

## **Mencap Bedford Executive Committee – Chair’s AGM Report May 25**

- We have had a settling in year for our committee with a new set of officers and new members. We have lots of aspirations and are doing our best to work through our list of changes and updates to policies, our web site and to bring our constitution up to date and fit for purpose. Some of these are very complex and time consuming and a challenge as we are volunteer members with full time roles as professionals, parents and carers.
- Sparkle Club: A new leadership team: Dona and Gemma before took over before Christmas and have been a huge success growing Tuesday Club so that on some weeks numbers at each day are similar. New equipment has been purchased and is being enjoyed and used weekly and old equipment has been given new life – especially the pool table! Donna and Gemma have joined the committee and I would like to offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks on behalf of the committee and all the Sparkle clients for all their time, expertise and efforts this year. Thank you!
- Mencap Playscheme: Thanks go too to Lauren and Nikki for another hard working and focussed year. This summer Ridgeway will host playscheme and a fantastic partnership has been created with Embrace to share facilities and bookings as we overlap schemes at Ridgeway. After many years of support and leadership with Lauren Nikki is stepping down next year and we are looking to identify a new Deputy Leader. Nikki has given many years to the scheme going back to her school days and we thank her for her amazing service. Demand for places remains high and places will be allocated as fairly as possible again this year. Transport is no longer supplied after last year’s pilot did not seem to affect application numbers. Funding remains a serious on-going concern.
- Smiley Club: After stopping during Covid we are still hoping to relaunch Smiley Club for secondary age clients and the search for a suitable venue continues.
- Funding & members: We are continuing to explore funding streams to support new and existing activities and are actively seeking new members for our committee.

Kerry O’Neill, Chair  
May 2025

# **BEDFORD & DISTRICT SOCIETY FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES**

Affiliated to The Royal Mencap Society

Charity Commission No 218689

## **INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

		<b>2024</b>			<b>2023</b>
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Minibus	1	12,124	-	12,124	802
Donations	2	1,050	-	1,050	22,782
Subscriptions		313	-	313	423
Gift Aid - tax refunds		250	-	250	151
In memory of deceased members		50	-	50	53
Weekly Bonanza: Income	660		-	-	
less: prizes paid out	(30)	630	-	630	715
Interest		1,018	168	1,186	462
Sparkle Club	3	-	5,641	5,641	1,381
Summer Playscheme	4	-	57,566	57,566	53,260
Smiley Club	5	-	1,311	1,311	1,424
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>15,434</b>	<b>64,686</b>	<b>80,121</b>	<b>81,453</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Minibus:- running costs	1	-	-	-	1,884
Administration		523		523	34
Signpost Volunteers:- grants & expenses		350		350	400
Insurance/Affiliation		858		858	802
Miscellaneous		39		39	81
Grants for Holidays			-	-	200
Sparkle Club costs	3		8,390	8,390	3,128
Summer Playscheme costs	4		57,377	57,377	62,643
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>1,769</b>	<b>65,767</b>	<b>67,537</b>	<b>69,172</b>
<b>NET</b>		<b>13,665</b>	<b>(1,081)</b>	<b>12,584</b>	<b>12,281</b>

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## **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

		<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>	
	<u>Note</u>	£	£	£	£
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>					
Scottish Widows 3 month notice a/c		10,957		10,784	
CafBank Deposit Account		36,177		29,590	
CafBank Current Account		10,545		5,455	
Cash in hand		791		58	
			<b>58,471</b>		<b>45,887</b>
<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>					
<b><u>Unrestricted Funds</u></b>	6				
Balance b/f		33,194			
<i>plus</i> : Excess of income over expenditure		13,665			
			<b>46,859</b>		33,194
<b><u>Restricted Funds</u></b>	7				
- balance brought forward		12,693			
<i>less</i> : Excess expenditure over income		(1,081)			
			<b>11,612</b>		12,693
			<b>58,471</b>		<b>45,887</b>

# **BEDFORD & DISTRICT SOCIETY FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES**

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## **Notes to the Accounts**

<b>Note</b>	<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>
	£	£	£
1	<b><u>MINIBUS</u></b>		
	The net income for the minibus was:	123	(402)
	However, the minibus was stolen during the year		
	and an insurance claim made to pay out for the	12,001	
	value of the minibus. The charity no longer owns		
	a minibus as at 30 Sept 2024	<hr/>	
		12,124	
2	<b><u>DONATIONS RECEIVED</u></b>		
	Marlins Swimming Club	1,000	
	Other donations (2)	<hr/> 100	
		1,100	22,782
3	<b><u>SPARKLE CLUB</u></b>		
	<b><u>Income</u></b>		
	Cash	5,218	
	Banking	<hr/> 423	
	Total Income	5,641	<hr/> 1,381
	<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
	Tuck shop purchases	953	
	Resources	612	
	Leader - salary	3,200	
	Rent	2,385	
	Miscellaneous	<hr/> 1,240	
	Total Expenditure	8,390	<hr/> 3,128
	<b><u>Excess of Expenditure over Income</u></b>	<hr/> <b>(2,749)</b>	<hr/> <b>(1,747)</b>

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## **Notes to the Accounts**

<b>Note</b>	<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>
	£	£	£
4	<b><u>SUMMER PLAYScheme</u></b>		
	<b><u>Income</u></b>		
	Grants: Bedford Borough & Central Beds Councils	19,860	19,860
	Grants: Harpur Trust	5,000	
	<b><u>Raised by Bedford Mencap:</u></b>		
	Personal gifts	794	285
	Interest	0	100
	Parental payments	31,913	33,015
	Total Income	57,566	53,260
	<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
	Staff salaries + N.I. + Tax	46,533	47,983
	Transport	1,050	3,877
	Volunteers' expenses	51	374
	Admin costs	636	636
	Toys and equipment	2,074	265
	Entertainment	2,850	1,970
	Rent & Registration fee	2,960	5,044
	Training costs	835	424
	Miscellaneous	388	2,070
	Total Expenditure	57,377	62,643
	<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>(9,383)</b>
5	<b><u>SMILEY CLUB</u></b>		
	Smiley Club has closed down since 2023. We previously held sponsorship money earmarked for Smiley Club, using our Just Giving page. However since closing, Smiley Club has paid it's remaining assets to this charity. Bedford Mencap has agreed to hold these funds until a new club, replacing Smiley Club, is established.		
	Sponsorship money previously held	1,424	
	Remaining assets transferred to Bedford Mencap	1,311	
		<b>2,735</b>	

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Charity Commission No 218689

## **Notes to the Accounts**

<b>Note</b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		£	£
6	<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>		
	<b><u>Accumulated Fund (Unrestricted Fund)</u></b>		
	Balance brought forward	33,194	
	<i>plus</i> : excess of income over expenditure	13,665	
		<b>46,859</b>	<b>33,194</b>
7	<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>		
	<b><u>Jim Nickson Holiday Fund</u></b>		
	Balance brought forward	8,180	
	<i>plus</i> : interest	168	
	<i>less</i> : grants made	0	
		8,348	8,180
	<b><u>Summer Playscheme</u></b>		
	Balance brought forward	549	
	<i>plus</i> : excess of income over expenditure	189	
		738	549
	<b><u>Sparkle Club</u></b>		
	Balance brought forward	2,540	
	<i>less</i> : excess of expenditure over income	(2,749)	
		(209)	2,540
	<b><u>Held for Smiley Club</u></b>		
	Balance brought forward	1,424	
	<i>plus</i> : closing funds transferred	1,311	
		2,735	1,424
		<b>11,612</b>	<b>12,693</b>

### **Reserves Policy**

The Executive Committee has established a policy whereby the Unrestricted Funds not committed or held in a Designated Fund should be maintained at a level of between 6 to 9 months of annual expenditure so that the activities of the Society would be able to continue should there be a significant drop in funding. For the current year-end, the Unrestricted monies held far exceed this requirement, caused by a few completely unexpected events over the past two years:

- 1) The receipt of £11,000 from the disbursement of the Dorothy Boyd Trust;
- 2) The receipt of £11,682 following the closure of the North Beds Toy Library, and;
- 3) The receipt of £12,001 as payout of an insurance claim following the theft of the charity's minibus which was written off by the insurance company

The Committee will carefully consider ways in which these monies can best be used for the benefit of People with Learning Disabilities in the Bedford area.



# **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEDFORD & DISTRICT SOCIETY FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES**

**Registered charity: 218689**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

## **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

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

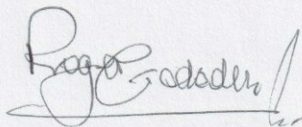
## **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination.

I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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



Roger Gadsden

29 Great Portway

Great Denham MK40 4GA

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025.