



Wiltshire Mid Branch Registered Charity 205295

RSPCA WILTSHIRE MID BRANCH

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2022



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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The RSPCA Wiltshire Mid Branch operates in central Wiltshire, covering the four towns of Devizes, Melksham, Warminster and Westbury and the surrounding villages. It is a registered charity and its charity number is **205295**.

Trustees

The committee comprises thirteen volunteers with a broad range of life experiences and careers, all sharing a common passion for animal welfare – specifically preventing cruelty, alleviating suffering and promoting kindness.

Committee

Mr. Andrew Sheppard (Chairman)

Mr. Richard Pearce (Treasurer)

Miss Jane Barton (Secretary)

Mrs. Elizabeth Davies

Mrs. Lesley Pawlak

Mrs. Jo Sheppard

Mrs. Lorna Gough

Mr. Duncan Thom (Regional Representative)

Ms. Maddy Goodman

Ms. Amber Dunham

Mrs. Caroline Davy

Contact Information

For communication purposes the principal address is C/o Rangebourne Pet Care, New Park Street, Devizes, the business address of the Chairman Mr. Sheppard.

The web site is <https://www.rspca.org.uk/local/wiltshire-mid-branch/> This site shows details of how to get in touch for animal welfare purposes alongside current news and national and local campaigns/events.

The financial accounts are independently examined by Alanbrookes Group Ltd., t/a J S Weeks & Co., 10 Market Place, Devizes, SN10 1HT. Branch funds are held by Lloyds Bank PLC, Devizes.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Branch is constituted as an unincorporated association. The Branch operates as an autonomous Branch of the National RSPCA subject to its rules for Branches. A committee of Trustees, elected at the Annual General Meeting governs the Branch. All Trustees are briefed on their responsibilities as Trustees prior to their acceptance of the role.

The Branch operates within a national network of organisations that pursue the same objectives, known collectively as the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The network comprises independent Branches operating within a defined geographical area for the purposes of fundraising and the provision of animal care facilities and treatments.

A regional structure which is overseen on a national basis, brings several Branch colleagues together with Inspectors, regional and national representatives. The purpose is to discuss regional funding, co-ordinate policies and objectives as well as provide opportunities for colleagues to share knowledge and experiences. The regional representative for the Wiltshire Mid Branch in 2022 was Mr. Duncan Thom.

Representatives of the Branches, regional and national organisations meet at this forum on a regular (at least bi-annual) basis.

The Branch also has links with other Branches and organisations committed to the same objectives including among others, Cats Protection, Wiltshire Wildlife Hospital and RSPCA Bath Cats and Dogs Home.

Branch Management

The Trustees meet every eight weeks to discuss progress on the year's activities and to agree any required actions. The Branch finances are reviewed at each meeting to ensure donated funds are used appropriately and to mitigate any risks.

The Trustees also examine other operational and business risks and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate any significant risks, such as:-

1. Loss of reputation through error or fraud
2. Loss of income through error or fraud
3. Insufficient funds to cover the costs of animal welfare activities

These meetings are also used to ensure that the Branch operates in accordance with any relevant National Society rules, processes and initiatives – guided by the Branch Partnership Manager.

OBJECTS, OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The objects of the Branch are to promote the work and objectives of the National Society of the RSPCA – to prevent animal cruelty, to promote kindness to animals and to alleviate the suffering of animals through all lawful means – with particular reference to the Branch area and in accordance with the policies of the Society.

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of the Branch's objectives and activities for the year to ensure they remain focused on the charity's aims and continue to deliver benefits to the public. The Trustees have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 1993 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission which can be illustrated as follows: -

Alleviating Suffering

A priority for the Branch is to ensure appropriate veterinary care is available for animals whose owners are on benefits or a low income and may be reluctant or anxious about the costs of seeing a vet. The Branch provides contributions towards veterinary treatment for sick or injured animals owned by local people on low incomes through a voucher scheme.

During 2022 vouchers to the total value of £28,437.80 were issued in the Branch area. The neutering campaign amounted to a further £11,105.80 a separate issue from the voucher system. For a greater understanding of this issue please find detailed below an analysis of veterinary charges incurred in 2022:-

Cats	Female Spay	10874		25.20%	
Cats	Male neuter	4418		10.24%	
Cats	Medical/Surgical	14119		32.72%	
Cats	Microchipping	1027		2.38%	
Cats Total			30438		70.54%
Dogs	Female Spay	622		1.44%	
Dogs	Male Neuter	1410		3.27%	
Dogs	Medical/Surgical	10067		23.33%	
Dogs Total			12099		28.04%
Others	Neutering	133		0.31%	
Others	Medical/Surgical	478		1.11%	
Others Total			611		1.42%
Grand Total			43148		100%

Promoting kindness and preventing cruelty

We use our Community Action Days to encourage owners to take responsibility for routine care such as flea treatments and worming to avoid issues developing into acute or chronic situations, causing the animal greater distress. We provide free treatments, which are administered on the spot by the Wiltshire Council Dog Wardens and local vets, who kindly support us at these events.

The Branch also offers subsidised neutering of companion animals for owners on low incomes, this helps to control dog and cat populations and promotes responsible pet ownership.

Volunteering Support

RSPCA Wiltshire Mid Branch provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work including Trusteeship, fundraising and event participation.

The Branch continues to make efforts to attract new Trustees.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Joint Report of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer for 2022

Another year has passed us by since our last report and as usual before we begin a record of our endeavours for 2022, our thanks must in the first instance be directed to the continued support and dedication provided by the members of the committee and to our helpers and supporters who continue to assist when needed.

Thankfully with the decline in Covid, some degree of normality in our day-to-day living has returned and during this year we have been able to interact more fully with the public.

As will be recollected from previous reports, the Branch continues to financially support the Wiltshire Wildlife Hospital at Newton Tony, Salisbury, following a financial crisis a few years back. The financial assistance takes the form of a percentage of the running costs of the Hospital, based upon the numbers of animals / birds which originate from the Mid Wilts Branch area. All payments are open to debate and approval by the committee.

In line with that arrangement, in February 2022 an invoice was duly received and based upon the figures provided, it was agreed that the sum of £11,547.86 should be donated to the Hospital; this figure would represent our total financial support for 2021 up to and including the 1st January 2022. Details of our contribution to cover 2022 was not available at close of play of this year and will be included in our report to cover 2023.

The Committee are very happy to continue supporting the Hospital which provide dedicated care of injured and rehabilitating wildlife originating from our community area, this in turn has the knock-on effect of helping to reduce the workload of our Inspectors, who, without the Hospital's intervention would be required to attend and deal with many of these casualties.

In line with World Spay Day and as in previous years, the Branch Treasurer Mr. Pearce expressed a desire to carry out a neutering campaign in support of this event which would be run in conjunction with the Cats Protection League (Frome and District Branch), the RSPCA Inspectorate are very supportive of these events. The Committee members approved of this suggestion, and it was agreed that the campaign should take the form previously used, by utilising computer-based application forms which have proved very successful in the past. The event was to run from February to the end of May 2022. Mr. Pearce was ably assisted by members of the committee in monitoring and processing the applications.

At the end of May, at the conclusion of the neutering campaign, 276 applications had been received to neuter 378 cats of which 249 were covered by the Branch, the remainder by Cats Protection (Frome Branch) and adjoining Branches.

During the course of the year, we have, as always, provided financial support in the form of vouchers issued to veterinary practices for owners who cannot afford to take their animals for treatment. Whilst the call for this type of support has considerably lessened from that which we experienced during the Covid Pandemic, it still amounts to one of the larger expenditures that the Branch makes, and whilst financial support continues to be one of our priorities, the committee is

very much aware that for the Branch to continue to be sustainable, some reductions need to be made in this area and budgetary restrictions set.

The Branch had for a considerable period picked up the shortfall for members of the public who lived in the Bath Branch area, particularly in the Trowbridge district and the crossover of boundaries, this was due to the fact that the Bath Branch which constitutes the Bath Cats and Dogs Home were unable to provide monetary support in this capacity, the majority of their funding being directed to the upkeep of the Home.

However, due to increasing numbers of requests being received during 2022, this situation is in the process of being re-assessed and steps are being taken by the Bath Branch to address this issue. To that end the committee decided to take the stance not to support any further applications from people residing in the Bath Branch area. Bath Branch has started to take up this need and are in the process of setting up a fund to provide financial assistance.

Further restrictions are being made in respect of the amount of money the Branch will give in particular situations and when the need for more expensive assistance is required i.e. operations, benefit status would be taken into consideration. This is a very difficult area to police and every case is individual and needs to be considered carefully to ensure that each animal that comes to our attention receives at the very least, emergency care.

We have on occasion been most fortunate to receive legacies from some amazing people which has enabled us to carry out the work which we do, without that monetary support the degree of financial assistance we could provide would be minimal. Fundraising in this day and age is very difficult, the majority of people, due to the rise in cost of living are unable to assist charities as they once would have done.

The committee have considered at length how this might be addressed, and Mr. Thom (trustee) has devised and had printed some leaflets detailing how people, who may be intending to make a will, could leave a gift / legacy to the Branch, this was an excellent initiative and hopefully may allow people to make such a consideration in favour of the Branch in their wills in the future.

In respect of neutering, during the year a number of feral cats from various colonies in our Branch area have been successfully trapped, neutered and returned to sites, sincere thanks are extended to trustees Mr. Thom and Ms Goodman for their hard and diligent work in this respect.

In July, we were fortunate to welcome a new trustee to the Branch, Miss Jess Scull. Miss Scull has previously been involved with various animal welfare charities and her expertise and knowledge will be of great benefit to the branch.

In June 2022 we held our Annual General Meeting; unfortunately no members of the National Society or the Inspectorate were able to attend. The meeting was as usual small in attendance but matters of business were progressed and the meeting was concluded with light refreshments.

At a meeting prior to the AGM Mrs. Sheila Colcomb and Mrs. Claire Maggs had both informed the committee that they would not be standing for re-election. Mrs. Colcomb had been a long-standing member of the committee for some twenty years, but due to age and health reasons felt it was time to retire. Mrs. Maggs, who not only being a trustee but was also the Auxiliary Secretary for the Warminster area, had decided that due to work and family commitments she was unable to

continue in her role. Both ladies would be sincerely missed, at the conclusion of the AGM both ladies were presented with bouquets of flowers and gift vouchers / cards in appreciation of everything they had done for the Branch.

On the 4th September 2022 after a lot of hard work by members of the committee we held a Dog Show / Animal Event on The Green, in Devizes. The event was amazingly supported and contrary to the weather forecast rain held off and we were blessed with sunshine. A number of associated animal charities attended promoting all forms of animal welfare, the day was a great success, and everyone had a most enjoyable time. The event raised £1,801. 90 in support of the Branch.

It may be recollected that the North Wilts and Newbury Branch of the RSPCA have a charity shop located in Warminster, as part of that agreement to host the shop in our Branch area the Branch receive 10% of any profits accrued together with any donations, this year that sum amounted to in total £2,120.

At close of play for 2022, the Branch have agreed that we should hold another Animal Event / Fun Dog Show on the Green in Devizes next year, probably early September 2023, posters will be displayed nearer the date and information regarding any events we have planned can be found on the Branch website / Facebook page. The possibility of holding a Community Action Day in one of our towns is also under consideration.

As an aside, if there are any members or supporters who could assist in any form with any of our events / fundraising initiatives it would be greatly appreciated, the committee are small in number, many with a number of additional responsibilities and limited free time and any offers of assistance would be greatly appreciated.

That brings us to the end of another year, we feel that the Branch has made a very worthy contribution in support of our local communities during the past year, and hopefully have helped to make people's lives and financial situations more bearable.

In conclusion, as always, our grateful thanks are extended to everyone who has supported us in whatever way during the past year either financially or by the generous gift of their time. Our thanks go to our Branch Partnership Manager, Mrs. Rogers, local authorities and Veterinary Practices and our dedicated Inspectors and their colleagues.

Detailed below are bullet points in support of the following topics: -

Collaboration with the National Society

It is a given that we always support the National Society objectives, where appropriate, and within our capability. Guided by our Branch Partnership Manager we use the regular Branch Communication circulations to identify opportunities to get involved.

As part of our commitment to running a properly regulated charity we have established several Branch policies and have adopted the principle of a Branch Annual Review through which we may reflect on past work and to plan future activities.

Collaboration with the Community

This is a core objective for the Branch, which during the Covid pandemic had to be put on hold, however in September 2022 we were able to hold an Animal Event / Dog show in Devizes, which was hugely supported by the local community.

Collaboration with other Branches and Charities

As will have been seen from previous reports the Branch agreed to North Wilts Branch siting an RSPCA shop in Warminster, under the terms of the arrangement the Branch receives a percentage of the profits and all donations received, which this year amounted to £2,120.00 to benefit the Mid Wilts Branch.

Wiltshire Wildlife Hospital continues to receive monetary support from the Branch to assist in their work of caring for and rehabilitating local wildlife.

Collaboration with the Local Inspectors

The RSPCA Inspectors provide knowledge and experience to the Branch which is invaluable, the wide range of issues and problems they face can be seen from the Chief Inspector's Report included within this Report.

Fundraising

Over the years we have been fortunate to receive several legacies which by careful investment has enabled us to fund our current range of activities, no bequests were received by the Branch in 2022. With a view to allowing us to continue to provide the current level of support, the Branch is actively seeking fundraising initiatives.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The total incoming resources for the year amounted to £30,889. 87, the reduction compared to the previous year relates to legacies which the Branch received during 2021. Expenditure for the year amounted to £57,998.37 considerably less than last year following the high demand for veterinary assistance during the Covid pandemic.

It is the policy of the Branch to maintain free reserves for the Branch at a level equal to approximately five years' unrestricted expenditure, to allow for fluctuations in donations and legacies on which the Branch relies. Our Trustees are keen that money should not be retained unnecessarily simply to ensure sustainability.

Free reserves are defined as unrestricted reserves (rather than funds donated for a specific purpose which cannot be used for anything other than the purpose for which they were donated).

In line with the Branch Rules, an annual donation is made to the National Society, this amount is calculated as a percentage of our free reserves. This donation is deducted at source from our share of the Door-to-Door collection that we receive annually from the National Society.

The investment policy, taken on advice following receipt of legacies, takes into account our cautious attitude to risk, with investment funds stored in National Savings Income Bonds.

The Trustees have no designated funds for expenditure in the next twelve months, apart from an amount in the region of £9,000 which will be donated to the Wiltshire Wildlife Hospital during 2023.

FUTURE PLANS

Together with our regular and continuing support provided to those in need of financial veterinary assistance, our plans include a neutering campaign in support of World Spay Day 2023 and an Animal Event / Dog show in September 2023.

We continue to look to increase our Volunteer / Trustee base with a view to bringing fresh ideas into the group.

We will continue to work with our local Inspectors, supporting them on specific animal welfare projects as identified by them.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales require the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs and the net incoming and outgoing resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, Trustees are required to: -

1. Select suitable policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
3. Prepare financial statements on a going-concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Branch will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open, to safeguard the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

So far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware. Additionally, the Trustees have taken all the steps needed in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Charity's auditors are aware of that information.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF
CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**

WILTSHIRE MID BRANCH

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 205295

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS –
WILTSHIRE MID BRANCH**
Report of the Independent Examiner
**To The Officers and Committee of Royal Society for the Prevention of
Cruelty to Animals – Wiltshire Mid Branch**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 3 to 5.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

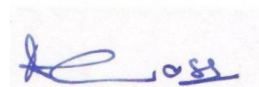
Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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



.....
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd t/a J S Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire SN10 1HT

7 June 2023

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS -
WILTSHIRE MID BRANCH**

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

2021		2022
£		£
	Accumulated Fund	
130,157.61	Balance Brought Forward	133,571.93
	Add Surplus of Income	
3,414.32	Over Expenditure	-.-
	Deduct Excess of Expenditure	
(-.-)	Over Income	(27,108.50)
----- 133,571.93 =====		----- 106,463.43 =====
	Represented By:	
	Investments	
120,000.00	National Savings Income Bonds	100,000.00
22,000.19	Bank Deposit Account	15,010.94
	Current Assets	
9,795.60	Bank Current Account	2,316.30
----- 151,795.79 (18,223.86) ----- 133,571.93 =====		----- 117,327.24 (10,863.81) ----- 106,463.43 =====

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS -
WILTSHIRE MID BRANCH**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

2021	INCOME	2022
£		£
837.17	Subscriptions and Donations	2,926.66
588.40	Warminster Shop – Share of Profit	1,828.00
2337.92	Warminster Shop – Donations	292.00
-.-	Dog Show Receipts	1,801.90
64,898.47	Legacies	-.-
5,252.89	BEF Donation Refunded	-.-
24,134.00	Door to Door Collection	23,218.00
-----		-----
98,048.85		30,066.56
	Investment Income	
24.19	Interest Received	823.31
-----		-----
98,073.04		30,889.87
=====		=====

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS -
WILTSHIRE MID BRANCH**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

2021		EXPENDITURE	2022	
£	£		£	£
1,378.00		Branch Contribution to RSPCA	551.00	
52,874.62		Veterinary Fees – General	28,437.80	
18,274.71		Neutering Campaigns	11,105.38	
4,942.23		Feral Neutering/Rehoming	3,604.42	
3,862.92		Feral TNR Expenses	3374.42	
403.13		Goods Purchased	145.88	
7.00		Bank Charges	-.-	
360.00		Independent Examiner's Fees	360.00	
275.72		Telephone	296.05	
11,547.86		Wildlife Hospital	9,000.00	
-.-		Dog Show Expenses	279.50	
79.42		VAT Repayment	-.-	
94.00		Room Hire	180.00	
35.00		ICO Fees	35.00	
524.11		Insurance	628.92	
-----	94,658.72		-----	57,998.37
		Surplus of Income over Expenditure		
	3,414.32	Carried to Accumulated Fund		-.-
		Excess of Expenditure over Income		
	(-.-)	Carried to Accumulated Fund		(27,108.50)
-----			-----	
	98,073.04			30,889.87
=====			=====	

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR YEAR ENDING 2022

RSPCA WILTSHIRE MID BRANCH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29th JUNE 2022

IN THE NURSTEED CENTRE, NURSTEED ROAD, DEVIZES

Introduction

The Chairman, Mr. Sheppard opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Apologies for Absence

Mrs. Gail Pearce

Mrs. Liz Davies

Mrs. Caroline Davy

Mrs. Lorna Gough

Miss Maddy Goodman

Mrs. Donna Rogers (BPM)

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (25/08/21) were approved and signed.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Joint Report of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer

The Chairman drew the meetings attention to the Annual Report for 2021 and specifically the Joint Report from the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, the Chairman asked whether there were any comments / questions in relation to the report – none were forthcoming. The Chairman thanked the Secretary for compilation of the Report.

Adoption of the Accounts / Election of the Auditors

The Chairman drew the meetings attention to the financial accounts as detailed in the Annual Report requesting any comments be directed to Mr. Pearce (Treasurer). No issues were raised, and the Chairman requested a proposer and seconder for adoption of the accounts – Mr. Duncan Thom proposed, and Ms. Amber Dunham seconded, the accounts were duly adopted.

The Chairman requested the committee's approval of the re-election of JS Weeks & Co., of Devizes as Auditors, Mr. Duncan Thom proposed, and Mrs. Lesley Pawlak seconded the proposal, JS Weeks and & Co., were duly elected.

Election of the Committee

The Chairman drew the meetings attention to the ballot papers which had been circulated with eleven nominees standing for election, in the absence of Mrs. Rogers (BPM) or anyone else from the Inspectorate, Mr. Sheppard asked Mrs. Barbara Myers, ex Chairman of the Branch and as someone unbiased, whether she would count the votes, Mrs. Myers readily agreed and having counted the papers Mrs. Myers announced that all nominees had received 100% of the votes and were duly elected as Committee Members for 2022/2023.

Chief Inspector's Report

In the absence of anyone from the Inspectorate attending the AGM the Chairman drew the meetings attention to the Chief Inspector's Report which was incorporated into the Annual Report, having been compiled by Chief Inspector Lewis Taylor, Manager of the re-structured Dorset / Wiltshire group of the Inspectorate.

Any Other Business

The Chairman concluded the meeting by thanking two members of the previous committee, Mrs. Sheila Colcomb and Mrs. Claire Maggs who had decided not to stand for re-election. Mrs. Colcomb has been involved with the RSPCA and the Branch in particular for many years and had decided the time was right to retire, Mrs. Maggs who was also a long serving member was standing down due to increased family and work commitments, both were sincerely thanked for their years of support and dedication to the Branch and were presented with bouquets of flowers, cards and gift vouchers for Marks and Spencer in recognition of everything they had contributed to the Branch.

Mr. David Myers asked for clarification with regard to the monies received from the Branch Emergency Fund, Mr. Pearce (Treasurer) explained that these were monies which had been refunded following closure of the BEF which had been set up during COVID to support Branches who were struggling to continue. Mr. Myers was happy with the response.

The Chairman concluded the meeting by expressing his thanks to the committee for all their work and support over the year with particular reference to the Treasurer and the Secretary.

There being no other business, the meeting was concluded and was followed by light refreshments.



Please help us to continue our work by becoming a member. Details on how to join the different options provided are shown on the main RSPCA website:

<https://www.rspca.org.uk/getinvolved/becomeamember>

You can find out about and donate to your local Branch (RSPCA Wiltshire Mid Branch) through our web pages: -

<https://www.rspca.org.uk/local/wiltshire-mid-branch>

If you live in our Branch area and need advice or to apply for financial support with your companion pets please email us on:-

rspcawiltsmid@gmail.com

or, in an emergency, please take your pet to a vet and ask the vet to call us to discuss, if you receive state benefits and are in need of financial assistance, how we may be able to help.

To report incidents of cruelty or an animal in distress call the RSPCA National Society 24 hour cruelty line:-

0300 1234 999

You can also use the secure online reporting facility on the National Society's web page: -

<https://rspca.org.uk/utilities/contactus/reportcruelty>