



Sight Loss Shropshire

**The Lantern
Meadow Farm Drive
Shrewsbury
SY1 4NG**

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Tel 07778 956096

Registered Charity No. 215137

**SLS gratefully acknowledges financial support from
Shropshire Council**

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

An Introduction to SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE

Sight Loss Shropshire (SLS) – formerly the Shropshire Voluntary Association for the Blind – was founded in 1922. It is a registered charity that helps and supports blind and visually impaired people of all ages who live in Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin.

SLS is one of the national network of local charities for blind and visually impaired people that serve every part of the country. We are a member of Visionary (formerly the National Association of Local Societies for the Visionary Impaired) and also Midlands Societies for the Blind.

SLS's aim is to improve the quality of life of visually impaired people of all ages who live in Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin. Our objectives are:

- to help visually impaired people to cope with their sight loss and the difficulties this imposes on their daily lives
- to reduce social isolation for visually impaired people and provide access to a range of social, physical and creative activities that contribute to people's physical and mental wellbeing
- to enable visually impaired people to make informed choices about the services and support that they access
- to enable visually impaired people to access equipment and services that they cannot afford to self-fund, and which are not available from statutory services, but which have a significant impact on their level of independence
- to improve or maintain visually impaired people's confidence and mental wellbeing which are often adversely affected by a diagnosis of sight loss
- to raise awareness of sight loss issues and improve the provision of local sight loss services
- to work in partnership with statutory, private and third sector organisations to support visually impaired people in the community

- to act as a local champion of visually impaired people who live in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin by facilitating national and local organisations' fuller understanding of the specific issues and circumstances faced by visually impaired people in our area

Our work includes the following:

- providing free 'Living Well with Sight Loss' courses to visually impaired people, their friends, family members or carers
- providing grants to help visually impaired people to acquire specialist aids and equipment to enable them to maintain and/or regain their independence
- organising and providing major social events, and also supporting a network of local peer support groups for visually impaired people that meet in every part of our area
- providing information and signposting about support and services to visually impaired people; their families, carers and friends; and to professionals working with visually impaired people
- working with our partners to ensure that visually impaired people have a voice

Our Management Committee is drawn from all over Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin. Half of the Committee are themselves either blind or partially sighted, and therefore have real first-hand understanding of the challenges of living with visual impairment.

SLS's work is heavily dependent on donations from local people and the services of local volunteers.

COMMITTEE FOR 2022-23

President

Mrs J. Wynn, Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire – Trustee

Vice-President

Cllr. Mrs. R. Houghton

Chairman

Mrs D. Flint DL – Trustee

Vice Chairman

*Mrs H. Dyson – Trustee

Honorary Treasurer

Mr Daniel Clark – Trustee

Members

*Mrs. L. Clark

* Mr R. Cookson

Miss Gill Dorricott

Mr Tom Downes

*Mr. J. Feehan

*Mrs. K. Hill

Mrs A. Lawton

Ms S. Mitchell

Mrs Yvette Ostermeyer

*Mrs. A. Read

* Mrs L. Rowlands – Trustee

Mrs B. Shingler

Mr J. Thatcher

* Mr K. Whitcombe

Secretary

Mr R.E. Durham JP

Charity Director

Mr Arwyn Jones

Charity Manager
Mrs Swantje Staar-Slogrove

Administrator
Mrs C. Humphreys

Honorary Independent Examiner
James, Holyoak & Parker, 1 Knights Court, Archers Way,
Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury, SY1 3GA

*Denotes a visually impaired person

USEFUL CONTACTS

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL SENSORY SUPPORT SERVICES

Adult Social Care

PO Box 4826

SHREWSBURY

SY1 9LJ

Tel: 01743 250529

Email: cs.sensoryimpairment@shropshire.gov.uk

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

To speak to the Rehabilitation Officer for the Visually Impaired,
Tel: 07976 426483 between 10am and 2pm on Wednesdays

Contact the Wellbeing Independence Partnership

Tel: 01952 385385 (select option 2 when prompted)

E-mail: wip@tandwcvcs.org.uk

EYE CLINIC LIAISON OFFICER

Mobile: 07808 736449

Tel: 01743 261000 ext. 3616

Email: e.chaplin2@nhs.net

ROYAL SHREWSBURY & TELFORD HOSPITALS TRUST LOW VISION CLINIC

01743 261000 Ext 3324

SHREWSBURY MOBILITY TEAM – GUIDE DOGS

0345 143 0226

RNIB HELPLINE

0303 123 9999

MACULAR SOCIETY HELPLINE

0300 3030 111

MEETINGS

The SLS Committee held four meetings during the year.

The AGM was held on 22nd July 2022. The main business of the AGM was to approve the Annual Report for 2021/22, including the Annual Accounts. The AGM also included the adoption of the revised constitution and election of the new President, Honorary Treasurer and an additional member of the Board of Trustees. All papers were circulated four weeks in advance of the AGM date to enable any queries to be raised and answered.

CHAIR'S REPORT 2022/23

2022 – 2023 has been an eventful and active year for the Charity. We are strategically poised to continue and develop our support of people living with sight loss and sight impairment over the geographic area of Shropshire having seen some management and operational changes in our personnel structure.

Last year, our 100th Anniversary was celebrated and we said farewell to several long standing members of the SLS team. Our President, Vice President, Treasurer and administrator all retired. We are immensely grateful to Mrs Penny Whitley and Mrs Gill Halliday for their volunteer support and dedication over very many years. Administrator, Mrs Clare Humphreys, and Treasurer Mrs Wendy Robert have been the efficient backbone of the office administration and we owe them grateful thanks as they move on to retirement and job re-location. At the end of April 2023 we said farewell and thankyou to our Secretary, Mr Robin Durham whose knowledge and loyalty has been exemplary over nearly two decades.

In 2023 the Charity continues to flourish and thrive under a new management structure. Change has been invigorating. In October 2022, Mrs Swantje Staar-Slogrove joined as Charity Manager, and since May 2023 she has been assisted by Mrs Mel Fullerton as Administrative Assistant. Mr Arwyn Jones, Charity Director, supports the team with his experienced and steady hand on the tiller.

The committee and the Trustees have met quarterly. We have welcomed new members to the Committee, and the varied interests and skills of all members enable us to act and re-act appropriately. The Board of Trustees work tirelessly to achieve the goals set, and I would like to thank everyone for their generosity, skill and time in volunteering to help Sight Loss Shropshire make a difference. A special mention goes to our Treasurer, Mr Daniel Clark, who has been an invaluable support at this time of transition.

I also thank wholeheartedly the executive team who have not only swiftly picked up knowledge and skills from the outgoing team, but are embracing the challenges ahead. They are reaching out to increase our support of people living with sight loss through the whole county. We have been successful in finding funding to run courses and to support local groups, and details are given in the Operational Report. As well as continuing to run the popular Living Well With Sight Loss Courses, an exciting new area is in delivery of Tech Training firstly in the Telford and Wrekin area (special thanks to committee member Mr Ken Whitcombe for the initiative) and, later

in the year, also in the Shropshire area. Our annual party, held in May this year, was a resounding success and thanks are due to the Charity Manager for her efficiency in making this big party such a happy event. We were fortunate in gaining some sponsorship, and special thanks are due to the Shropshire Masons, our major sponsor, as well as the Oswestry and Gnosall & Newport Lions Clubs. Thanks also to the guests who generously gave donations on the day. This event is an important day out for so many, and with financial help, we hope to continue the tradition in future years.

Mrs Diana Flint
Chair
June 2023

OPERATIONAL REPORT 2022/23

As the new Manager for Sight Loss Shropshire I have seen the charity go through a time of change and am proud to be part of its fresh approach and new ways of working. Following on from retirements, the organisation has doubled its staffing resources, growing from 0.7 full-time-equivalent to 1.4. Due to the departure from Shropshire Council systems and operations, the Trustees have made the decision to invest in Sight Loss Shropshire's infrastructure to deliver more services and reach more visually impaired people. The team are also focusing on improved marketing, wider reach, meaningful networking and working in partnership and collaborations. Our financial model is moving from the reliance of Council funding to a diversified approach of grant funding, donations and fundraising activities to supplement income from investments.

I would like to thank the growing numbers of volunteers involved with delivering our services and also thank Clare and Robin, who have handed the running of the charity over in such impeccable condition.

SERVICES 2022/23

Information, Advice & Signposting

Enquiries come through to Sight Loss Shropshire via phone, email, Facebook messages or occasionally in person or post. SLS receives enquiries directly from visually impaired people, but also more increasingly from family members, carers, social prescribers or care professionals. Advice given can range from early orientation of where to go at the early stages of sight loss to enquiries for social support, leisure facilities or technical advice.

220 people received information upon enquiry from Sight Loss Shropshire during this period. The advice given to vulnerable adults, their next of kin or carers often provided early support and prevention before situations became a crisis. From practical help (for example sourcing a white cane on short notice before a beneficiary went on a holiday abroad) to making introductions into social groups, Sight Loss Shropshire's advisory and signposting function supports visually impaired people with their physical and mental wellbeing.

Peer Support Groups

Twelve active peer support groups with 140 members of visually impaired people currently meet in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin. Sight Loss Shropshire supports groups where numbers are dwindling and helps to revive or establish new groups, together with national charities like Macular Society or the RNIB. The Sight Loss Shropshire Manager attends some of the group meetings, gives talks and advice, receives feedback and uses the groups as a sounding board. Sight Loss Shropshire advertises all group activities across the county, signposts new members to the groups and supports them financially and in some cases organisationally with room hire and transport fees, thus contributing to a resilient and thriving community of sight loss groups, where its members exchange experience and daily living tips.

Grants to Individuals

Sight Loss Shropshire offers grants to visually impaired individuals of any age, who are resident in the county, in cases where their needs cannot be met by statutory services. Generally, grants are made toward the cost of items of equipment, or to enable individuals to take part in activities or to obtain a service which would enhance their quality of life or enhance their ability to live more independently. Applications for grants must be supported by a qualified health, social care, educational or other professional working with people with sight loss who knows the applicant's personal circumstances and are in most cases being made by a Rehabilitation Officer for Visual Impairment or a member of the Sensory Inclusion Team.

Four grants at a total value of £2,521 have been awarded to visually impaired people, contributing towards independence and enabling communication. The amount of grants awarded to visually impaired individuals has declined over the years, however the monetary value per grant has increased.

Sight Loss Awareness

Sight Loss Shropshire works in partnership with a range of statutory and voluntary services to raise awareness of sight loss issues and improve the provision of local sight loss services. Our employees and volunteers were actively involved in the Transformation of Ophthalmology services at Shrewsbury & Telford Hospitals Trust and the Local Eye Health Network for Shropshire and Telford (steering and monitoring the transformation of Ophthalmology services and also considering the impact of sight loss on individuals and how local services could be improved). As part of the Local Eye Health Network, Sight Loss Shropshire staff and volunteers were

involved in creating an online training module for health and care professionals to improve sight loss awareness, including short films that promote local services.

The impact of our sight loss awareness work is a long term one. The online learning module that Sight Loss Shropshire supported and helped to create will potentially reach hundreds of health and care professionals and thus have an impact on thousands of visually impaired people in Shropshire. Sight Loss Shropshire reached out to its volunteers and network of visually impaired beneficiaries to help provide feedback on local health care services. Fifteen volunteers in total have been involved with this on a variety of levels. Sight Loss Shropshire also helped making some feedback sessions accessible to visually impaired people who are not tech savvy, by hosting group phone calls through its IT systems.

‘Living Well with Sight Loss’ Courses

‘Living Well with Sight Loss’ courses are informal, community-based sessions delivered over the phone or face-to-face, developed by the RNIB. They provide information, advice, support and practical solutions for people adjusting to sight loss and those close to them. ‘Living Well with Sight Loss’ courses are for adults of all ages, including friends and family members of those experiencing sight loss. These free courses aim to boost service users’ confidence and help connect with others to share experience and offer peer support. From daily living tips to newly emerging technology; all our participants take information on board that supports them on their way to independence and quality of life. Our courses are supported by four volunteers with lived experience of sight loss and have received great feedback.

In 2022/23 Sight Loss Shropshire delivered five free phone courses (with four 90 minute sessions per course) to 41 participants. Most referrals for these courses have come from the Eye Care Liaison Officer at Shrewsbury Hospital. The courses are a great example of delivering value for money and working in collaboration with the NHS and national charities. The courses have also proven to be a good interim tool for visually impaired people on the waiting list to receive their assessment through local authority services.

Participant quotes:

“I’m at the start of my sight loss journey. It amazed me how positive the Living Well with Sight Loss courses are and the help that is available. I feel much more positive going forward now.”

“I’m new to sight loss. You’re all telling me things I didn’t have a clue about!”

Social Events

Sight Loss Shropshire held a social event at Shrewsbury Town Football Club in May 2022 to celebrate its 100-year anniversary. It was attended by around 150 people, with the High Sherriff of Shropshire as the guest of honour. The event included refreshments, speeches and entertainment and was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. The day served as a celebration, highlighting the remarkable achievements of some visually impaired individuals, as well as bringing people together and showcasing the range of services available to support people living with sight loss in leading fulfilling lives. Attending events and looking forward towards a special day in the annual calendar is something most people without sensory impairment appreciate and benefit from, but can be very difficult for many people living with sight loss. Providing an annual event that caters toward the needs of large groups of blind and partially sighted people gives our beneficiaries something to look forward to and ultimately contributes towards their mental wellbeing.

Total numbers of people supported through our activities:

555 (excluding people reached through sight loss awareness activities)

Looking ahead

In 2023/24 Sight Loss Shropshire has added Tech Training for Visually Impaired People to the list of its services. A real community effort has gone into the setup of the volunteer-lead Tech Training service 'In Touch Telford', which already proves to be a valuable asset to Telford's sight loss community. Learning from lessons, we will swiftly roll a digital training service out into wider Shropshire from autumn 2023.

Looking even further ahead Sight Loss Shropshire plans to offer sight loss awareness courses for emergency services.

Swantje Staar-Slogrove
Charity Manager
June 2023

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
FORMERLY SHROPSHIRE VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION
FOR THE BLIND

ACCOUNTS & TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Registered Charity No. 215137

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR
TO 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:

Trustee name	Office
Diana Rosemary Flint DL	Chairman
Hayley Dyson	Vice - Chairman
Jenny Wynn	President
Ruth Houghton	Vice- President
Daniel Clark	Honorary Treasurer
Lindsey Rowlands	Trustee

Administrative Information

Principal Office

The Lantern, Meadow Farm Drive, Harlescott, Shrewsbury, SY1 4NG

Independent Examiner

Jonathan Rimmer FCA, James, Holyoak & Parker Limited, 1 Knights Court, Archers Way, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY1 3GA

Bankers

Barclays Bank, 44-46 Castle Street, Shrewsbury, SY1 2BU

Investment Managers

EFG Harris Allday, Church Mews, Ombersley, Worcestershire, WR9 0EW

Structure, governance and management:

The charity was formed by a constitution in 1922, revised July 2008 as an unincorporated association. Its constitution was most recently revised in February 2013 to change the name of the charity to Sight Loss Shropshire, and to allow the election of the management committee every 3 years. The constitution was revised in July 2016 to incorporate a mechanism for the removal of members of the Committee. It was revised again in July 2022 to reflect a change in services since the Covid pandemic.

The charity's Director, Manager and Administrative Assistant carry out the day-to-day running of the charity.

The management committee, which includes the Trustees, meets quarterly. A separate Trustee meeting following the committee meeting.

The appointment of Trustees is determined as laid out in the constitution. Trustees are appointed by virtue of the office they hold, and each is eligible to stand for re-election every 3 years. The Board of Trustees shall comprise up to 8 members drawn from the Committee. The Committee shall comprise up to 24 members including at least 8 who shall be persons diagnosed with sight loss and/or who are registered blind or partially sighted. The Trustees are those elected at the Annual General Meeting as Chairman, Vice Chairman, President, Vice President, the Honorary Treasurer and additional Trustees. The constitution allows additional members to be co-opted to the committee and board of Trustees.

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR
TO 31 MARCH 2023 (Continued)

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

The objects of the charity are defined in the constitution as:

- To help blind and partially sighted persons resident in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin.
- To do all such other charitable things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above object.

Main Activities of the charity are:

- Supporting a network of peer support groups for visually impaired people;
- Providing information and signposting about support and services available for people with sight loss;
- Providing grants to help visually impaired people to acquire specialist aids and equipment;
- Organising and providing major social events for visually impaired people;
- Providing digital technology training for visually impaired people;
- Providing 'Living Well with Sight Loss' courses
- Acting as a local champion of visually impaired people who live in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin.

Financial Review

The charity's performance for the year and that of its funds is laid out in the financial statement on pages 4 to 13. The Charity had a net loss before gains and losses on investment assets of £21,688. This is due to investment in expanded staffing and operations during the year, which the Trustees believe is a good use of funds to further the Charity's objectives. We also seek external funding for projects whenever feasible.

The Charity's investments saw a decrease in value in the year of £41,331 resulting in a net decrease in funds of £63,019. The decline in investments is primarily due to general economic turbulence. Our investments are held on a long-term basis and the Trustees remain confident in our investment strategy, which they will keep under review.

Achievements and Performance

Due to retirements the charity invested in a new, improved staffing structure and operational systems, incurring higher costs. Some services that had ceased during the pandemic (SeeHear Exhibition) have been replaced by new services (Living Well with Sight Loss Courses). The charity held its annual celebration event, continued to support local groups and issued equipment grants to help visually impaired people improve their everyday life. The Trustees believe that charity continues to make a difference to the lives of blind and partially sighted residents of Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. The charity expects its activity levels will increase further in the future.

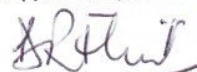
Reserves Policy

The charity aims to keep liquid reserves equivalent to 3 months running cost which equates to £10,000. At the year end the charity had £20,133 (2022: £40,910) of net current assets in its unrestricted general purposes fund.

Investment Policy

The Association's portfolio is designed to provide an opportunity for capital growth together with the provision of a regular income, meeting both short and medium term needs. The charity has appointed a Fund Manager to manage the investment on their behalf. The Trustees discuss and review investment strategy with the fund manager on a regular basis.

Approved by the trustees on 6th July 2023 and signed on their behalf by



D Flint
Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
Registered Charity No. 215137

I report on the accounts of the Association for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on pages 4 to 13.

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 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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 to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave 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.

 6/7/2023
Jonathan Rimmer
Chartered Accountant
James, Holyoak & Parker Ltd
1 Knights Court, Archers Way,
Battlefield Enterprise Park,
Shrewsbury, SY1 3GA

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
Registered Charity No. 215137

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2023

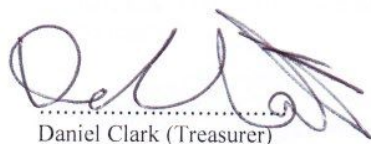
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income					
Donations, Legacies and Grants	2	6,546	550	7,096	6,318
Income from Charitable activities	3	-	-	-	-
Income from other trading activities	4	1,006	-	1,006	998
Investment Income	4	23,860	43	23,903	19,198
Total Income		31,412	593	32,005	26,514
Expenditure					
Cost of Raising Funds:					
<i>Costs of generating voluntary income</i>	5	5,999	-	5,999	912
<i>Fundraising costs</i>	5	184	-	184	677
<i>Investment Management Costs</i>		4,876	-	4,876	-
<i>Costs of Charitable activities</i>	5	39,743	-	39,743	20,827
<i>Other Governance Costs</i>	5	2,891	-	2,891	441
Total Expenditure		53,693	-	53,693	22,857
Net Income (expenditure)		(22,281)	593	(21,688)	3,657
Gross transfers between funds		550	(550)	-	-
Net Income (expenditure) before other recognised gains		(21,731)	43	(21,688)	3,657
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Profit or (loss) on disposal of fixed assets		-	-	-	-
Gains and (losses) on investment assets	9	(41,331)	-	(41,331)	30,406
Net Movement in Funds		(63,062)	43	(63,019)	34,063
Reconciliation of Funds:					
Total Funds brought forward		620,330	20,372	640,702	606,639
Total Funds carried forward	13,14	557,268	20,415	577,683	640,702

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
Registered Charity No. 215137

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets	8	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	9	537,135	-	-	537,135	578,466
		537,135	-	-	537,135	578,466
Current assets						
Debtors	10	300	-	-	300	2,092
Cash at bank and in hand	11	24,333	20,415	-	44,748	60,174
		24,633	20,415	-	45,048	62,266
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(4,500)	-	-	(4,500)	(30)
Net Current Assets		20,133	20,415	-	40,548	62,236
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year		-	-	-	-	-
Net Assets		557,268	20,415	-	577,683	640,702
Funds of the charity						
Unrestricted funds	14,15	557,268	-	-	557,268	620,330
Restricted funds	13,15	-	20,415	-	20,415	20,372
Endowment funds		-	-	-	-	-
Total funds		557,268	20,415	-	577,683	640,702

Approved by the Trustees on 6th July 2023 and signed on their behalf


Daniel Clark (Treasurer)


Diana Flint (Chair)

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
Registered Charity No. 215137

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of preparation of accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

Sight Loss Shropshire meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

(b) Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable and the amount can be measured reliably. The income from fundraising ventures is shown gross, with the associated costs included in fundraising costs. Donated services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt. Donations and Legacies are recognised when they have been communicated in writing and the amount and settlement date is known. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

(c) Value Added Tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the Charity, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(d) Fundraising costs

Fundraising expenditure comprises costs incurred in inducing people and organisations to contribute financially to the Charity's work. This includes the costs of staging special fundraising events.

(e) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
Registered Charity No. 215137

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(f)

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Equipment 10% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is credited or charged to income and expenditure.

(g) **Investments**

Investments are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with changes recognised in 'net gains / (losses) on investments' in the SoFA if the shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably. Other investments are measured at cost less impairment.

(h) **Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(i) **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

(j) Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Going concern

(k) The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
Registered Charity No. 215137

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (Continued)

2. Donations Legacies and Grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Midland Societies Grant	-	-	-	1,667
Shropshire Council	5,000	-	5,000	1,720
Telford & Wrekin Council Grant	-	-	-	-
Legacies & Donations	1,546	550	2,096	2,931
	6,546	550	7,096	6,318

3. Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Beacon Care For The Blind	-	-	-	-
See Hear Exhibition	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

4. Income from Other Trading Activities and Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Fundraising Activities				
TLC Lottery	93	-	93	94
Christmas Card	913	-	913	904
	1,006	-	1,006	998
Investment Income				
Bank Interest	28	43	71	7
Harris Allday Income	23,832	-	23,832	19,191
	23,860	43	23,903	19,198

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
Registered Charity No. 215137

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (Continued)

5. Expenditure

	Cost of generating voluntary income	Fundraising costs	Costs of Charitable Activities	Governance Costs	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted						
Salaries	5,952	-	23,812	-	29,764	18,076
Pension Contributions	-	-	321	-	321	-
Provision of Equipment	-	-	1,249	-	1,249	1,621
Printing, stationery and postage	47	-	896	-	943	176
Insurance	-	-	-	375	375	403
Christmas Cards	-	184	-	-	184	677
Social Groups	-	-	1,062	-	1,062	1,250
Winters Day Out	-	-	3,467	-	3,467	-
Travel	-	-	158	-	158	56
Rent of Rooms	-	-	-	380	380	38
Other Services	-	-	1,030	358	1,388	425
Website	-	-	120	-	120	-
Recruitment & HR	-	-	5,783	-	5,783	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	135
Accountancy Services	-	-	216	480	696	-
Grants for Visually Impaired	-	-	1,629	-	1,629	-
Computer costs	-	-	-	1,298	1,298	-
	5,999	184	39,743	2,891	48,817	22,857
Restricted						
See Hear Exhibition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sheila Whitley Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5,999	184	39,743	2,891	48,817	22,857

6. Staff Costs and Numbers

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs were as follows		
Salaries and Wages	29,764	18,076
	29,764	18,076

The average weekly number of staff employed, calculated as full time equivalents during the year was as follows:

	No.	No.
Fundraising Activities	0.25	0.05
Charitable Activities	0.75	0.72
	1.00	0.77

7. Taxation

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
Registered Charity No. 215137

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (Continued)

8. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
As at 1 st April 2022	1,898	1,898
Disposals	-	-
As at 31st March 2023	1,898	1,898
Depreciation		
As at 1 st April 2022	1,898	1,898
Charge for the year	-	-
Elimination on disposal	-	-
As at 31st March 2023	1,898	1,898
NBV at 31st March 2023	-	-
NBV at 31st March 2022	-	-

9. Investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Market Value at 1st April 2022	578,466	498,999
Add: Additions at Cost	-	49,061
Less: Disposals at carrying value	(-)	(-)
Add: Gain/(Loss) on Revaluation	(41,331)	30,406
Less: Loss on Disposal	(-)	(-)
Market Value at 31st March 2023	537,135	578,466

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
Registered Charity No. 215137

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (Continued)

9. Investments (continued)

	Units	Cost	Value at 31 st March 2023	Value at 31 st March 2022	Change in Value
	No.	£	£	£	£
One Saving Bank 7.875 Perp	15,000	15,935	14,119	14,550	(431)
BlackRock Charities UK BD FD Inc	10,788	18,750	15,979	18,648	(2,669)
Murry Inc Trust PLC	2,160	13,240	18,425	19,138	(713)
Dunedin Inc Grwth Inv Trust	6,200	13,245	17,825	18,724	(899)
Schroder Char Charity Equity Income	28,968	68,990	130,212	132,819	(2,607)
BlackRock Charishare Comm Inv FD	20,578	56,138	146,051	147,608	(1,557)
M&G Charifund A Income	4,472	31,245	66,327	70,645	(4,318)
M&G Charibond Income Units	17,362	18,921	19,020	20,492	(1,472)
JP Morgan GBL Grown and Inc	5,335	16,127	24,354	25,235	(881)
Primary Health Properties GBP 0.125	11,840	13,238	11,982	17,559	(5,577)
Civitas Social Housing PLC REIT	14,805	16,212	7,950	12,940	(4,990)
Octopus Renewables Infra Trust	15,850	18,445	15,073	17,752	(2,679)
JP Morgan GLB Core Assets	16,450	18,460	14,147	15,200	(1,053)
RM Secured Direct Lending	17,000	16,317	13,430	15,765	(2,335)
RIT Capital Partners	610	16,360	11,712	15,555	(3,843)
LXI Reit PLC	10,700	16,384	10,529	15,836	(5,307)
		368,007	537,135	578,466	(41,331)

10. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments and Accrued Income	300	2,092
	300	2,092

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (Continued)

11. Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2023 £	2022 £
Barclays Current Account	12,090	13,366
Barclays Business Saver Account	12,856	22,828
Barclays Sheila Whitley Fund Account	324	323
Harris Allday Clearing Account	(13)	4,208
Barclays See & Hear Deposit Account	19,491	19,449
	44,748	60,174

12. Creditors

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and Deferred Income	4,500	30

13. Movement in Restricted Funds

	At 1 st April 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfer between Funds £	At 31 st March 2023 £
Living Well with Sight Loss	600	-	-	-	600
See Hear Exhibition Fund	19,449	42	-	-	19,491
Sheila Whitley Fund	323	551	-	(550)	324
	20,372	593	-	(550)	20,415

The Living Well with Sight Loss Fund represents seed funding to support the provision of educational courses developed by Visionary, the RNIB and the Thomas Pocklington Trust, to help people in need live well with sight loss.

The See Hear Exhibition Fund are funds held on behalf of the exhibition to fund future events.

The Sheila Whitley Fund is used to provide grants to purchase specialist IT equipment for people in need in the Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin areas. It was previously treated as a designated fund.

SIGHT LOSS SHROPSHIRE
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (Continued)

14. Movement in Unrestricted Fund

	At 1 st April 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Recognised after Gains & Losses £	Transfers between funds	At 31 st March 2023 £
General Fund	620,330	31,412	(53,693)	(41,331)	550	557,268
	620,330	31,412	(53,693)	(41,331)	550	557,268

15. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £
Tangible Fixed Assets	537,135	-	537,135
Current Assets	24,633	20,415	45,048
Current Liabilities	(4,500)	-	(4,500)
Net Assets at 31st March 2023	557,268	20,415	577,683