<u>36,724</u>	<u>53,654</u>	<u>30,389</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
Transfers between funds	5	(12,254) <u>16,653</u>	36,521 <u>(16,653)</u>	24,267 <u>-</u>	28,891 <u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		4,399	19,868	24,267	28,891
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>3,047</u>	<u>25,844</u>	<u>28,891</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>7,446</u>	<u>45,712</u>	<u>53,158</u>	<u>28,891</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Braille IT CIO

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities
30 September 2023**

	2023	2022
	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank	53,158	28,891
	_____	_____
LIABILITIES		
Accruals	(1,440)	(720)
	_____	_____
Assets		
Retained for own use - equipment	18,341	6,597
	_____	_____
	70,059	34,768
	=====	=====

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 30th July 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
C Tattersall - Trustee

.....
D Buller - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

In accordance with guidance from the Charities Commission, receipts and payments reported in this period include all those for the period covering 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023.

Income

Income is recognised when it is received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when it is paid.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	30.9.23	30.9.22
	£	£
Grantmaking fees	699	-
Transfer to restricted grant	4,865	-
Support costs	<u>68</u>	<u>190</u>
	<u>5,632</u>	<u>190</u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 September 2023 nor for the year ended 30 September 2022.

Trustees' expenses

The charity reimbursed Chris Tattersall a total of £1,412.70 for telephone and internet, travel and subsistence, stationary and other miscellaneous expenses incurred while performing voluntary services on behalf of the organisation.

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	<u>3,200</u>	<u>56,080</u>	<u>59,280</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	153	37	190
Charitable activities			
Advance the education of members of the visually impaired community	-	29,521	29,521
Other	<u>-</u>	<u>678</u>	<u>678</u>
Total	<u>153</u>	<u>30,236</u>	<u>30,389</u>
NET INCOME	3,047	25,844	28,891
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>3,047</u></u>	<u><u>25,844</u></u>	<u><u>28,891</u></u>

5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**Restricted Funds**

	2023	2022
	£	£
INCOME		
Donations	385	-
Braille IT	-	40,562
Grants	72,860	15,518
	<u>72,860</u>	<u>15,518</u>
Total restricted income	73,245	56,080
EXPENDITURE		
Insurance	251	96
Repairs	775	306
Excursions	2252	797
Printing, Postage & Stationary	650	263
Electrical / Computer Equipment	11682	6,597
Volunteer Travel & Expenses	1125	2,644
Sessional Workers	17,149	18,755
Venue Hire	502	728
Consumables/ PPE	-	13
Refreshments	194	-
Training	540	-
Membership Fees	74	-
Marketing	62	-
Grantmaking Fees	699	-
Independent Examination	720	-
Bank Charges	50	37
	<u>50</u>	<u>37</u>
Total restricted expenditure	36,725	30,236
TRANSFERS TO UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		
Total transfers to unrestricted funds	<u>16,653</u>	-
Restricted funds carried forward	<u>45,711</u>	<u>25,844</u>

Restricted funds carried forwards are split between the following funders-

PB	-	1
Hedley Foundation	3,594	3,594
Ulverston Trust	-	698
Garfield Weston	-	5,945
Persimmion	-	274
RVBC - Voluntary Organisation Grant	3,597	3,597
Leathersellers	-	1,000
Albert Hunt Trust	2,000	2,000
Co-op	-	256
Barchester	-	203
Arnold Clark	-	1,000
Red Rose Fund	-	5,000
LCC Community Foundation	-	58
Tesco Groundworks	-	500
Aviva	-	1,718
HRVCVS	3,620	-

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 September 2023

5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

LCC Arts and Culture Fund	7,299	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	25,601	-
Restricted funds carried forward	45,711	25,844

Designated Funds

Restricted funds of £16,653 were reclassified and transferred to unrestricted designated funds in the year, having being incorrectly classified last year.

	2023	2022
	£	£
PB	1	1
Ulverston Trust	372	698
Awards For All	-	-
Garfield Weston	917	5,945
Persimmion	-	274
Leathersellers	-	1,000
Co-op	70	256
Barchester	-	203
Arnold Clark	-	1,000
LCC Community Foundation	(548)	58
LCC Disabled Champions	1,000	-
Tesco Groundworks	500	500
Donation Ribble Valley Talking Books	856	-
Aviva	-	1,718
Red Rose Fund	-	5,000
Total designated funds	3,168	16,653

6. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 30 September 2023.

Braille IT CIO**Detailed Receipts and Payments Account
for the Year Ended 30 September 2023**

	30.9.23 £	30.9.22 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	2,662	24,708
Grants	<u>75,259</u>	<u>34,572</u>
	<u>77,921</u>	<u>59,280</u>
Total incoming resources	77,921	59,280
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Grantmaking fees	699	-
Transfer to restricted grant	<u>4,865</u>	<u>-</u>
	5,564	-
Charitable activities		
Electrical/ computer equip	11,744	6,597
Volunteer travel & expenses	2,612	2,644
Session Workers	26,784	18,755
Venue Hire	502	728
Excursions	2,252	797
Refreshments	<u>363</u>	<u>-</u>
	44,257	29,521
Support costs		
Management		
AGM	-	109
Insurance	251	96
Furniture	-	306
Printing, postage & stationary	835	263
Consumables/ PPE	46	13
Memberships	333	-
Training	540	-
Marketing	62	-
Repairs & renewables	<u>978</u>	<u>-</u>
	3,045	787
Finance		
Bank charges	68	81
Governance costs		
Independent Examiners Fee	<u>720</u>	<u>-</u>
Total resources expended	<u>53,654</u>	<u>30,389</u>
Net income	<u>24,267</u>	<u>28,891</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

BRILLE IT

England & Wales - Charity number 1195127

Accounts

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 September 2022
for
Braille IT CIO**

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

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**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 September 2022**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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

Objectives and aims

The objects and aims of the charity are:

To advance the education of members of the visually impaired community, their families, carers and others interested in the understanding of visual impairment through:

- The provision of educational and training facilities for adults.
- The area covered by the Association shall be in East Lancashire and surrounding area.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and reviewing our activities to ensure they continue to reflect the charities aims we have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Our objectives and aims benefit the public and local community by enhancing the lives of anyone affected by visual impairments. This is done by providing education and equipment to group attendees at four centres in East Lancashire, which promote learning, support and engagement with others to assist their general health and mental wellbeing.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Resuming of classes after Covid 19 has been slow but steady, interrupted several times due to restrictions and lockdowns. We had a temporary move to Padiham Town Hall, this worked well and new learners were attending, these learners have now transferred to Burnley Library.

We have been successful with funding from numerous organisations to support the purchase of new equipment, a visual assistant, stationary, accreditation, insurance, DBS, distance learning materials, additional home office equipment and recently a grant for a successful theatre trip to Bradford.

Burnley Lions had a VISION DAY - Braille IT joined many groups for the day. Letting visitors know what the group had to offer. Braille IT have made good links with ELVIN, CVS (Burnley), welfare rights, safeguarding, children's services, RVVIG, sliding doors, Blackburn Mill Hill Community Centre and Guide Dogs.

We are being promoted on the Clitheroe's Library website at and Accrington Blind Society website.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

The organisation's main source of funding is from the application for grants from local councils and various charitable funds. In the year a total of £59,280 was received, including £34,572 in grants, £24,264 from the previous charity Braille IT and £444 in donations from individuals.

In accordance with the charitable objectives of the organisation, £6,597 of new equipment has been purchased for use in classes and for lending to our learners, and a theatre trip was organised costing £797. Costs for session workers, travel and session expenses totalled £22,128, with general governance and support costs of £1,587.

Income and costs have lead to a surplus of £28,171 for the year, which are held in reserves for future expenditure.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 30 September 2022**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity. Their policy is to hold sufficient funds to meet at least twelve months operating costs, as well as to accumulate reserves for future expenditure within the aims and objectives of the charity.

Total funds of £28,891 are held in the organisation's bank account at the year end. This is made up of £3,047 unrestricted funds and £25,844 in restricted funds provided from grant income.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Braille IT is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered charity; No. 1195127 (England & Wales).

The organisation is governed by a Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees, dated 21st January 2021.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

There must be at least three charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees, or appoint a new charity trustee.

The maximum number of charity trustees is twelve. The charity trustees may not appoint any charity trustee if as a result the number of charity trustees would exceed the maximum.

Appointment of charity trustees

(1) At the first annual general meeting of the members of the CIO all the charity trustees shall retire from office.

(2) At every [subsequent] annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one third shall retire from office, but if there is only one charity trustee, he or she shall retire;

(3) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;

(4) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub-clause (5) of this clause;

(5) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;

(6) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Reappointment of charity trustees

Any person who retires as a charity trustee by rotation or by giving notice to the CIO is eligible for reappointment. A charity trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of at least three years.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Any charity trustee may call a meeting of the charity trustees.

Subject to that, the charity trustees shall decide how their meetings are to be called, and what notice is required.

No decision shall be taken at a meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the decision is taken. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of those eligible to vote. In the case of an equality of votes, the chair shall have a second or casting vote.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1195127

Principal address

30 Cringle Way
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2ES

Trustees

M J Kilmister
D Buller
C Tattersall

Independent Examiner

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27th July 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
C Tattersall - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Braille IT CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Braille IT CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Braille IT CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 30 September 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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.

Mrs A M Smith FCCA
The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Bennett Kirkhope Smith
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suites 5 & 6 The Printworks
Hey Road
Barrow
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 9WB

Date: 27th July 2023

Braille IT CIO

**Receipts and Payments Account
for the Year Ended 30 September 2022**

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes			
Donations and legacies		<u>3,200</u>	<u>56,080</u>	<u>59,280</u>
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising funds	2	153	37	190
Charitable activities				
Advance the education of members of the visually impaired community		-	29,521	29,521
Other		<u>-</u>	<u>678</u>	<u>678</u>
Total		<u>153</u>	<u>30,236</u>	<u>30,389</u>
NET INCOME		<u>3,047</u>	<u>25,844</u>	<u>28,891</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>3,047</u></u>	<u><u>25,844</u></u>	<u><u>28,891</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Braille IT CIO

Statement of Assets and Liabilities
30 September 2022

	Total Funds £
CASH FUNDS	
Cash at bank	28,891
	<hr/>
LIABILITIES	
Accruals	(720)
	<hr/>
ASSETS	
Retained for own use - equipment	6,597
	<hr/>
	34,768
	<hr/> <hr/>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27th July 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
C Tattersall - Trustee

.....
D Buller - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

Braille IT charity number 1195127 was registered on 9th July 2021 and received the entire funds of Braille IT charity number 1117214 on 31st May 2022.

In accordance with guidance from the Charities Commission, receipts and payments reported in this period include all those for the period covering 1st October 2021 to 30th September 2022.

Income

Income is recognised when it is received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when it is paid.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

Support costs

£
190

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 September 2022.

Trustees' expenses

The charity reimbursed Chris Tattersall a total of £464.45 for telephone expenses incurred while performing services on behalf of the organisation.

4. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Net movement in funds £	At 30.9.22 £
Unrestricted funds		
General fund	3,047	3,047
Restricted funds		
Restricted	25,844	25,844
	<u>28,891</u>	<u>28,891</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		
	<u>28,891</u>	<u>28,891</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	3,200	(153)	3,047
Restricted funds			
Restricted	56,080	(30,236)	25,844
	<u>59,280</u>	<u>(30,389)</u>	<u>28,891</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			
	<u>59,280</u>	<u>(30,389)</u>	<u>28,891</u>

4. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Restricted Funds

	2022
	£
INCOME	
Donations: Braille IT	21,508
Grants	<u>34,572</u>
Total restricted income	56,080
EXPENDITURE	
Insurance	96
Repairs	306
Theatre Trip	797
Printing, Postage & Stationary	263
Electrical / Computer Equipment	6,597
Volunteer Travel & Expenses	2,644
Sessional Workers	18,755
Venue Hire	728
Consumables/ PPE	13
Bank Charges	<u>37</u>
Total restricted expenditure	30,236
Restricted funds carried forward	<u><u>25,844</u></u>

Restricted funds carried forwards are split between the following funders-

PB	1
Hedley Foundation	3,594
Ulverston Trust	698
Garfield Weston	5,945
Persimmion	274
RVBC - Voluntary Organisation Grant	3,597
Leathersellers	1,000
Albert Hunt Trust	2,000
Co-op	256
Barchester	203
Arnold Clark	1,000
Red Rose Fund	5,000
LCC Community Foundation	58
Tesco Groundworks	500
Aviva	<u>1,718</u>
Restricted funds carried forward	<u><u>25,844</u></u>

5. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 30 September 2022.

Braille IT CIO

**Detailed Receipts and Payments Account
for the Year Ended 30 September 2022**

£

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS

Donations and legacies

Donations: Braille IT	24,264
Donations	444
Grants	<u>34,572</u>

59,280

Total incoming resources

59,280

EXPENDITURE

Charitable activities

Electrical/ computer equip	6,597
Volunteer travel & expenses	2,644
Session Workers	18,755
Venue Hire	728
Excursions	<u>797</u>

29,521

Support costs

Management

AGM	109
Insurance	96
Furniture	306
Printing, postage & stationary	263
Consumables/ PPE	<u>13</u>

787

Finance

Bank charges	<u>81</u>
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Total resources expended

30,389

Net income

28,891