

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS STORT VALLEY BRANCH

England & Wales · Charity number 233908

Details

Other names	RSPCA HARLOW BRANCH, RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1965-04-29
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	R S P C A 23 The Stow Harlow CM20 3AN
Phone	01279306058
Email	admin@rspcastortvalley.org.uk
Website	www.rspcastortvalley.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE BRANCH ARE TO PROMOTE THE WORK AND OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY [ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (219099)], WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE AREA OF THE BRANCH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES OF THE SOCIETY.

Activities: Provide basic veterinary treatment for State Pensioners and People on Universal Credit at a clinic run by part time staff and volunteers plus vets who are paid. Assist with costs towards neutering outside of the scope of the clinic. Provide advice and guidance on animals welfare. Work with national RSPCA in rehoming of unwanted pets. Run a charity shop with part time employees plus volunteer

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Animals
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** HARLOW AND DISTRICT.
- Essex
- Haringey
- Hertfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£260,251	£231,418	-	-
2024-12-31	£257,927	£248,312	-	-
2023-12-31	£231,962	£248,731	-	-
2022-12-31	£205,279	£259,031	-	-
2021-12-31	£228,682	£200,572	-	-
2020-12-31	£193,950	£152,695	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dawn Hazel Cleaver	Chair	2021-10-06
Aderemi Adeleke Omowon Dr		2024-11-20
Jeffrey Charles Robert Thompson		2023-08-16
Matt Barber		2024-06-10
Paul Stack		2025-09-25
Sophie May Orpen		2025-09-25

Accounts

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025
FOR
RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

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RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. 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).

The terms 'Board' and 'Committee' are used interchangeably to mean the group of Trustees appointed to govern and direct the Charity.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Charity's objectives follow those of the National RSPCA. The branches of the RSPCA follow the RSPCA Branch Rules, with the aim to support the animal rescue work of the RSPCA Inspectorate.

We additionally support our local communities through the rescue and rehoming of animals, and provide the provision of an animal welfare clinic and neutering and microchipping schemes. We also work with other national rescue charities within the Stort Valley, such as Cats Protection.

Our Branch area includes Saffron Waldron, Bishops Stortford, Harlow, Hoddesdon, Broxbourne, Wormley and the surrounding villages along the M11 corridor. We also work with neighbouring RSPCA branches in providing a seamless service for animal welfare and to support some pet owners in their nearby towns such as Epping and Hertford through our clinic services.

We support the RSPCA inspectors and animal rescue officers who collect animals from within our Branch area in need of help. As with the majority of RSPCA branches, as well as other charities, the pressure on finances means that we have to prioritise funding for emergency care and for those animals who we treat at our clinic in Harlow.

Our staff and volunteers at the clinic continue to liaise with other local vet practices, animal rescue centres and the local councils to support each other with enquiries from members of the public who can no longer care for their pet either short or long term.

Our clients are required to be registered with a private practice, as our Branch does not offer the full range of veterinary care nor 24x7 services. Clients accepted by us must have a primary vet in place and be receiving welfare benefits and/or state pension to qualify for our subsidised treatments. We do not offer treatment for clients who don't meet these criteria.

We have several local veterinary practices who will perform procedures that are outside of our clinic's capabilities at a reduced rate for our clients. We continue to fund an emergency Out-of-Hours Service with Forest Veterinary Services when our clinic is closed.

All animals taken into Branch care receive any necessary vet treatment, vaccinations, neutering, microchipping, flea & worm treatment and are then assessed for rehoming. The Branch funds this activity, working with the boarding and rehoming facilities of RSPCA Danaher Animal Home.

Public benefit

The trustees monitor our progress and impact throughout the year, to ensure that our work remains focused on our charitable aims and that we continue to deliver benefits to the public and to animals in the area.

The clinic continues to see an increase in the number of new client registrations. For 2025 we saw 3,264 clients at the clinic in Harlow. In addition to this, we continued to support owners in providing a repeat prescription service.

In some previous years, the Branch was able to offer a neutering support scheme for dogs. With the high cost of neutering dogs at local vet practices and a reduction in financial donations to the Branch, we were unable again to sustain the neutering voucher scheme.

The Branch will review its capacity to offer neutering vouchers during 2026 with the intention to reintroduce these as soon as it is financially sustainable.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Staff and Volunteers

The Branch is resourced with both paid staff and volunteers. At the end of 2025 we had five paid staff with eight volunteers, 1 contract veterinary nurse, and two contract veterinary surgeons. At the clinic, we have two part-time receptionists, and six volunteers in administrative and care assistant roles. At our charity shop, we have the Shop Manager, two part-time sales staff and four volunteers.

Recruiting volunteers for the shop remained challenging since 2023, and 2025 was no exception. The lack of volunteers to support fundraising has meant we have not been able to operate with fewer volunteers than is ideal. We continue to increase our local advertising and outreach to potential volunteers.

Paid Staff Management Roles and Responsibilities

Our Charity shop manager is still acting up as an Interim Branch Manager to oversee both locations and manage all the staff. It is expected for this to continue until the Board of Trustees review the budget for 2026, and consider whether a Branch Manager is needed, and if this can be a shared role with another RSPCA branch.

Our Clinic Receptionist and Admin Supervisor, oversees the day to day activities for the Clinic and contracted Veterinary Nurse and Vets.

Recruitment

The Branch continues to offer volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, fundraising and assisting within our clinic and shop. We advertise for volunteer roles at each location, on social media, the Reach volunteering website, the RSPCA National website and occasionally with posters in local shops & venues.

There continues to be a shortage of veterinary surgeons and nurses across the UK. The Branch committee would like to extend the clinic opening hours if we are able to secure the employment of a full-time vet and nurse in the future. We will keep this under review through 2026 and will initiate a recruitment campaign if appropriate.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The year saw an increase in animal welfare activities delivered through our Harlow vet clinic. In 2025 due to a decrease in donations from the public, sadly we had to continue to suspend our dog neutering voucher scheme for another year for financial reasons. Income from our retail operations at our Bishops Stortford shop and online improved slightly.

We continue to review our operating costs, and whilst we report a profit, for 2026 we have had to budget for an increase in our rent at Harlow Clinic, and continue to provide animal welfare support to the local RSPCA inspectorate, boarding for unwanted or abandoned animals as well as provisions to support emergency assistance for animal owners.

The Branch continued to have a good understanding of its risks and an adequate reserves level to address foreseeable risks. Negotiations for renewal of the clinic lease is still in progress and we are waiting for the Harlow Council legal team to respond. We know that there will be an increase in rent, but we will still be able to secure a rent charity grant.

As Trustees, we take this opportunity to record our gratitude to our dedicated team of staff and volunteers who make this all possible

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Our income for 2025 was £260,251. This represented a slight increase from 2024, where income was £257,927. Our expenditure for 2025 was £231,418 vs £248,312 in 2024.

The Branch continued to receive substantial support from the National RSPCA in 2025 amounting to £20,519. This comes mainly from our share of RSPA national fundraising and also from donations to the national RSPCA from within our branch area and membership fees. The RSPCA anticipates national fundraising income falling over the coming years and we will need to increase our local fundraising efforts to compensate.

The slight increase in turnover and decrease in expenditure vs 2024 improved the branch's profit to £28,833 from £9,615 in 2024. Our aim in 2026 is to ensure we continue to manage our expenditure without adversely affecting our resources, as we look to expand our animal welfare activities with the local RSPCA inspectorate.

Annually, the Branch reviews all staff wages in line with government guidelines, local market rates and to the role and responsibilities of each employee. This ensures a fair process is applied for all staff. We aim to pay within the market range for comparable roles, keeping in mind that we are a small charity. Pay changes will be effective April 2026.

Local income

At the charity shop, we continue to see members of the public seeking bargains. We also saw an increase in the number of items being donated which were not suitable for resale; fortunately, the majority of these items were sold for recycling. Our retail team increased their efforts with online sales, especially via eBay, and are seeing a slight increase. We are somewhat limited by the very limited space available to hold items ready to post while online sales run their course. We continue to look at options to further increase our online presence.

The clinic continues to run at an operating loss, which is as intended by its mission to offer subsidised treatment. We have identified some key elements of clinic operations and costs that can be improved and are working on these at pace.

Debtors

A proportion of our clinic clients struggle with paying in full for treatments. This has an adverse impact on clinic finances. We have introduced a more robust process with the Trustees reviewing aged debts each month and more chasing of outstanding amounts. Year on year we see an increase in the number of clients who are struggling to pay for their animal care. In 2025 we did have to write off bad debts.

Lease commitments

The Clinic lease has expired. The Branch is waiting on the landlord, Harlow Council, to progress with a renewal. The Council has given assurances that the lease will be renewed, albeit with a slight increase in the rent. The trustees have checked with the Council regarding renovation of the Stow, which was first proposed in 2018, and have confirmed that if this were to go ahead, we would be involved and would be offered alternative accommodation. We see this as a potential opportunity to expand our Harlow operations if the situation of the Branch at the time permits.

The Shop current lease is until 2029, with a break clause of 2 years should the branch wish to move to larger premises.

Both the clinic and charity shop continue to receive substantial business rates rebates from their respective councils, which helps with their running costs.

OPERATIONS

Clinic

There was no significant expenditure required in 2025. Some improvements to IT equipment and maintenance to our premises is planned in 2026.

We continued to offer nurse appointments one day each week in addition to the vet consultations. This released vet time, enabling us to see more animals and to reduce the cost to clients of simple procedures that the nurse can perform.

Staff, volunteers and contractors work extremely well together to provide the services needed at the clinic to the public, despite the challenges they face daily with animals and pet owners who are in need of our help.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The clinic does not have any facilities for boarding or re-homing direct to the public but works with the local RSPCA inspectorate and RSPCA Danaher Animal Home in the co-ordination of boarding and re-homing of unwanted, abandoned and mistreated animals collected by the inspectors.

Regular maintenance minor works were carried out to keep the clinic safe and pleasant for staff and visitors.

Shop

An improvement plan for refurbishment of the shop of £3.5K was proposed, however due to finances, this was put on hold. It will be reviewed again in 2026.

Staff and volunteers at the shop continue to work hard and we saw an improvement in sales and donations. Profits from the shop go towards the running costs of the clinic.

Reserves policy

Our reserves at the end of 2025 were £177K. The committee revised and approved the Branch's Reserves policy and set reserve levels for 2026. Our view, in line with this policy, is that the Branch has sufficient reserves in place to ensure a safe and orderly closure of the Branch should the need arise or to cover foreseeable major risks in ongoing operations. Of course, our intention is to continue to maintain the services needed by the community for as long as needed.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

2025 was the first year of the branch being back under local control. The branch consists of 6 trustee board members.

The accounts for 2025 produced by Bradshaw Johnson Ltd have been accepted by the Board of Trustees with the caveat that prior to our respective appointments we each had no involvement in the running of the branch.

Health & Safety

The committee agreed to continue with the Health & Safety and HR Support of Acton and Jennings for 2024/2025. Annual H&S checks were carried out as planned and no significant issues were noted. Annual fire equipment checks were carried out by F&J Fire for both the shop and clinic, with no need for replacement equipment required.

Governance

The activities of the Branch, and the temporary trustees, are overseen by National RSPCA to ensure compliance with RSPCA Branch Rules and the Charities Commission. This is managed by the RSPCA Branch Partnership Manager, who attends all Committee Meetings and there is oversight from RSPCA national management.

Risk

As Trustees we are aware of our responsibilities to the Charity and consider these prior to making decisions that may, or may not, impact on the Charity's finances, staff, risks and objectives.

We review our risks and financial situation in Committee meetings and in 2023 we introduced an additional meeting for the Management Team in which risks and issues are reviewed alongside the operations of the clinic and shop.

The committee reviewed its Finance and Risk policies in 2024.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

233908

Principal address

23 The Stow
Harlow
Essex
CM20 3AN

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Trustees

D Cleaver
J Thompson
S M Craker (resigned 27.9.25)
M Barber
D Welsh (resigned 10.4.25)
S Wade (resigned 16.2.25)
A Omowon
P Stack (appointed 25.9.25)
Mrs S Orpen (appointed 25.9.25)

Independent Examiner

Neil Harding FCA
Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1JQ

Charity Reg Number 233908

Bankers

Natwest PLC
Bishops Stortford Branch
7 North Street, Bishops Stortford
Herts CM23 2TJ

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

.....
M Barber - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of RSPCA Stort Valley Branch

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of RSPCA Stort Valley Branch (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the 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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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.

Neil Harding FCA

Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1JQ

Date:

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	31.12.25 Unrestricted fund £	31.12.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies		35,005	24,723
Charitable activities			
Charitable activity		136,459	151,156
Other trading activities	2	84,679	77,782
Investment income	3	4,108	4,266
Total		<u>260,251</u>	<u>257,927</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds		71,850	69,576
Charitable activities			
Charitable activity		<u>159,568</u>	<u>178,736</u>
Total		<u>231,418</u>	<u>248,312</u>
 NET INCOME		28,833	9,615
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		148,144	138,529
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>176,977</u></u>	<u><u>148,144</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
31 DECEMBER 2025

		31.12.25 Unrestricted fund £	31.12.24 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS	Notes		
Stocks	6	6,173	6,223
Debtors	7	11,926	17,028
Cash at bank and in hand		173,590	164,106
		191,689	187,357
 CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(14,712)	(39,213)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		176,977	148,144
 TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		176,977	148,144
NET ASSETS		176,977	148,144
 FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		176,977	148,144
TOTAL FUNDS		176,977	148,144

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

.....
M Barber - Trustee

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

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.

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.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

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.

Irrecoverable vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Cash & cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.12.25	31.12.24
	£	£
Shop income	82,212	73,798
Shop recycling income	-	866
Shop online sales	2,467	3,118
	<u>84,679</u>	<u>77,782</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.25	31.12.24
	£	£
Interest receivable - trading	<u>4,108</u>	<u>4,266</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2025 nor for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2025 (year ended 31 December 2024: £0).

5. 2024 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	24,723
Charitable activities	
Charitable activity	151,156
Other trading activities	77,782
Investment income	4,266
Total	<u>257,927</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Raising funds	69,576
Charitable activities	
Charitable activity	<u>178,736</u>
Total	<u>248,312</u>
NET INCOME	9,615
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	138,529

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

5. 2024 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

Unrestricted
fund
£

TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

148,144

6. STOCKS

31.12.25

31.12.24

£

£

Stocks

6,173

6,223

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

31.12.25

31.12.24

£

£

Trade debtors

2,798

7,585

Other debtors

4,250

4,250

Prepayments

4,878

5,193

11,926

17,028

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

31.12.25

31.12.24

£

£

Trade creditors

12,911

39,110

Taxation and social security

481

431

Other creditors

1,320

(328)

14,712

39,213

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.25 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.25 £
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Unrestricted funds

General fund

148,144

28,833

176,977

TOTAL FUNDS

148,144

28,833

176,977

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	260,251	(231,418)	28,833
TOTAL FUNDS	260,251	(231,418)	28,833

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	138,529	9,615	148,144
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>138,529</u>	<u>9,615</u>	<u>148,144</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	257,927	(248,312)	9,615
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>257,927</u>	<u>(248,312)</u>	<u>9,615</u>

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2025.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	31.12.25 £	31.12.24 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	14,486	2,907
RSPCA HQ contribution D2D	20,519	21,816
	35,005	24,723
Other trading activities		
Shop income	82,212	73,798
Shop recycling income	-	866
Shop online sales	2,467	3,118
	84,679	77,782
Investment income		
Interest receivable - trading	4,108	4,266
Charitable activities		
Income from charitable activities	136,459	151,156
Total incoming resources	260,251	257,927
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Insurance	1,114	359
Shop rates	1,139	746
Equipment not capitalised	1,058	255
Misc expenses/homing	1,176	787
Wages and salaries	43,386	43,256
Shop - general waste	340	504
Light and heat	1,612	3,512
Rent	18,417	16,717
Shop storage facility	2,881	2,608
Card and online sales fees	727	832
	71,850	69,576
Charitable activities		
Vet fees and drug costs	98,747	110,189
Boarding shelter costs	1,293	1,876
Medical and neutering costs	1,164	2,427
Clinic waste disposal	(9)	1,534
External testing	4,754	3,957
Out of hours provisions	3,940	4,509
Rent	4,214	3,781
Wages	26,794	28,249
	140,897	156,522

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	31.12.25 £	31.12.24 £
Support costs		
Other		
Light and heat	1,050	1,742
PPS and telephone	3,109	3,376
Annual contribution	110	110
HR, H+S and security	2,507	2,747
Sundry	305	333
Repairs and servicing	1,438	558
Cleaning	157	178
IT and software support	943	666
Miscellaneous expenses	658	519
General waste	124	289
Bad debts	928	1,395
Bank, card and link charges	3,505	3,804
Governance costs	3,837	6,497
	18,671	22,214
Total resources expended	231,418	248,312
Net income	28,833	9,615

Accounts

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
FOR
RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

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RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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The terms 'Board' and 'Committee' are used interchangeably to mean the group of Trustees appointed to govern and direct the Charity.

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Objectives and aims

The Charity's objectives follow those of the National RSPCA. The branches of the RSPCA follow the RSPCA Branch Rules, with the aim to support the animal rescue work of the RSPCA Inspectorate.

We additionally support our local communities through the rescue and rehoming of animals, and provide the provision of an animal welfare clinic and neutering and microchipping schemes. We also work with other national rescue charities within the Stort Valley, such as Cats Protection.

Our Branch area includes Saffron Waldron, Bishops Stortford, Harlow, Hoddesdon, Broxbourne, Wormley and the surrounding villages along the M11 corridor. We also work with neighbouring RSPCA branches in providing a seamless service for animal welfare and to support some pet owners in their nearby towns such as Epping and Hertford through our clinic services.

We support the RSPCA inspectors and animal rescue officers who collect animals from within our Branch area in need of help. As with the majority of RSPCA branches, as well as other charities, the pressure on finances means that we have to prioritise funding for emergency care and for those animals who we treat at our clinic in Harlow.

Our staff and volunteers at the clinic continue to liaise with other local vet practices, animal rescue centres and the local councils to support each other with enquiries from members of the public who can no longer care for their pet either short or long term.

Our clients are required to be registered with a private practice, as our Branch does not offer the full range of veterinary care nor 24x7 services. Clients accepted by us must have a primary vet in place and be receiving welfare benefits and/or state pension to qualify for our subsidised treatments. We do not offer treatment for clients who don't meet these criteria.

We work with several local veterinary practices who will perform procedures that are outside of our clinic's capabilities at a reduced rate for our clients. We continue to fund an emergency Out-of-Hours Service with Forest Veterinary Services when our clinic is closed.

All animals taken into Branch care receive any necessary vet treatment, vaccinations, neutering, microchipping, flea & worm treatment and are then assessed for rehoming. The Branch funds this activity, working with the boarding and rehoming facilities of RSPCA Danaher Animal Home.

Public benefit

The trustees monitor our progress and impact throughout the year, to ensure that our work remains focused on our charitable aims and that we continue to deliver benefits to the public and to animals in the area.

The clinic continues to see an increase in the number of new client registrations. For 2024 we saw 3000 clients at the clinic in Harlow. In addition to this, we continued to support owners in providing a repeat prescription service.

In some previous years, the Branch was able to offer a neutering support scheme for dogs. With the high cost of neutering dogs at local vet practices and a reduction in financial donations to the Branch, we were unable to sustain the neutering voucher scheme. We continue to work with local vet practices and Cats Protection to provide cat neutering services through the 'C4 Scheme', a joint initiative to tackle the problem of unwanted cats and in particular kittens.

The Branch will review its capacity to offer neutering vouchers during 2025 with the intention to reintroduce these as soon as it is financially sustainable.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Staff and Volunteers

The Branch is resourced with both paid staff and volunteers. At the end of 2024 we reduced our paid staff to five, with eight volunteers, 1 contract veterinary nurse, and two contract veterinary surgeons. At the clinic, we have, two part-time receptionists, and five volunteers in administrative and care assistant roles. At our charity shop, we have the Shop Manager, two part-time sales staff and two volunteers.

Recruiting volunteers for the shop remained challenging in the last two years and 2024 was no exception. The lack of volunteers to support fundraising has been meant we have not been able to conduct as much activity as we would have liked. We continue to increase our local advertising and outreach to potential volunteers.

Paid Staff Management Roles and Responsibilities

Our Charity shop manager is still acting up as an Interim Branch Manager to oversee both locations and manage all the staff. It is expected for this continue until the Board of Trustees review the budget for 2025, and consider whether a Branch Manager is needed, and whether this role can be either part-time or shared with another RSPCA branch.

Our Clinic Receptionist and Admin Supervisor, oversees the day to day activities for the Clinic and contracted Veterinary Nurse and Vets.

Recruitment

The Branch continues to offer volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, fundraising and assisting within our clinic and shop. We advertise for volunteer roles at each location, on social media, the Reach volunteering website, the RSPCA National website and occasionally with posters in local shops & venues.

There continues to be a shortage of veterinary surgeons and nurses across the UK. The Branch committee would like to extend the clinic opening hours if we are able to secure the employment of a permanently-employed vet and nurse in the future. We will keep this under review through 2025 and will initiate a recruitment campaign if appropriate.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The year saw an increase in animal welfare activities delivered through our Harlow vet clinic. Income from our retail operations at our Bishops Stortford shop and online improved slightly. We were however able to reduce our deficit over 2023 down, as we continue to review our operating costs.

We redoubled our efforts to recruit a local Board, in parallel with putting out a second merger invitation. Merger discussions were halted, as we saw a number of RSPCA branches focusing on CIO status.

The Branch continued to have a good understanding of its risks and an adequate reserves level to address foreseeable risks. Our shop lease was renewed for another five years, with a break clause in the event we are able to secure larger premises. Negotiations for renewal of the clinic lease is still in progress and we are waiting for Harlow Council legal team to respond. We know that there will be an increase in rent, but we will still be able to secure rent charity grant. expired.

There have been some staffing changes and we have been successful in recruiting some new volunteers for the clinic. We are well positioned for 2025 with reduced overall staffing costs and the full impact of a number of actions taken in 2024 to improve operating costs coming through.

As Trustees, we take this opportunity to record our gratitude to our dedicated team of staff and volunteers who make this all possible

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

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

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Our income for 2024 was £257,927 (2023: £231,962). We saw an increase in both clinic demand and shop sales over 2024. Our expenditure for 2024 was £248,312 (2023: £248,731).

In June 2024, national RSPCA changed the way in which branches purchased drugs. Previously drugs were purchased direct from RSPCA. The change has meant that branches now purchase direct from the suppliers which has resulted in a improvement in drug delivery.

The Branch continued to receive substantial support from the National RSPCA in 2024 amounting to £23K. This comes mainly from our share of RSPCA national fundraising and also from donations to the national RSPCA from within our branch area and membership fees. The RSPCA anticipates national fundraising income falling over the coming years and we will need to increase our local fundraising efforts to compensate.

The increase in turnover and reduction in expenditure compared to 2023 has turned the branch's deficit of £16,769 in 2023 into a surplus of £9,615 in 2024. Our aim in 2024 was to run the Branch without a deficit and for this to continue going forward.

Annually, the Branch reviews all staff wages in line with government guidelines, local market rates and to the role and responsibilities of each employee. This ensures a fair process is applied for all staff. We aim to pay within the market range for comparable roles, keeping in mind that we are a small charity. Pay changes will be effective April 2025.

Local income

At the charity shop, we continue to see members of the public seeking bargains. We also saw an increase in the number of items being donated which were not suitable for resale; fortunately, the majority of these items were sold for recycling. Our retail team increased their efforts with online sales, especially via eBay, and are seeing a slight increase. We are somewhat limited by the very limited space available to hold items ready to post while online sales run their course. We continue to look in 2025 at options to further increase our online presence.

The clinic continues to run at an operating loss, which is as intended by its mission to offer subsidised treatment. In 2024, we implemented a number of improvements to the clinic operations and costs that have reduced the size of this loss to a more appropriate level.

Cash donations were down in 2024 vs 2023 - we saw a decrease in the number of cash donations at the clinic as the cost of living impacted clients' disposable funds. For 2025, we would like to recruit additional volunteers to enable us to extend our local fundraising at other venues.

Debtors

A proportion of our clinic clients struggle with paying in full for treatments. This has an adverse impact on clinic finances. We have introduced a more robust process with the Trustees reviewing aged debts each month and more chasing of outstanding amounts. In 2024 we did have to write off bad debts, but this was less than in the previous years.

Lease commitments

The Clinic lease has expired. The Branch is waiting on the landlord, Harlow Council, to progress with a renewal. The Council has given assurances that the lease will be renewed, albeit with a slight increase in the rent. The trustees have checked with the Council regarding renovation of the Stow, which was first proposed in 2018, and have confirmed that if this were to go ahead, we would be involved and would be offered alternative accommodation. We see this as a potential opportunity to expand our Harlow operations if the situation of the Branch at the time permits.

The Shop lease was renewed in 2024 for another 5 years, with a break clause of 2 years should the branch wish to move to larger premises.

Both the clinic and charity shop continue to receive substantial business rates rebates from their respective councils, which helps with their running costs.

OPERATIONS

Clinic

There was no significant expenditure required in 2024. Some improvements to IT equipment and electrics was needed.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

We continued to offer nurse appointments two days each week in addition to the vet consultations. This released time vet time, enabling us to see more animals and to reduce the cost to clients of simple procedures that the nurse can perform.

Staff, volunteers and contractors work extremely well together to provide the services needed at the clinic to the public, despite the challenges they face daily with animals and pet owners who are in need of our help.

The clinic does not have any facilities for boarding or re-homing direct to the public but works with the local RSPCA inspectorate and RSPCA Danaher Animal Home in the co-ordination of boarding and re-homing of unwanted, abandoned and mistreated animals collected by the inspectors.

Regular maintenance minor works were carried out to keep the clinic safe and pleasant for staff and visitors.

Shop

In 2024. We carried out some minor works to improve the shop environment. An improvement plan for refurbishment of the shop of £3.5K was proposed, however due to finances, this was put on hold.

Staff and volunteers at the shop continue to work hard and we saw an improvement in sales and donations. Profits from the shop go towards the running costs of the clinic.

Reserves policy

Our reserves at the end of 2024 were £148,144 (2023: £138,529). The committee revised and approved the Branch's Reserves policy and set reserve levels for 2025. Our view, in line with this policy, is that the Branch has sufficient reserves in place to ensure a safe and orderly closure of the Branch should the need arise or to cover foreseeable major risks in ongoing operations. Of course, our intention is to continue to maintain the services needed by the community for as long as needed.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

On the 20th November 2024, the branch returned to local control with a new board consisting of 7 trustees. Prior to this the branch had been under 'National Administration' by the RSPCA. It had been overseen by four temporary Trustees appointed by the national RSPCA to co-ordinate the affairs of the Branch since October 2021.

The accounts for 2024 produced by Bradshaw Johnson have been accepted by the Board of Trustees with the caveat that prior to our respective appointments we each had no involvement in the running of the branch.

Health & Safety

The committee agreed to continue with the Health & Safety and HR Support of Acton and Jennings for 2024/2025. Annual H&S checks were carried out as planned and no significant issues were noted. Annual fire equipment checks were carried out by F&J Fire for both the shop and clinic, with no need for replacement equipment required.

Governance

The activities of the Branch, and the trustees, are overseen by National RSPCA to ensure compliance with RSPCA Branch Rules and the Charities Commission. This is managed by the RSPCA Branch Partnership Manager, who attends all Committee Meetings and there is oversight from RSPCA national management.

Risk

As Trustees we are aware of our responsibilities to the Charity and consider these prior to making decisions that may, or may not, impact on the Charity's finances, staff, risks and objectives.

We review our risks and financial situation in Committee meetings and in 2023 we introduced an additional meeting for the Management Team in which risks and issues are reviewed alongside the operations of the clinic and shop.

The committee reviewed its Finance and Risk policies in 2024.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

233908

Principal address

23 The Stow
Harlow
Essex
CM20 3AN

Trustees

D Cleaver
J Thompson
S M Craker (appointed 10.6.24)
M Barber (appointed 10.6.24)
D Welsh (appointed 20.11.24) (resigned 15.4.25)
S Wade (appointed 20.11.24) (resigned 16.2.25)
A Omowon (appointed 20.11.24)

Independent Examiner

Neil Harding FCA
Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1JQ

Charity Reg Number 233908

Bankers

Natwest PLC
Bishops Stortford Branch
7 North Street, Bishops Stortford
Herts CM23 2TJ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

M Barber - Trustee

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of RSPCA Stort Valley Branch

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of RSPCA Stort Valley Branch (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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.

Neil Harding FCA

Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1JQ

16 June 2025

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	31.12.24 Unrestricted fund £	31.12.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies		24,723	27,335
Charitable activities			
Charitable activity		151,156	133,608
Other trading activities	2	77,782	67,820
Investment income	3	4,266	3,199
Total		<u>257,927</u>	<u>231,962</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds		69,576	54,633
Charitable activities			
Charitable activity		<u>178,736</u>	<u>194,098</u>
Total		<u>248,312</u>	<u>248,731</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		9,615	(16,769)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		138,529	155,298
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>148,144</u></u>	<u><u>138,529</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
31 DECEMBER 2024

		31.12.24 Unrestricted fund £	31.12.23 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS	Notes		
Stocks	6	6,223	3,331
Debtors	7	17,028	13,570
Cash at bank and in hand		164,106	161,858
		187,357	178,759
 CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(39,213)	(40,230)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		148,144	138,529
 TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		148,144	138,529
NET ASSETS		148,144	138,529
 FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		148,144	138,529
TOTAL FUNDS		148,144	138,529

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13 June 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

M Barber - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 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.

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.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

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.

Irrecoverable vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Cash & cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

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

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Shop income	73,798	64,704
Shop recycling income	866	1,468
Shop online sales	3,118	1,648
	<u>77,782</u>	<u>67,820</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Interest receivable - trading	<u>4,266</u>	<u>3,199</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2024 (year ended 31 December 2023: £436).

It was noted that the trustees had purchased items on behalf of the clinic due to no card facilities being available. Items paid for by the trustees and reclaimed have been accounted for under the relevant cost activity centre expense codes. The trustee expenses noted in the accounts relates to hotel, parking and travel costs.

5. 2023 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	27,335
Charitable activities	
Charitable activity	133,608
Other trading activities	67,820
Investment income	3,199
Total	<u>231,962</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Raising funds	54,633
Charitable activities	
Charitable activity	194,098
Total	<u>248,731</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(16,769)

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

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

5. 2023 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

Unrestricted
fund
£

RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

Total funds brought forward 155,298

TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

138,529

6. STOCKS

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Stocks	6,223	3,331
	<u>6,223</u>	<u>3,331</u>

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Trade debtors	7,585	4,481
Other debtors	4,250	4,250
Prepayments	5,193	4,839
	<u>17,028</u>	<u>13,570</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Trade creditors	39,110	33,793
Taxation and social security	431	2,681
Other creditors	(328)	3,756
	<u>39,213</u>	<u>40,230</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	138,529	9,615	148,144
	<u>138,529</u>	<u>9,615</u>	<u>148,144</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>138,529</u>	<u>9,615</u>	<u>148,144</u>

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

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

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	257,927	(248,312)	9,615
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>257,927</u>	<u>(248,312)</u>	<u>9,615</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	155,298	(16,769)	138,529
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>155,298</u>	<u>(16,769)</u>	<u>138,529</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	231,962	(248,731)	(16,769)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>231,962</u>	<u>(248,731)</u>	<u>(16,769)</u>

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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

Accounts

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
FOR
RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH**

Xeinadin South East Limited
12 Conqueror Court
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 5BH

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The temporary Board of Trustees presents its report and financial statements of the RSPCA Stort Valley Branch (hereafter referred to as 'the Charity' / 'the Branch') for the year ended 31st December 2023.

The temporary Trustees (hereafter referred to as 'we', 'us') present this annual report and financial statements in accordance with the current statutory requirements of the Charity Commission.

The terms 'Board' and 'Committee' are used interchangeably to mean the group of Trustees appointed to govern and direct the Charity.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Charity's objectives follow those of the National RSPCA. The branches of the RSPCA follow the RSPCA Branch Rules, with the aim to support the animal rescue work of the RSPCA Inspectorate.

We additionally support our local communities through the rescue and rehoming of animals, and provide the provision of an animal welfare clinic and neutering and microchipping schemes. We also work with other national rescue charities within the Stort Valley, such as Cats Protection.

Our Branch area includes Saffron Walden, Bishops Stortford, Harlow, Hoddesdon, Broxbourne, Wormley and the surrounding villages along the M11 corridor. We also work with neighbouring RSPCA branches in providing a seamless service for animal welfare and to support some pet owners in their nearby towns such as Epping and Hertford through our clinic services.

We support the RSPCA inspectors and animal rescue officers who collect animals from within our Branch area in need of help. As with the majority of RSPCA branches, as well as other charities, the pressure on finances means that we have to prioritise funding for emergency care and for those animals who we treat at our clinic in Harlow.

Our staff and volunteers at the clinic continue to liaise with other local vet practices, animal rescue centres and the local councils to support each other with enquiries from members of the public who can no longer care for their pet either short or long term.

Our clients are required to be registered with a private practice, as our Branch does not offer the full range of veterinary care nor 24x7 services. Clients accepted by us must have a primary vet in place and be receiving welfare benefits and/or state pension to qualify for our subsidised treatments. We do not offer treatment for clients who don't meet these criteria.

We work with several local veterinary practices who will perform procedures that are outside of our clinic's capabilities and offer a reduced rate for our clients. We continue to pay for the provision of an emergency Out-of-Hours Service with Forest Veterinary Services when our clinic is closed.

All animals taken into Branch care receive any necessary vet treatment, vaccinations, neutering, microchipping, flea & worm treatment and are then assessed for rehoming. The Branch funds this activity, working with the boarding and rehoming facilities of RSPCA Danaher Animal Home.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

The trustees monitor our progress and impact throughout the year, to ensure that our work remains focused on our charitable aims and that we continue to deliver benefits to the public and to animals in the area.

The clinic continues to see an increase in the number of new client registrations. For 2023, we saw 3000 clients at the clinic in Harlow. In addition to this, we continued to support owners in providing a repeat prescription service.

In some previous years, the Branch was able to offer a neutering support scheme for dogs. With the high cost of neutering dogs at local vet practices and a reduction in financial donations to the Branch, we were unable to sustain the neutering voucher scheme after April 2023. We continue to work with local vet practices and Cats Protection to provide cat neutering services through the 'C4 Scheme', as a joint initiative to tackle the problem of unwanted cats and in particular kittens.

The Branch will review its capacity to offer neutering vouchers during 2024 with the intention to reintroduce these as soon as it is financially sustainable. The Branch will also work with the RSPCA / Blue Cross scheme for the mandatory neutering of XL Bully dogs as the new legislation takes effect.

Staff and Volunteers

The Branch is resourced with both paid staff and volunteers. At the end of 2023 we had six paid staff, eight volunteers, and two contract veterinary surgeons. At the clinic, we have a Clinic Manager, two part-time receptionists, and five volunteers in administrative and care assistant roles. At our charity shop, we have the Shop Manager, two part-time sales staff and three volunteers.

Recruiting volunteers was challenging in 2022 and much of 2023 and the Branch has had to operate with fewer volunteers than was ideal, but we increased our local advertising and outreach to potential volunteers in the autumn and this has generated some interest and two of our current volunteers are recent joiners, so we feel positive about restoring the Branch's volunteer support to a better level in 2024.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The year saw an increase in animal welfare activities delivered through our Harlow vet clinic, though sadly we had to suspend our dog neutering voucher scheme for financial reasons. Income from our retail operations at our Bishops Stortford shop and online improved and coupled with improved management of the clinic, drove a reduction in the Branch's financial deficit (loss) vs the prior year.

Work to cement the future of the Branch continues. Merger discussions with two RSPCA branches were discontinued in early 2023 as neither proposal was felt to deliver an improvement to public benefit in the Branch area. We redoubled our efforts to recruit a local Board, in parallel with putting out a second merger invitation with a response deadline in early 2024. A temporary Board of Trustees remains in place to ensure the ongoing governance and operation of the Branch while deciding its future.

The Branch has a good understanding of its risks and an adequate reserves level to address foreseeable risks. Our shop lease is being renewed and the future of the clinic is positive, albeit that the lease term has expired.

There have been some staffing changes, and we have been successful in recruiting some new volunteers thanks to additional outreach by our team and local advertising. We are well positioned for 2024 with reduced overall staffing costs and the full impact of a number of actions taken in 2023 to improve operating costs coming through.

As Trustees, we take this opportunity to record our gratitude to our dedicated team of staff and volunteers who make this all possible and have been described by a RSPCA HQ visitor as 'positive, committed and lovely people'. We couldn't agree more, we are immensely grateful to and proud of them all!

Jeff Thompson & Dawn Cleaver

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Our income for 2023 was £231,962. We saw an increase in both clinic demand over 2022. Our expenditure for 2023 was £248,731. Comparable costs for 2022 were high owing to refurbishment of the clinic and additional staffing, though 2023 saw significant increases in the cost of drugs for the clinic.

The Branch continued to receive substantial support from the National RSPCA in 2023, amounting to £23K. This comes mainly from our share of RSPA national fundraising and also from donations to the national RSPCA from within our branch area and membership fees. The RSPCA anticipates national fundraising income falling over the coming years and we will need to increase our local fundraising efforts to compensate.

The increase in turnover and reduction in expenditure vs 2022 reduced the branch's deficit from £54,592 in 2022 down to £16,769 for 2023.

In early 2024, the Branch will review all staff wages in line with government guidelines, local market rates and to the role and responsibilities of each employee. This will ensure a fair process is applied for all staff. We aim to pay within the market range for comparable roles, keeping in mind that we are a small charity. Pay changes will be effective April 2024.

Local income

At the charity shop, we continue to see members of the public seeking bargains. We also saw an increase in the number of items being donated which were not suitable for resale; fortunately the majority of these were sold for recycling. Our retail team increased their efforts with online sales, especially via eBay, and are seeing success. We are somewhat limited by the very limited space available to hold items ready to post while online sales run their course. We will look in 2024 at options to further increase our online sales.

The clinic continues to run at an operating loss, which is as intended by its mission to offer subsidised treatment. We have identified some key elements of clinic operations and costs that can be improved and are working on these at pace.

Cash donations were up in 2023 vs 2022, mainly at our shop in Bishops Stortford, but we saw a 50% decrease in the number of cash donations at the clinic as the cost of living impacted clients' disposable funds. For 2024, we would like to recruit additional volunteers to enable us to extend our local fundraising at other venues.

Debtors

A proportion of our clinic clients struggle with paying in full for treatments. This has an adverse impact on clinic finances. We have introduced a more robust process with the Trustees reviewing aged debts each month and more chasing of outstanding amounts.

Reserves policy

Our reserves at the end of 2023 were £138,529. The committee revised and approved the Branch's Reserves policy and set reserve levels for 2024. Our view, in line with this policy, is that the Branch has sufficient reserves in place to ensure a safe and orderly closure of the Branch should the need arise or to cover foreseeable major risks in ongoing operations. Of course, our intention is to continue to maintain the services needed by the community for as long as needed.

Lease commitments

The charity shop lease is due for review in April 2024 and the committee decided that the contribution of the shop to the Branch is important, enabling the clinic to remain open without significantly increasing prices. The committee have agreed to proceed with renewal of the shop lease. Out of prudence, we will negotiate the lease to include a break clause to limit future liability given the uncertainty over the future shape of the Branch.

The Clinic lease has expired. The Branch is waiting on the landlord, Harlow Council, to progress with a renewal. The Council has given assurances that the lease will be renewed, albeit with a slight increase in the rent. The trustees have checked with the Council regarding renovation of the Stow, which was first proposed in 2018, and have confirmed that if this were to go ahead, we would be involved and would be offered alternative accommodation. We see this as a potential opportunity to expand our Harlow operations.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Clinic operations

Following the refurbishment of the Clinic in 2022, there has been no significant expenditure required in 2023. Improvements to IT equipment and electrics will be needed in 2024 and a budget of £1K has been allocated. In November 2023, we started to offer nurse appointments two days each week in addition to the vet consultations. This released time vet time, enabling us to see more animals and to reduce the cost to clients of simple procedures that the nurse can perform.

Our contracted veterinary surgeons increased their costs in October 2023. The committee decided that due to the economic climate these costs could not be passed on to our clients. They are partly offset by the increased income from the mark-up on drug sales created by the increases in drug prices this year.

Staff, volunteers and contractors work extremely well together to provide the services needed at the clinic to the public, despite the challenges they face daily with animals and pet owners who are in need of our help. An unescorted visit by RSPCA HQ reported a happy, effective team of lovely people working hard for animals - just as we like it!

The clinic does not have any facilities for boarding or re-homing direct to the public but works with the local RSPCA inspectorate and RSPCA Danaher Animal Home in the co-ordination of boarding and re-homing of unwanted, abandoned and mistreated animals collected by the inspectors.

Some minor works were carried out to keep the clinic safe and pleasant for staff and visitors.

Shop

In January 2023 we replaced the floor covering at the Charity Shop which had deteriorated. This has helped to improve the look of the shop.

Staff and volunteers at the shop continue to work hard and we saw an improvement in sales and donations. Profits from the shop go towards the running costs of the clinic.

FUTURE PLANS

During 2023, consideration was given to a possible merger, with two branches expressing interest. In both cases, the committee decided not to proceed. One branch was interested only in part of the Branch area, which would have meant breaking up the Branch's area and uncertainty about the viability of the remainder. The second was a branch which the committee felt was too far away geographically to be able to provide increased benefit to our local community. In the best interests of the Branch and local animal welfare, therefore neither interest was pursued.

The Branch stepped up its trustee recruitment activities in October 2023, with an aim to set up a local board of trustees by the end of January 2024. It is proving to be a significant challenge to recruit suitable candidates to cover the officer roles and bring the skills required to take the Branch forward and forming a full local Board by January now looks unlikely.

Some people have responded to our advertising, then dropped out of the recruitment process. The committee believes that the unincorporated status of the Branch is a factor in this, especially noting that some nearby Branches about to convert to CIOs have had notably more success in recruiting new Trustees.

The committee agreed in the autumn to run in parallel, a new merger invitation and local Trustee recruitment. A new merger prospectus was issued in November 2023 under the RSPCA's new process, with the deadline for interest set at the end of March 2024. We eagerly await the outcome of the process and believe that while Stort Valley would be fully viable stand-alone if a local Board can be formed, equally there are nearby branches with whom a merger would make a great deal of sense.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The accounts for 2023 produced by Xeinaidin (previously Williams Giles) have been accepted by the temporary Board of Trustees with the caveat that prior to our respective appointments we each had no involvement in the running of the branch.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
233908

Principal address

23 The Stow
Harlow
Essex
CM20 3AN

Trustees

Miss D H Cleaver Trustee
J C R Thompson Chair (appointed 16.8.2023)
M Barber (appointed 10.6.2024)
S M Craker (appointed 10.6.2024)

Independent Examiner

Xeinadin South East Limited
12 Conqueror Court
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 5BH

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 31 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Miss D H Cleaver - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of RSPCA Stort Valley Branch

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of RSPCA Stort Valley Branch (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

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.

Fiona Howard FCA CTA FMAAT

Xeinadin South East Limited
12 Conqueror Court
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 5BH

31 October 2024

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

		2023 Unrestricted fund £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes		
Donations and legacies		27,335	37,574
Charitable activities			
Charitable activity		133,608	100,606
Other trading activities	2	67,820	65,797
Investment income	3	3,199	1,302
Total		<u>231,962</u>	<u>205,279</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds		54,633	56,840
Charitable activities			
Charitable activity		170,886	169,257
Support costs		23,212	33,774
Total		<u>248,731</u>	<u>259,871</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(16,769)	(54,592)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		155,298	209,890
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>138,529</u></u>	<u><u>155,298</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH**BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2023**

		2023 Unrestricted fund £	2022 Total funds £
	Notes		
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	6	3,331	7,859
Debtors	7	13,570	14,137
Cash at bank and in hand	8	161,858	166,253
		<u>178,759</u>	<u>188,249</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(40,230)	(32,951)
		<u>138,529</u>	<u>155,298</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>138,529</u>	<u>155,298</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>138,529</u>	<u>155,298</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>138,529</u>	<u>155,298</u>
FUNDS	10		
Unrestricted funds		<u>138,529</u>	<u>155,298</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>138,529</u>	<u>155,298</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 31 October 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

D H Cleaver - Trustee

J C R Thompson - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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.

Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

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.

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability.

The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fundraising events	-	5
Shop income	64,704	62,298
Shop recycling income	1,468	911
Shop online sales	1,648	2,583
	<u>67,820</u>	<u>65,797</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Interest receivable - trading	<u>3,199</u>	<u>1,302</u>

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

During the year ended 31 December 2023, expenses totalling £436 were reimbursed or paid directly to the Trustee (2022 - £837).

It was noted that the trustees had purchased items on behalf of the clinic due to no card facilities being available. Items paid for by the trustees and reclaimed have been accounted for under the relevant cost activity centre expense codes. The trustee expenses noted in the accounts relates to hotel, parking and travel costs.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	37,574
Charitable activities	
Charitable activity	100,606
Other trading activities	65,797
Investment income	1,302
Total	<u>205,279</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Raising funds	56,840
Charitable activities	
Charitable activity	169,257
Support costs	33,774
Total	<u>259,871</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(54,592)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	209,890
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>155,298</u></u>

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6. STOCKS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Stocks	3,331	7,859
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

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

8. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash at bank and 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.

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	33,793	27,233
Taxation and social security	2,681	166
Other creditors	3,756	5,552
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	40,230	32,951
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	155,298	(16,769)	138,529
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	155,298	(16,769)	138,529
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	231,962	(248,731)	(16,769)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	231,962	(248,731)	(16,769)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	209,890	(54,592)	155,298
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>209,890</u>	<u>(54,592)</u>	<u>155,298</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	205,279	(259,871)	(54,592)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>205,279</u>	<u>(259,871)</u>	<u>(54,592)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	209,890	(71,361)	138,529
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>209,890</u>	<u>(71,361)</u>	<u>138,529</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	437,241	(508,602)	(71,361)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>437,241</u>	<u>(508,602)</u>	<u>(71,361)</u>

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

£23,094 was received from national RSPCA in respect of national fundraising (Previously referred to as D2D Collections).

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	4,241	4,356
RSPCA HQ contribution D2D	23,094	33,218
	27,335	37,574
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	-	5
Shop income	64,704	62,298
Shop recycling income	1,468	911
Shop online sales	1,648	2,583
	67,820	65,797
Investment income		
Interest receivable - trading	3,199	1,302
Charitable activities		
Income from charitable activities	133,608	100,606
Total incoming resources	231,962	205,279
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Insurance	79	241
Shop rates	825	1,270
Equipment not capitalised	702	896
Misc expenses/homing	666	1,710
Wages and salaries	34,314	30,742
Shop - General waste	581	417
Light & heat	34	1,223
Shop security	-	532
Postage and stationery	-	1,109
Rent	14,450	15,583
Shop storage facility	2,356	2,462
Card and online sales fees	626	655
	54,633	56,840
Charitable activities		
Vet fees and drug costs	109,837	76,104
Boarding shelter costs	1,882	8,894
Medical and neutering costs	2,651	12,870
Rehoming costs	-	10
Clinic waste disposal	3,132	1,178
Clinical supplies	-	1,732
Carried forward	117,502	100,788

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

RSPCA STORT VALLEY BRANCH

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Charitable activities		
Brought forward	117,502	100,788
External testing	3,451	2,193
Out of hours provisions	3,887	3,631
Clinic refurbishment	-	20,355
Rent	4,126	3,526
Wages	41,920	38,764
	170,886	169,257
Support costs		
Management		
Light and heat	903	1,228
PPS and telephone	2,764	2,799
Annual contribution	551	551
HR, H&S and security	1,752	1,844
Sundry	435	6,161
Irrecoverable VAT	125	81
Repairs and servicing	65	146
Cleaning	188	560
IT and software support	1,218	901
Miscellaneous expenses	1,869	2,134
General waste	383	297
Bad debts	-	1,613
Equipment not capitalised	-	4,685
Bank, card and link charges	3,355	1,697
Governance costs	9,604	9,077
	23,212	33,774
Total resources expended		
	248,731	259,871
Net expenditure		
	(16,769)	(54,592)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Accounts

**Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley
Branch**

Unaudited

Trustees' report and financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

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Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Reference and administrative details of the Charity, its Trustees and advisers for the year ended 31 December 2022

Trustees	Dawn Cleaver Sezen Hussein (appointed 27 February 2023) Stephen Mark Cracker (appointed 14 November 2022) Rebecca Kenny (resigned 28 February 2022) Fred Hammett (resigned 17 January 2023) Keith Aldis (resigned 20 January 2023)
Charity registered number	233908
Principal office	23, The Stow Harlow, Essex CM20 3AN
Accountants	Williams Giles Professional Services Ltd 12 Conqueror Court Sittingbourne Kent ME10 5BH
Bankers	Natwest PLC Bishops Stortford Branch 7 North Street Bishops Stortford Herts CM23 2TJ

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The temporary trustees present their report and the financial statements of RSPCA Stort Valley (hereafter referred to as 'the Charity'/'the Branch') for the year ended 31st December 2022. The temporary Trustees (hereafter referred to as 'we') confirm the annual report and financial statements of the Charity with the current statutory requirements and the requirements of the Charity's governing document.

BRANCH STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Since October 2021, the Branch remains under 'National Administration' by the RSPCA, overseen by temporary trustees to co-ordinate the affairs of the Branch, examine its operations and financial situation and to make recommendations for its future. The temporary trustees are supported by the RSPCA's Branch Partnership Manager, as well as oversight by national RSPCA.

In 2022, the board of trustees considered the options of:

- Returning the Branch to as standalone Branch of the RSPCA
- Merge with a neighbouring RSPCA Branch
- Close it down

After careful consideration, it was identified that there was a need to continue having a Branch within Harlow, due to both current demand and for the near future. It is recognised that Harlow now has the lowest employment rate in Essex, meaning that we expect more animal welfare support requests than seen in previous years. Taking these elements in to consideration, the decision was made not to close the Branch and to proceed with a refurbishment of the clinic which was in a poor state of repair.

As part of the decision not to close the Branch down, it was decided that the Branch would benefit from employing a Branch Manager to oversee operational day to day activities, review efficiencies, recruitment, training, improve governance and to work with the Charity Shop Manager to provide plans to improve income streams and enhance animal welfare activities.

OBJECTIVES PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES

The Charity's objectives follow those of the National RSPCA. The primary aim of the RSPCA branches is to support the animal rescue work of our inspectorate. We additionally support our local communities through the rescue and rehoming of animals, the provision of a welfare clinic, neutering and microchipping scheme.

Our Branch reaches out to Saffron Waldron, Bishops Stortford, Harlow, Hoddesdon, Broxbourne and Wormley plus surround villages along this corridor.

We support our RSPCA regional inspectors and animal rescue officers who collect animals from within our Branch area and are in need of our help. Since Covid restrictions were lifted, we have experienced increasing pressure on our resources to help requests from the public for financial support, such that we have had to prioritise our funds to provide emergency care for those animals collected by the RSPCA inspectorate within our area as a priority.

Our staff at the clinic continue to work with other local animal charities to support each other with enquiries from the public who can no longer care for their pet either short or long term.

All animals in Branch care receive necessary emergency vet treatment, vaccinations, neutering, microchipping, flea treatment, wormer and are assessed for re-homing. The Branch funds this activity with the boarding and rehoming facilities provided by RSPCA Danaher Animal Home.

We work with other local veterinary practices to perform procedures that are outside the facilities available at our clinic in Harlow. We continue to fund for an emergency Out of Hours provision with Forest Veterinary Services, for when our clinic is closed.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2022

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The trustees monitor our achievements throughout the year, to ensure that they remain focused on our charitable aims and we deliver on our benefits to the public.

Between October 2021 to May 2022, there had been a need to halt new client registrations due to the high demand for services and availability of locum vets, as well as the impact that Covid had on being able to operate the clinic effectively. After the refurbishment, we explored the possibility of expanding the scope of support once all Covid restrictions were lifted to meet the demand from members of the public. This took into account the emerging risks that pet owners would be impacted by the economic changes. We therefore expanded the scope for neutering welfare voucher scheme to all dog breeds, which had previously only been traditionally Staffordshire Terriers, and started to accept new registration applications for support from the members of the public.

Whilst the clinic is unable to offer the full range of services of that of a private veterinary practice, we have provided financial support where pets were in distress and needed treatment. We saw a notable increase in requests relating to dental extractions for cats and dogs. Emergency treatment was provided by other vet practices which was in addition to neutering costs.

Boarding and rehoming in 2022 was undertaken by the Branch in conjunction with RSPCA Danaher Animal Home, in Braintree, Essex, for which the branch contributed towards boarding costs of unwanted/abandoned animals of £8,894 in 2022. This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering through vaccination and neutering. As well as the inspectorate, we work with local councils to reunite pets with their owners; this helps by preventing animals straying and posing a risk to themselves and to people through road traffic accidents.

In 2022, our vet surgeons treated 2,400 animals at our clinic in Harlow. In addition to this, we continued to support pet owners in providing a repeat prescription service.

We continued to offering neutering vouchers during 2022 for 43 Dogs, 70 Cats, 2 Rabbits and 2 Guinea Pigs. This is a significant increase since Covid, due to an increase in pet ownership, and also more local vet practices having the capacity to provide neutering services.

The neutering scheme helps to reduce the incidence of unwanted pets. We respond to enquiries from both the public locally and via the Society's national call centre.

Our clinic endorses the work and objectives of the National RSPCA by encouraging good care and welfare of animals and by re-homing abandoned or mistreated pets.

People

The Branch is resourced with both paid staff and volunteers. In 2022 we saw a drop in the number of applications from members of the public for volunteering, partly due to Covid.

The committee agreed to employ a full-time Branch Manager to oversee day to day activities of the Branch on a 12 month fixed term contract, to review the Branch efficiencies and propose plans for improvements. We were unsuccessful in recruiting one person full-time with the skills and experienced needed for the role and agreed to employ a part-time Clinic Manager with Veterinary Nurse qualifications and experience, as well as an Administration Manager. The aim was to ensure that there was a senior manager on site at the clinic every day.

The Branch continues to offer volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, fundraising and assisting within our clinic and shop. With vacancies advertised at each location, posted on social media, Reach Volunteering website, the local volunteer centre, as well as on the National RSPCA website.

Where staff vacancies become available, these are advertised at each location and through local job centre in order to support the local community. For specialist roles, these are advertised through reputable recruitment websites.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2022

EFFECTS OF CURRENT ECONOMIC DOWNTURN

Our income for 2022 was £205,279, against £192,852 for 2021

Our expenditure for 2022 was £259,871 against £200,572 for 2021. This increase included additional staff wages, refurbishment of the clinic, updating equipment and improvements in health, safety and security.

During 2022, many charities, including our Branch were adversely impacted by the recent economic situation, seeing an increase in general running costs. Research also shows that many charities had to use their reserves due to the economic pressure and changes in donor behaviour.

The cost-of-living crisis continues to impact the Branch in 2023, with a forecast that we will have to continue to use our reserves. We predict a greater demand for our services through the clinic, more animals being collected by the RSPCA inspectors; requests for financial assistance from members of the public for their pets in needed of emergency treatment; and from pet owners who are looking for support to rehome their animals.

In 2022 we had increased pressure to secure the services of additional locum vets to ensure continuity of service at our clinic. This pressure impacted our costs due to shortage of veterinary practitioners across the UK and therefore an increase in locum vet prices.

For the charity shop we saw members of the public seeking better bargains for their purchases. Whilst donations in 2022 was slightly up than 2021, this was mainly from online donations and in our charity shop, however, we saw a decline in the number of cash donations received from the public at the clinic.

We want to thank members of the public who continue to support our Branch by donating items, money and also those who purchase items direct from our shop, or online, without which we would not be able to provide funds to support animal welfare across the Branch area.

Governance Update

a) Health & Safety

The committee decided to continue with the H&S Support of Acton and Jennings for 2022. Annual reviews were carried out as planned and information updated as Covid restrictions had been relaxed at our Branch from July 2022. An additional review of H&S for the clinic pre-refurbishment was also carried out.

b) Progress merger option

An enquiry was made to neighbouring RSPCA Branches to see if there was another branch who were considering a merger. Two letters of interest were received, with one branch only interested in part of the Branch area. The request to split the Branch area was rejected and not pursued any further. The other expression of interest was received from a RSPCA Branch who were not a neighbouring branch. We decided to explore the possibilities of a merger with the non-neighbouring branch and how this might benefit animal welfare, with the best interests of the SV Branch needs as the focal point in the decision making process. The possibility of a merger was still being considered at the end of 2022, with more information needed by both parties. A decision as to merger or not will be made in Q1 of 2023.

c) Local Control option

In view of the possibility of a potential merger, the option to return the Branch to local control was put on hold. However contingency plans are in place to move the branch back to local control should the decision of both branches not to proceed with a merger be made in 2023.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2022

CLINIC

At the end of April, the clinic was closed for four weeks as it underwent refurbishment activities. Prior to this a contingency plan was put in place, working with members of the public and local veterinary practices to ensure continuity of treatment whilst the work was carried out. We are pleased to report that these plans were successful with only four emergency requests for treatment received which required approval for expenditure. We want to thank members of the public, local vet practices, our staff and volunteers for their contribution and support during the clinic closure. Without this support we would not have been able to carry out much essential work at the clinic and still provide animal welfare services.

The clinic re-opened as planned on the 24th May. The clinic opened its doors to the public for the first time since Covid restrictions had been lifted, and they were able to come onto the premises with their pets for the first time in over 18 months. This was welcomed by members of the public who did not have to wait outside and not be with their pets during consultation/treatment. We have received many complements on the professional look of the clinic, waiting room and other facilities.

As part of the refurbishment, a new telephony system was installed, a reception desk and large waiting area, a new PTS/Nurse consultation room was created, a new kitchen, as well as updating the equipment used for animal welfare in the clinic.

A review of the services on site was carried out as part of the refurbishment, which included converting space into an operating room. However, with the continued issue of not being able to source the services of locum vets to extend opening hours/days that the clinic could be open to the public, set up and running costs, and with the limited size of the clinic, it was decided not to pursue this further unless an adjoining unit became available. There was also the risk that the clinic may be relocated in time due to an application by the local council for a government grant to renovate Harlow town shopping centre, which would mean moving the clinic to another location and require additional expenditure. We did also consider the opportunities to expand the clinic would bring if the renovation went ahead.

As no decision has been made by central government to approve local Grant since 2019, and with the current economic pressures, there is no budget allocated in 2023 for expansion of the Branch clinic facilities at Harlow, or to commit the Branch funds to open another charity shop.

In July, we started to see new challenges emerging in being able to operate the clinic with increased costs of supplies, shortages in the supply chain of drugs and availability of additional locum vets. The clinic operates with two contracted locum vets, covering four days per week, however when they are not available, we have to source the service of other locums, where the costs are much higher in order for us to meet the demand from the public.

In October the decision to increase our consultation fee and increase for drugs was made. We kept any increases to a minimum, and clients still benefit from greatly reduced costs in comparison to private vet practices.

RETAIL

We operate one charity shop in Bishops Stortford. In 2022 the Branch no longer received any local government Covid grants. The shop was fully open from July 2022 where restrictions on the number of people who could come into the shop was lifted. We also reverted to 7 day opening and reviewed staffing levels. The use of the new storage facility was still required in 2022 to stock seasonal items as well as providing a sorting area for donations due to the limited size of the charity shop.

A decision was made to longer accept large donated items due to the lack of sales space at the shop. Animal beds, blankets, donated food, animal crates, leads etc donated are given to RSPCA Danaher Home, or to other local animal rescue centres the RSPCA works with.

We saw a profit in 2022 for the shop, with a reduction in the number of items being sent for recycling. The shop continued to have challenges to recruit volunteers to assist in enhancing our online presence and to provide retail sales support to cover 7 days a week trading. This had an adverse effect on our staffing costs. The shop area has stiff competition from other charity shops for volunteers and this posed a problem during 2022.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2022

We did see an increase in the online sales, using eBay and Vinted, with plans to develop online presence further in 2023. We are looking to increase the number volunteering opportunities for fundraising and social media to support this objective.

Staff and volunteers at the shop have worked hard resulting in an improvement over previous years for this revenue stream, and they continue to explore new ways to generate income.

Contributions from shop profit is used to support animal welfare for the costs of rescue and re-homing activities.

Other items of Interest

Reserves - At the end of December 2022 our reserves stood at £155K. The Branch has sufficient reserves in place to ensure a safe and orderly closure of the Branch should the need arise. Of course, the intention is to continue to maintain the services needed by the community for as long as wanted.

In November 2022, a decision to move £20K from the reserves account was made into our current account as a contingency to ensure that there were adequate funds available, during Christmas and New Year period when income streams are low, so that we were able to continue to pay our obligations on time, in particular rent, rates, utilities, suppliers and staff wages.

We expect to use our reserves again in 2023 as the economic pressure continues to impact our cost base. As we are still in the process of fact-finding and not made a decision at the end of 2022, whether the Branch should continue as a stand-alone Branch or to merge with another RSPCA branch, no additional funding has been included in the 2023 budget for any transition costs, or other major expenditure which would adversely impact our reserves.

Risks & Financial Policies

As trustees we are aware of our responsibilities to the Charity and consider these prior to making financial decisions that may or may not have an impact on the Charity's financial position. We review our risks and financial situation as part of our Branch meetings.

Support from National RSPCA and other Regional RSPCA branches

Fortunately, the Branch continues to receive a substantial income support from National RSPCA, which in 2022 was £23K from door to door collections.

During the transition from local to National RSPCA control, the RSPCA paid our suppliers £35K up to March 2022 on our behalf whilst the bank mandates were being changed. The Branch reimbursed National RSPCA at the end of April 2022.

The cost for refurbishment of the clinic was £25K with additional expenditure required for replacement equipment, new telephony system and alarm system as well as additional sundry items such as signage replacement of some IT equipment, and waste disposal costs.

The Branch also received £10K contribution from the Regional Board towards refurbishment costs of the clinic, this has been reported as income in the accounts.

Staffing Costs

Staffing costs increased with the recruitment of two new part-time manager posts at the clinic, and an additional part-time sales person in order for our charity shop to ensure we were able to open 7 days per week.

There are no plans to recruit any additional staff in 2023 but to focus on increasing the number of volunteers at both locations.

We want to thank all our dedicated staff and volunteers who made an invaluable contribution in 2022 in enabling us to continue to provide animal welfare services to members of the public.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Trustees' report (continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

Temporary Trustees 2022 accounts statement

The accounts for 2022 produced by Williams Giles have been accepted by the temporary board of trustees based on the caveat that prior to our appointment in October 2021, we had no involvement in the running of the branch.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 5 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Dawn Cleaver
Temporary Trustee

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 5 September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Dawn Cleaver
Temporary Trustee

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 December 2022

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared the accounts 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) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 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.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:

Samuel Ketcher

Dated: 20 September 2023

FCCA

Williams Giles Professional Services Ltd

12 Conqueror Court
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 5BH

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Statement of financial activities
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	3	37,574	37,574	45,236
Charitable activities	4	100,606	100,606	100,367
Other trading activities	5	65,797	65,797	46,504
Investments	6	1,302	1,302	745
Total income		205,279	205,279	192,852
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	56,840	56,840	45,160
Charitable activities	8	203,031	203,031	155,412
Total expenditure		259,871	259,871	200,572
Net movement in funds		(54,592)	(54,592)	(7,720)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		209,890	209,890	217,610
Net movement in funds		(54,592)	(54,592)	(7,720)
Total funds carried forward		155,298	155,298	209,890

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets			
Stocks	13	7,859	7,211
Debtors	14	14,137	10,285
Cash at bank and in hand		166,253	260,163
		<u>188,249</u>	<u>277,659</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(32,951)	(67,769)
Net current assets		<u>155,298</u>	<u>209,890</u>
Total net assets		<u>155,298</u>	<u>209,890</u>
Charity funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	17	155,298	209,890
Total unrestricted funds	17	<u>155,298</u>	<u>209,890</u>
Total funds		<u>155,298</u>	<u>209,890</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 05 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Dawn Cleaver
Temporary Trustee

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. General information

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch is a charitable unincorporated association registered in the United Kingdom. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information page of the financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activity are to promote the work and objectives of the National Society, to promote kindness and to prevent or surpress cruelty to animals by all lawful means, with particular reference to the area of the branch in accordance with the policies of the society.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch 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.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in GBP and rounded to the nearest pound.

2.2 Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, i.e whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make their assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements.

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in existence for the foreseeable future.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

2.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.7 Stocks and work in progress

Stocks and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

2.8 Debtors

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

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and 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.

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.12 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Income from donations, memberships and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Donations, memberships and legacies	4,356	4,356	3,914
RSPCA HQ Contribution D2D	33,218	33,218	24,134
Government grants including furlough	-	-	17,188
	37,574	37,574	45,236
<i>Total 2021</i>	45,236	45,236	

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Animal Clinic income	93,344	93,344	94,967
Neutering Voucher income	7,262	7,262	3,760
Animal Adoptions	-	-	1,640
	<u>100,606</u>	<u>100,606</u>	<u>100,367</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u><u>100,367</u></u>	<u><u>100,367</u></u>	

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Fundraising events	5	5	641
Shop sales and online sales	65,792	65,792	45,863
	<u>65,797</u>	<u>65,797</u>	<u>46,504</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u><u>46,504</u></u>	<u><u>46,504</u></u>	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Bank interest	1,302	1,302	745
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u><u>745</u></u>	<u><u>745</u></u>	

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Fundraising expenses	-	-	58
Card, link and online sales fees	655	655	443
Insurance	241	241	513
Subscriptions	-	-	233
Stationery, postage and telephone	1,109	1,109	916
Shop rent	15,583	15,583	17,000
Shop rates	1,270	1,270	707
Equipment not capitalised	896	896	257
Electricity	1,223	1,223	1,228
General waste	417	417	396
Shop security	532	532	28
Sundry expense	-	-	18
Miscellaneous expenses	1,710	1,710	1,314
Shop storage	2,462	2,462	426
Fundraising trading expenses - wages and salaries	30,742	30,742	21,623
	56,840	56,840	45,160
<i>Total 2021</i>	45,160	45,160	

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	<i>Total 2021 £</i>
Animal Clinic	203,031	203,031	155,412
<i>Total 2021</i>	155,412	155,412	

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Animal Clinic	169,257	33,774	203,031	155,412
<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>119,473</i>	<i>35,939</i>	<i>155,412</i>	

Analysis of direct costs

	Animal Clinic 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Wages and salaries costs	38,764	38,764	13,176
Vet fees and drug costs	76,104	76,104	71,996
Rent and rates	3,526	3,526	4,100
Out of Date Stock	-	-	426
Boarding shelter costs	8,894	8,894	9,189
Medical and neutering welfare costs	12,870	12,870	10,425
Rehoming costs	10	10	706
Clinic waste disposal	1,178	1,178	463
Clinical supplies	1,732	1,732	1,116
External testing	2,193	2,193	3,676
Out of hours provisions	3,631	3,631	4,200
Clinic refurbishment	20,355	20,355	-
	169,257	169,257	119,473
<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>119,473</i>	<i>119,473</i>	

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Animal Clinic 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Annual contribution	551	551	82
Bank, card and link charges	1,697	1,697	2,020
Clinic electricity	1,228	1,228	1,181
Repairs and servicing	146	146	100
Equipment not capitalised	4,685	4,685	2,839
Cleaning	560	560	1,701
General waste	297	297	218
IT and software support	901	901	949
Stationery, postage and telephone	2,799	2,799	2,321
Misc expenses	2,134	2,134	2,808
Insurance	-	-	223
Irrecoverable VAT	81	81	308
HR, H&S and security	1,844	1,844	1,893
Sundry	6,161	6,161	7,962
Bad debts	1,613	1,613	5,795
Governance costs	9,077	9,077	5,539
	<u>33,774</u>	<u>33,774</u>	<u>35,939</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>35,939</u>	<u>35,939</u>	

10. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner for the independent examination of the Charity's annual accounts	1,750	750
Fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner in respect of:		
All other services not included above	<u>1,250</u>	<u>500</u>

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

11. Staff costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	69,506	34,799
	<u>69,506</u>	<u>34,799</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Number of employees	6	4
	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2021 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 December 2022, expenses totalling £837 were reimbursed or paid directly to Trustee (2021 - £415).

It was noted that the trustees had purchased items on behalf of the clinic due to no card facilities being available. Items paid for by the trustees and reclaimed have been accounted for under the relevant cost activity expense codes. The trustee expenses noted in the accounts relates to hotel, parking and travel costs.

13. Stocks

	2022 £	2021 £
Clinic Drug Stocks	7,786	7,138
Clinical Sundry items	73	73
	<u>7,859</u>	<u>7,211</u>

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

14. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Due within one year		
Debts owed to branch	4,035	1,927
VAT refund due	3,841	3,232
Prepayments and accrued income	2,011	876
Shop rent deposit	4,250	4,250
	14,137	10,285

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
RSPCA Head office	-	35,830
Trade creditors	27,233	30,699
Other taxation and social security	166	-
Accruals and deferred income	5,552	1,240
	32,951	67,769

16. Financial instruments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	166,253	260,163

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

17. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds	209,890	205,279	(259,871)	155,298
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

Statement of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 January 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 December 2021 £</i>
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds	<i>217,610</i>	<i>192,852</i>	<i>(200,572)</i>	<i>209,890</i>
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

18. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
General funds	209,890	205,279	(259,871)	155,298

Summary of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 January 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 December 2021 £</i>
General funds	<i>217,610</i>	<i>192,852</i>	<i>(200,572)</i>	<i>209,890</i>

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Current assets	188,249	188,249
Creditors due within one year	(32,951)	(32,951)
Total	155,298	155,298

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Current assets	<i>277,659</i>	<i>277,659</i>
Creditors due within one year	<i>(67,769)</i>	<i>(67,769)</i>
Total	209,890	209,890

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

20. Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2022 the Charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Not later than 1 year	17,292	17,292
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	5,667	22,667
	22,959	39,959

21. Related party transactions

The Charity has not entered into any related party transaction during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the Charity at 31 December 2022.

No related party transactions took place in the prior year.

Accounts

**Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley
Branch**

Unaudited

Trustees' report and financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2021

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

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Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Reference and administrative details of the Charity, its Trustees and advisers
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

Trustees	Wendy Harold (resigned 26 July 2021) Peter Gear (resigned 5 July 2021) Christine Morris (resigned 24 September 2021) Barbara Leslie (resigned 24 September 2021) Marion Wellsman (resigned 24 September 2021) Lesley Mathers (resigned 27 July 2021) Brigitte Swanton (resigned 1 September 2021) Maz Peters (resigned 27 July 2021) Dawn Cleaver (appointed 1 October 2021) Keith Aldis (appointed 1 October 2021) Fred Hammett (appointed 1 October 2021) Rebecca Kenny (appointed 1 November 2021)
Charity registered number	233908
Principal office	23, The Stow Harlow, Essex CM20 3AN
Accountants	Williams Giles Professional Services Ltd Sittingbourne Kent ME10 5BH
Bankers	Natwest PLC Bishops Stortford Branch 7 North Street Bishops Stortford Herts CM23 2TJ

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The RSPCA Stort Valley branch is constituted as an unincorporated association. The charity operates as an autonomous branch of the National RSPCA subject to its rules for branches (as updated in 2006). It carries out its direct animal welfare work in the areas of Saffron Walden, Bishop's Stortford, Harlow, Hoddesdon, Broxbourne and Wormley plus surrounding villages along this corridor.

In September of 2021, the Board of Trustees resigned, and the Branch was taken into 'National Administration' by the RSPCA. Three new temporary trustees were appointed by RSPCA to oversee the affairs of the branch, examine its operations and financial situation and to make recommendations for its future. A further temporary trustee was also appointed to review animal welfare procedures, supported by the RSPCA's Branch Partnership Manager.

The committee of Trustees, governs the branch. All trustees are briefed on their responsibilities as trustees prior to their acceptance of the role. The trustees currently hold weekly meetings at which decisions are made.

The trustees actively review the risks, which the charity faces on a regular basis through regular meetings of the trustees that cover operational and financial reviews. The trustees also examine their operational and business risks which the branch face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate significant risks, which have been identified as:

- Inability to operate the clinic because of fire or other destruction,
- Loss of reputation through fraud or error,
- Loss of income through fraud or error,
- Insufficient funds to cover the cost of animal welfare activities.

2. OBJECTIVES AND PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of the Branches objectives and activities throughout the year, from the perspective of it being in 'administration' to ensure they remain focused on its charitable aims and continue to deliver benefits to the public which is the prime objective. We have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the commission.

The objectives of the branch are to promote the work and objects of the Society - to promote kindness and to prevent or suppress cruelty to animals by all lawful means - with reference to the catchment area of the branch, in accordance with the policies of the Society.

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES PURSUED FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Branch runs a clinic in Harlow manned by staff, and volunteers, giving advice to the public on animal matters in accordance with national RSPCA policies. The public benefits from knowing that the branch can intervene to assist animals in need with support where required, from RSPCA Inspectorate.

The clinic uses registered locum vets who provide basic treatment to animals whose owners are on means tested benefit or state pensioners. The consultation fee and the drugs supplied are at substantially reduced fees to that of a private vet.

When treatment is beyond the clinic's facilities, the branch will try to assist with private veterinary costs outside of the neutering process, if sufficient financial funds available. This work helps those on means tested benefits and state pensioners, by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

The branch provides subsidised neutering of dogs, cats, rabbits for those in the branch area on low incomes. This work helps to control the population and helps support owners who are on means tested benefits and state pensioners by giving them partial financial through our Animal Welfare Voucher Scheme, thereby promoting responsible pet ownership.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2021

A micro-chipping service is available at the clinic to all members of the public at an affordable cost. This again promotes responsible companion animal ownership and will help avoid the huge stray population. Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment, vaccination, neutering, micro-chipping,. This work helps to control the incidence and spread of disease and suffering through vaccination and neutering.

For animals that need rehoming assistance is available through work with other RSPCA animal rescue branches and local rescue charities. It is recognise that companion animals provide measurable benefits to people's physical and mental health, the provision for rehoming pets is not main charitable aim of this branch's service, as it has no overnight facilities at our clinic.

Consideration was given to the impact on pets post Covid, and an increase seen in the number of animals collected by the RSPCA inspectors across our branch area. This also looked at the limited facilities at the clinic and fostering network, in how the branch could support and prevent an increase in abandoned animals. In 2021 the branch entered into a financial commitment to lease designated pens at an RSPCA rescue centre (boarding), to secure space to meet the branch area demand from the public for assistance both at the clinic, and through calls to the national RSPCA Cruelty line.

The Society's Inspectorate rescues animals in distress and enforces laws against the cruel mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to 'the prevention or suppression of cruelty' which is the aim of the RSPCA in promoting humane sentiments towards animals which involves the moral benefit to humankind.

The branch continues to provide an 'out of hours' service when the clinic is closed for emergency purposes, where an owner is unable to get this support from their primary vet provider.

At both the clinic and charity shop volunteering opportunities exist for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, fostering, fund raising, home checking and administration. This benefits local people and companies by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.

4. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our Clinic throughput has increased two-fold since the outbreak of Covid and in 2021 the branch provided assistance to support 2,762 dogs, 1,169 cats, 27 rabbits, 42 other small pets. This compares to 1,448 dogs, 851 cats, 9 Rabbits, 19 birds and other small furies seen during 2020. These numbers include revisits for the same animal for ongoing treatment, repeat prescriptions and animals that unfortunately had to be put to sleep.

The activity levels for overall Branch referrals (excluding the animals looked after through the Clinic) are shown below: -

	2021	2020
Rehoming through Fostering		
Cats	37	28
Dogs	10	1
Rabbits	2	1
Welfare neutering		
Cats	79	97
Dogs	5	11
Rabbits	12	4
Other Misc	0	0

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2021

In addition 9 dogs and 32 cats were microchipped.

5. TEMPORARY TRUSTEES' REPORT

On taking up temporary trusteeship, the temporary trustees were tasked with identifying the best way for the work of the branch to continue within the ethos of the RSPCA.

The decision on the future of the branch is to focus on the best interests of the charity in providing continued animal welfare and support for pet owners. The options are (a) to continue to run the Branch as an independent standalone branch of the RSPCA, or (b) to merge it with another branch or (c) indeed to close it down entirely if the branch is unable to operate due to demand exceeding ability to generate income to keep it open.

From September 2021 the national RSPCA has provided the branch with a loan to pay its suppliers whilst bank mandates signatures were being changed. This has meant that the bank balances shows as much higher than in previous years. Our creditors at the end of the year included RSPCA, as well as other creditors carried forward into 2022. RSPCA national will continue to support the branch into 2022 to ensure our suppliers are paid during this transition period.

Since October 2021 the focus has been on navigating the branch to ensure continuity of service to the public and supporting animal welfare activities across our branch area into 2022. Staff and volunteers continue to work hard and are dedicated to continue to build up relationships with the public and their pets, in providing a good service. The trustees want to thank staff and volunteers for their support.

In November 2021 the committee wrote to all our members (81) to advise them that the branch was now under national RSPCA control, and also advised that there would not be an AGM in 2021, but that the 2020 accounts had been published to the Charities Committee website to view.

A small deficit in 2021 reflected the impact of Covid and our availability of services, coupled with branch absorbing increased costs from our suppliers. Despite this, the finances of the branch remained stable and there are sufficient reserve funds for us to invest in repairs, upgrading our IT and telephony systems, as well as improvement in HSE and Security to start in Q2 of 2022. Unfortunately, due to poor maintenance of the clinic it will have to close for a month for refurbishment work.

The branches retail operation continues to work efficiently under the management our Charity Shop Manager and thank her, and her team, for their continued efforts.

In November 2021, due to the volume of donations, the size of the shop and health, safety and security requirements, the trustees agreed to additional storage facilities to be set up. This has enabled the shop to manage seasonal changes more effectively as well as being able to restart online sales, which had been previously stalled.

In December 2021, the trustees decided that it would be beneficial to recruit a Manager to deliver the ongoing day to day running of the clinic, with the skills and knowledge to review operational efficiencies as well as supporting and developing staff and volunteers. This appointment is scheduled for Q2 in 2022.

The branch ends 2021 in a relatively secure financial position with reserves approximating about 9 months of continued services, which has factored in the cost of refurbishment.

The trustees are comfortable that there has been no misappropriation of the Trust's funds.

6. TEMPORARY TREASURERS' REPORT

a). Income

The total income was £228,682 against £193,951 in 2020.

b). Expenditure

Expenditure was £200,572 against £162,520 in 2020.

Additional expenditure included the provision of boarding facilities to support the demand of unwanted pets and abandoned animals, updating our IT applications. After lockdown restrictions, government assistance ceased,

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2021

the full cost of wages is realised in 2021, over 2020, with an increase in professional charges for both change over in accountancy supplier and VAT registration.

The trustees identified that bad debts had not been written off from the previous year's. Whilst every attempt has been made to contact these clients, it has not been possible to recover all these debts. Bad debts not recoverable for 2020 and prior, are shown in the 2021 accounts.

c). Outturn

A small deficit of £7,720 does not compare favourably against the surplus of £30K in 2020, however this was primarily due large grants from local government to support during Covid lock down restrictions.

Our 2021 year end reserves stood at £209,890 against £217,610 in 2020

d). Other Items of Interest

Fortunately, the branch continued to receive a substantial income from the HQ run door to door collections of £24,314 in 2021 which was slightly down from £25,173 in 2020.

Due to continued Covid restrictions and the enforced country-wide lockdown, our charity shop in Bishop's Stortford was closed for a lengthy period of time during 2020 but re-opened again in 2021. This led to a significant increase in the income from the charity shop sales and a reduction in online sales.

As well as new storage facilities set up for the shop, the plans for 2022 is to re-introduced online retail which had previously been stopped by the former trustees due to the high volume of donations received and resources needed. Our aim is to enhance our online presence to increase income as well as utilising recycling opportunities for items the shop has been unable to sell online or in the shop.

e). Reserves Policy

The branches reserves policy was reviewed in December 2021 which now aims to have sufficient reserves in place to ensure a safe and orderly closure of the branch over a 9 month period, should the need arise.

The intention is to continue to maintain the services needed by the local community for as long as possible. The temporary trustees are still in the process of fact-finding and have not yet made the decision as to the branches long term plan.

f). Risk Policy

The Stort Valley Branch committee reviews it financial situation at every branch meeting. All of the trustees have access to the accounts applicable, which enables transparency of information amongst the committee.

Financial Risks	Financial Controls in Place
Rent and Rates	6 months running cost held as a reserve.
Misappropriation of funds.	Joint signatory policy on cheques, two of three. Two signatories present when making Bank Transfers. All supplier/contract changes subject to committee scrutiny.
Theft of Collection Boxes	Collection boxes sited in reputable locations
No guaranteed donated income	High profile presence with fundraising events .
Litigious Action	Insurance
Key Holders	Restricted to staff only. Staff have to sign for a set of keys to our premises. Lock changes and new security measures when anyone

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Trustees' report (continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

leaves.

Loss of data and records

Electronic back up and retained 'off site'
Physical records - locked up when not required.
Access controlled by Managers.
Document destruction supplier.

**Trustees' report (continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

7. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year, and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

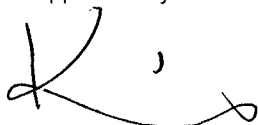
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently:
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent:
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements: and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the Charity and which will enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law, regulations, and trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Temporary Trustees 2021 accounts statement

The accounts for 2021 produced by Williams Giles have been accepted by the temporary board of trustees based on the caveat that prior to our appointment in October 2021, we had no involvement in the running of the branch. Accepted by order of the members of the temporary board of trustees and signed on their behalf by:-

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 3 November 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Keith Aldis
Temporary Treasurer

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 December 2021

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared the accounts 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) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 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.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:

Alex Ffrench

Dated:

FCCA

Williams Giles Professional Services Ltd

Sittingbourne

Kent

ME10 5BH

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Statement of financial activities
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

		Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>As restated Total funds 2020 £</i>
	Note			
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	3	45,236	45,236	58,662
Charitable activities	4	100,367	100,367	97,002
Other trading activities	5	46,504	46,504	36,762
Investments	6	745	745	1,526
Total income		<u>192,852</u>	<u>192,852</u>	<u>193,952</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	46,730	46,730	42,787
Charitable activities	8	153,842	153,842	119,733
Total expenditure		<u>200,572</u>	<u>200,572</u>	<u>162,520</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(7,720)</u>	<u>(7,720)</u>	<u>31,432</u>
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		217,610	217,610	186,178
Net movement in funds		(7,720)	(7,720)	31,432
Total funds carried forward		<u>209,890</u>	<u>209,890</u>	<u>217,610</u>

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 11 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Balance sheet
as at 31 December 2021**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets			
Stocks	13	7,211	5,641
Debtors	14	10,285	11,247
Cash at bank and in hand		260,163	204,145
		<u>277,659</u>	<u>221,033</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(67,769)	(3,423)
Net current assets		<u>209,890</u>	<u>217,610</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>209,890</u></u>	<u><u>217,610</u></u>
Charity funds			
Unrestricted funds	17	209,890	217,610
Total funds		<u><u>209,890</u></u>	<u><u>217,610</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 03 November 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Keith Aldis
Temporary Treasurer

The notes on pages 11 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. General information

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch is a charitable unincorporated association registered in the United Kingdom. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information page of the financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activity are to promote the work and objectives of the National Society, to promote kindness and to prevent or surpress cruelty to animals by all lawful means, with particular reference to the area of the branch in accordance with the policies of the society.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch 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.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in GBP and rounded to the nearest pound.

2.2 Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, i.e whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make their assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements.

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in existence for the foreseeable future.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

2.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.7 Stocks and work in progress

Stocks and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

2.8 Debtors

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

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and 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.

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.12 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Income from donations, memberships and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>As restated Total funds 2020 £</i>
Donations, memberships and legacies	3,914	3,914	6,456
RSPCA HQ Contribution D2D	24,134	24,134	25,173
Government grants including furlough	17,188	17,188	27,033
	45,236	45,236	58,662
<i>Total 2020 as restated</i>	58,662	58,662	

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Animal Clinic income	94,967	94,967	90,807
Neutering Voucher income	3,760	3,760	3,460
Animal Adoptions	1,640	1,640	2,735
	<u>100,367</u>	<u>100,367</u>	<u>97,002</u>
<i>Total 2020</i>	<u>97,002</u>	<u>97,002</u>	

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Fundraising events	641	641	702
Shop sales and online sales	45,863	45,863	36,060
	<u>46,504</u>	<u>46,504</u>	<u>36,762</u>
<i>Total 2020</i>	<u>36,762</u>	<u>36,762</u>	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Bank interest	745	745	1,526
<i>Total 2020</i>	<u>1,526</u>	<u>1,526</u>	

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Fundraising expenses	58	58	85
Card and link charges	2,013	2,013	555
Insurance	513	513	644
Subscriptions	233	233	-
Stationery, postage and telephone	916	916	2,171
Shop rent	17,000	17,000	17,055
Shop rates	707	707	1,921
Equipment not capitalised	257	257	-
Electricity	1,228	1,228	588
General waste	396	396	-
HSE & Security	28	28	-
Sundry expense	18	18	49
Miscellaneous expenses	1,314	1,314	-
Shop storage	426	426	-
Fundraising trading expenses - wages and salaries	21,623	21,623	19,719
	46,730	46,730	42,787
<i>Total 2020</i>	42,787	42,787	

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	<i>Total 2020 £</i>
Animal Clinic	153,842	153,842	119,733
<i>Total 2020</i>	119,733	119,733	

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2021 £	Support costs 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Animal Clinic	119,473	34,369	153,842	119,733
<i>Total 2020</i>	<i>107,833</i>	<i>11,900</i>	<i>119,733</i>	

Analysis of direct costs

	Animal Clinic 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	As restated Total funds 2020 £
Wages and salaries costs	13,176	13,176	12,423
Vet fees and drug costs	71,996	71,996	74,728
Rent and rates	4,100	4,100	5,030
Microchipping fees	-	-	29
Out of Date Stock	426	426	-
Boarding shelter costs	9,189	9,189	3,105
Medical and neutering welfare costs	10,425	10,425	11,979
Rehoming costs	706	706	-
Clinic waste disposal	463	463	422
Clinical supplies	1,116	1,116	-
External lab testing	3,676	3,676	-
Out of hours provisions	4,200	4,200	117
	119,473	119,473	107,833
<i>Total 2020 as restated</i>	<i>107,833</i>	<i>107,833</i>	

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Animal Clinic 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>As restated Total funds 2020 £</i>
Annual contribution	82	82	3,003
Bank and card charges	450	450	1,693
Clinic electricity	1,181	1,181	-
Repairs and servicing	100	100	1,787
Equipment not capitalised	2,839	2,839	184
Cleaning	1,701	1,701	-
General waste	218	218	-
IT and software support	949	949	843
Stationery, postage and telephone	2,321	2,321	3,124
Misc expenses	2,808	2,808	-
Insurance	223	223	332
Irrecoverable VAT	308	308	-
HR, H&S and security	1,893	1,893	-
Sundry	7,962	7,962	-
Bad debts	5,795	5,795	-
Governance costs	5,539	5,539	934
	<u>34,369</u>	<u>34,369</u>	<u>11,900</u>
<i>Total 2020 as restated</i>	<u>11,900</u>	<u>11,900</u>	

10. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2021 £	2020 £
Fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner for the independent examination of the Charity's annual accounts	750	934
Fees payable to the Charity's independent examiner in respect of:		
All other services not included above	<u>500</u>	<u>-</u>

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

11. Staff costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	34,799	32,142
	<u>34,799</u>	<u>32,142</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Number of employees	4	4
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2020 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 December 2021, expenses totalling £415 were reimbursed or paid directly to 2 Trustees (2020 - £NIL).

It was noted that the trustees had purchased items on behalf of the clinic due to no card facilities being available. Items paid for by the trustees and reclaimed have been accounted for under the relevant cost activity expense codes. It was noted that tokens had been purchased in December 2021 for staff in appreciation of their hard work and commitment during Covid and supporting branch changes. The trustee expenses noted in the accounts relates to hotel, parking and travel costs.

13. Stocks

	2021 £	2020 £
Clinic Drug Stocks	7,138	5,568
Clinical Sundry items	73	73
	<u>7,211</u>	<u>5,641</u>

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

14. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Due within one year		
Debts owed to branch	1,927	-
VAT refund due	3,232	-
Prepayments and accrued income	876	6,997
Shop rent deposit	4,250	4,250
	<u>10,285</u>	<u>11,247</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
RSPCA Head office	35,830	-
Trade creditors	30,699	(368)
Other taxation and social security	-	2,231
Accruals and deferred income	1,240	1,560
	<u>67,769</u>	<u>3,423</u>

16. Financial instruments

	2021 £	2020 £
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	<u>260,163</u>	<u>204,145</u>

17. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds	<u>217,610</u>	<u>192,852</u>	<u>(200,572)</u>	<u>209,890</u>

Statement of funds - prior year

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

17. Statement of funds (continued)

	<i>Balance at 1 January 2020 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 December 2020 £</i>
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds	186,178	193,950	(162,518)	217,610

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

18. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
General funds	217,610	192,852	(200,572)	209,890

Summary of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 January 2020 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 December 2020 £</i>
General funds	186,178	193,950	(162,518)	217,610

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Current assets	277,659	277,659
Creditors due within one year	(67,769)	(67,769)
Total	209,890	209,890

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Current assets	221,033	221,033
Creditors due within one year	(3,423)	(3,423)
Total	217,610	217,610

Royal Society For the Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Stort Valley Branch

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

20. Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2021 the Charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	17,292	17,292
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	22,667	39,959
	39,959	57,251

21. Related party transactions

The Charity has not entered into any related party transaction during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the Charity at 31 December 2021.

No related party transactions took place in the prior year.