

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024  
FOR  
THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

Wyatt Morris Golland Ltd  
Park House  
200 Drake Street  
Rochdale  
Lancashire  
OL16 1PJ

**THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**TRUSTEES**

Alderman J Gartside  
Mr J Gartside  
Mr E.G.L. Collins O.B.E  
Mr A Dearnley  
Mrs C Duckworth

In the rules and regulations of the society, provision is made for a council and certain committees (see paragraph headed "Organisation"). There is no specific reference to trustees, except in the context of the Society's property and investments. The council members are appointed in accordance with the rules of the society being not more than 25, of which 10 may be nominated from a specified variety of local bodies and 15 are elected from the general membership. The council members are the trustees for the Charities Act. Those serving on the council at any time during the year are listed above.

Alderman J. Gartside is the President.  
All the trustees served on the finance committee in the year.

Finance Officer -- Mr D Hazell

**PRINCIPAL ADDRESS**

20 Highbarn Close,  
Rochdale  
Lancashire  
OL11 3PN

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER**

222139

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Wyatt Morris Golland Ltd  
Park House  
200 Drake Street  
Rochdale  
Lancashire  
OL16 1PJ

**THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Principle objectives and policies**

The objects of the Society are the provision and maintenance of a social centre for the blind and to provide assistance and advice directed towards the saving of sight and these have continued to be carried out during the year

The Society's operations cover those areas, which at 31 March 1974 were within the County Borough of Rochdale and the Urban Districts of Littleborough, Milnrow, Wardle and Whitworth

**Development activities and achievements**

Due to the easing of restrictions imposed by Covid the charity has been able to resume the operation of the social centre and organise outings for the enjoyment of its beneficiaries.

**Public benefit**

When planning the activities for the year, the trustees have considered the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit and in particular the trustees have considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Investing Activities**

The charity's investments are in accordance with the Trustee Investments Act 2000.

The management committee has considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds by seeking the advice of the charity's stockbroker, Brewin Dolphin Limited.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial position**

Total income remained at similar levels to the prior year with donations and legacies increasing by £1,645 but investment income falling by £1,699. Expenditure increased by £3,905 which resulted in a deficit for the year of £38,696 before any movement on investments.

There was a net total of £109,035 realised and unrealised gains & losses on investments giving a market value of the investments at the year end of £1,092,204 and a surplus for the year of £70,340 and total reserves of £1,124,005..

**Reserves policy**

It is the policy of the charity to maintain sufficient unrestricted funds, which are free reserves of the charity, so that if annual outgoings are sustained they would be covered for the foreseeable future. Free reserves excluding investments amounted to £31,800 and including investments amounted to £1,124,005.

**Going concern**

There are no going concern issues.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

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

The charity is an unincorporated association and is governed by the rules and regulations of the Rochdale and District Blind Welfare Society. It is registered with the Charity Commission and its registration number is 222139.

**THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Organisational structure**

The Rochdale and District Blind Welfare Society is run by a council, which meets at least twice yearly and is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation and for establishing policy. The council appoints:-

- i) A finance committee, which is in effect a management committee, and the functions of which, as defined by the rules and regulations include some functions commonly performed by trustees.
- ii) A welfare committee which supervises the social centre and organises many social activities for blind and partially sighted persons.
- iii) An appeals committee (which has not had occasion to meet for many years).

The society's investments (other than the social centre) are held by a nominee company, which acts on the instructions of the finance committee.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr J Gartside - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Rochdale and District Blind Welfare Society**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Rochdale and District Blind Welfare Society (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

P.A. Richards F.C.A., D.Ch.A.

Wyatt Morris Golland Ltd  
Park House  
200 Drake Street  
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Lancashire  
OL16 1PJ

27 November 2024

**THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	<b>2024 Unrestricted fund £</b>	<b>2023 Total funds £</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies		<b>5,090</b>	3,444
Investment income	2	<b>26,555</b>	28,254
<b>Total</b>		<b>31,645</b>	31,698
 <b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds		<b>7,402</b>	7,352
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Charitable activities		<b>62,938</b>	59,083
<b>Total</b>		<b>70,340</b>	66,435
 Net gains/(losses) on investments		<b>109,035</b>	(36,435)
 <b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<b>70,340</b>	(71,172)
 <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<b>1,053,665</b>	1,124,837
 <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>1,124,005</b>	1,053,665

The notes form part of these financial statements

**THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

**BALANCE SHEET  
31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	<b>2024 Unrestricted fund £</b>	<b>2023 Total funds £</b>
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	6	<b>1</b>	1
Investments	7	<b>1,092,204</b>	1,027,458
		<b>1,092,205</b>	1,027,459
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	8	<b>22,130</b>	12,780
Cash at bank		<b>13,851</b>	17,394
		<b>35,981</b>	30,174
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	9	<b>(4,181)</b>	(3,968)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>31,800</b>	26,206
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,124,005</b>	1,053,665
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>1,124,005</b>	1,053,665
<b>FUNDS</b>	10		
Unrestricted funds		<b>1,124,005</b>	1,053,665
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<b>1,124,005</b>	1,053,665

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27 November 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Alderman J Gartside - Trustee

Mr J Gartside - Trustee



**THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets**

The company premises are shown in the books at a nominal value of £1.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

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

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

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Investments**

Investments are stated at market value. Provision is made in the accounts for unrealised gains and losses.

**2. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
Investment income	<b><u>26,555</u></b>	<u>28,254</u>

**3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**4. STAFF COSTS**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
Equivalent full time staff	<b>1</b>	1

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

There were 2 part time employees during the year.

**5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	
Donations and legacies	3,444
Investment income	28,254
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,698</b>
 <b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>	
Raising funds	7,352
<b>Charitable activities</b>	
Charitable activities	59,083
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,435</b>
 Net gains/(losses) on investments	 (36,435)
 <b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	 <b>(71,172)</b>
 <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>	
Total funds brought forward	1,124,837
 <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	 <b>1,053,665</b>

**6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Property on Trust £
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	<b>1</b>
 <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2024	<b>1</b>
At 31 March 2023	1

The social centre premises are shown at a nominal £1. They are held on trust for the charity by the Official Custodian for Charities.

**THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**7. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	2024	2023
	-----	-----
	£	£
QUOTED INVESTMENTS:-		
Market value at beginning of the year	1,027,458	1,079,941
Additions at cost	323,768	890,464
Proceeds of disposal	(368,058)	(906,512)
Realised/ Unrealised gains/(losses)	109,036	(36,435)
	-----	-----
Market value at the end of the year	1,092,204	1,027,458
	=====	=====
Cost value at the end of the year	928,275	960,605
	=====	=====

**8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	<b>22,130</b>	12,780
	=====	=====

**9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors	<b>4,181</b>	3,968
	=====	=====

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	1,053,665	70,340	1,124,005
	-----	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>1,053,665</b>	<b>70,340</b>	<b>1,124,005</b>
	=====	=====	=====

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	31,645	(70,340)	109,035	70,340
	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>31,645</b>	<b>(70,340)</b>	<b>109,035</b>	<b>70,340</b>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

**THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT BLIND WELFARE  
SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	1,124,837	(71,172)	1,053,665
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,124,837</u>	<u>(71,172)</u>	<u>1,053,665</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	31,698	(66,435)	(36,435)	(71,172)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>31,698</u>	<u>(66,435)</u>	<u>(36,435)</u>	<u>(71,172)</u>

**11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.