



# *Mere and District Day Centre*

## *(The Rosemary Goddard Centre)*

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### **Mere and District Day Centre Annual Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

#### **Introduction**

Mere and District Day Centre is a registered charity number 1207117. Our registered address is Rosemary Cottage, Dark Lane, Mere, Warminster, BA12 6DT.

#### **Trustees during the period**

Jane Mason (Chair)

Andrew Thomas

Hermione Ward

Frank Marshall

Peter Gane

Julia Cole (appointed 15/5/2024)

#### **Structure**

Mere and District Day Centre was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and is governed by an Association Model Constitution. It was formed to replace the former unincorporated association structure using the same name from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.

It is managed by the trustee board. New trustees are appointed by the board and undergo DBS checks. Training is provided where appropriate in accordance with the roles undertaken.

#### **Objectives**

To provide public benefit by promoting the health and wellbeing of older people in and around Mere, who are in danger of isolation and loneliness, in particular but not exclusively, by providing a safe place to meet, with a nutritious lunch and stimulating activities.

#### **Chair's Report**

Mere and District Day Centre has successfully navigated through 37 years of change, and surmounted multiple hurdles and crises through and since Covid. In the eighteen months since our reconstitution as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation we have done amazingly well financially, and in all ways relating to regulatory compliance, systems and processes, policy development, training and development etc. I have no hesitation in saying we are a well-founded, professionally run organisation, of which the community of Mere and District can be proud. This is recognised in the support we have gained from national funding bodies, as well as local businesses and organisations.

However, the current socio-economic climate is unlike anything we have faced before. In common with charities across the nation, we are facing difficulties which threaten our very existence. In general, charities are being asked to do more and more with less resources, while the demand for services escalates. This is reflected in our own experience at MDC, so I want to use this year's report to consider the specific risks we currently face.

1. **Funding:** our fundraising thus far has been amazingly successful, as the Treasurer's Report highlights. Of course, our success cannot be guaranteed into 2026/27 and beyond, with all funders experiencing hugely increased demands. On-going fundraising is, therefore, a permanent priority, which necessitates having a constant eye to potential sources, and the ability to manage grant applications electronically.
2. **Premises:** We continue to rent our premises from Wiltshire Council, but the size and scope of the building is restrictive. With the increasing frailty of our guests, it has become necessary to reduce numbers to 14 at a session so as to accommodate a growing number of mobility aids. As there are no suitable alternative venues in the locality, we continue to ensure that we offer a safe and valued service, albeit to fewer beneficiaries.
3. **Guests:** with an ageing local population, the need for a regular opportunity to get out of the house and enjoy company - plus providing respite for carers - is self-evident; referrals have increased, and we currently have a waiting list. We know from research that many older people would prefer a more flexible, drop-in type of facility, but this would not be feasible in these premises and would require a much larger cohort of volunteers.
4. **Human Resources:** Our thanks and appreciation go to all our volunteers without whom this centre could not exist, and of course, to our Centre Manager and her deputy who give unnumbered hours over and beyond their paid time. The volunteer rotas have a few gaps, so we are currently recruiting in local media for some new people.
5. **Lunch:** We have had successive difficulty in maintaining a consistent lunch supply, since we lost the Fives Court (Care Home) provision in 2020. The Walnut Tree proved a highly successful alternative until it changed hands, and the new landlord was unable to meet our needs. I am delighted to report that the Mere School has stepped into the breach, with a system which is working well. We are very appreciative of the enthusiastic support from Catriona Williamson, the school Head. To cover school holidays, the management team has planned a regime involving visits out (such as to The Coppleridge or Orchard Park), or soup and sandwich lunches bought in. However, this increases the load on volunteers and a more suitable alternative needs to be found in the long term.
6. **Trustees:** I have left our most urgent need to the last because it represents our greatest vulnerability and requires full consideration by the meeting. Trustee succession planning is proving a problem for all volunteer organisations nationally, and we are no exception. We will be losing two key members of our committee this summer. Our current treasurer, Andrew Thomas, will soon be

relocating, and another long-standing trustee, Hermione Ward, is retiring. Both will be hugely missed. Peter Gane has kindly agreed to stand in as a temporary Treasurer, but we urgently need to recruit a permanent Treasurer, and further new blood onto the Management Committee.

In summary, Mere and District Day Centre is a viable and much-loved organisation which could founder if we are unable to recruit a Treasurer and another trustee. We have a major publicity drive planned, using social media and local journals as well as wider on-line platforms. I would ask you all to think through your own social networks and publicise this need, as we work together for solutions that will ensure that MDC continues into a bright and secure future.

## **Financial review**

Key points of financial period.

- Closing funds of the former unincorporated association transferred to new CIO **£22,505**
- Total operating income **£ 26,917**. Total expenditure **£26,959** giving a deficit of **£42** for the year
- The total funds were **zero** at the start of the year and were **£22,462** at the end of the year
- Donations received were **£17,400** from 8 donors
- ASDA product donations total **£300**

## **Reserves policy**

In view of the heavy reliance on grants and donations to meet operating costs, the aim of the trustees is to maintain reserves at a level as close as possible to one year's costs. The trustees have agreed that a designated minimum reserve of £7,200 is necessary to cover potential closure costs if fundraising fails to meet targets.

## **Accounts**

A more detailed breakdown of income and expenditure for the year is available in the form CC16a, Receipts and payments accounts in the following pages.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Mere and District Day Centre

No (if any)  
1207117

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01-Apr-24		31-Mar-25

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Transfer from previous charity	21,744	761		22,505	-
Grants and donations	17,400	-	-	17,400	-
Guest entrance	8,434	-	-	8,434	-
Interest	693	-	-	693	-
Outing		390	-	390	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>48,271</b>	<b>1,151</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,422</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>48,271</b>	<b>1,151</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,422</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Staff costs	15,542	-	-	15,542	-
Rent	2,432	-	-	2,432	-
Guest meals	6,418	180	-	6,598	-
Activities and outings	430	532	-	962	-
Volunteer training	540	-	-	540	-
Promotion	300	-	-	300	-
General expenses	429	-	-	429	-
Insurance	157	-	-	157	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>26,248</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,960</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>26,248</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,960</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>22,023</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,462</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>22,023</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,462</b>	<b>-</b>

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cash at bank	21,637	439	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>21,637</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK

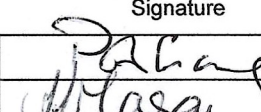
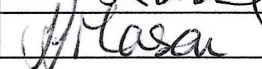
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Funds awaiting clearance	585	-	-
	Prepaid insurance	199	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Owed to suppliers	Unrestricted	398	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	PETER CANE	17/9/25
	JANE MASON	17/9/25





# CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name

MERE AND DISTRICT DAY CENTRE

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 MARCH 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

1207117

Set out on pages

1 - 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025

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

Independent  
examiner's statement

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

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

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

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

Signed:

Date:

13/7/25

Name:

JILL BARBARA HENDERSON

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Address:

WATHERLEIGH COTTAGE, MELS GREEN  
MELS BANBOP