

Registered Charity No. 292359

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

**For the period from
1 JANUARY to 31 DECEMBER 2024**



We are a registered charity and have been providing services and activities, for the community in Pulborough and the surrounding villages since 1966

Chairman: John Dixon 01798 872667

Charity's principal address: Alderbury, Church Hill, Pulborough, RH20 1AB

www.pdcca.org.uk

Chairman's Annual Report

This has been a most successful year. We have increased the number of local vulnerable people we have supported, and the feedback from people has been heartwarming. So this includes the Lunch Club, where the numbers have nearly doubled, Pulborough Befriends, where they have more than doubled, the Community Transport Scheme, and the Pulborough Pop-in. All are therefore going from strength to strength, and more detail is set out in the full report. Because we are supporting so many more people, our costs rose, but the grants we received kept pace with this, which was very encouraging. Our funders will hopefully feel that their investment through us in our community has really paid off!

We are now developing a new scheme, for people who want to learn to cook for themselves, perhaps following a bereavement. We think there is a great need for this.

There has also been a lot of work behind the scenes. Partly of course with putting together funding applications, where we have had a high success rate, largely due to the careful targeting of applications and the sense of passion conveyed, where credit is due especially to Lynn Richards and Isla Moran. But also to the complete overhaul of our website and our social media presence, which is reaching new people and gives a sense of the real integration of our work, both within PDCCA and also with other organisations in the area, charities, churches, the health service and Councils.

I want to commend highly both those who lead our schemes: Christine Lindsay with Community Transport, Isla Moran with the Pop-in, Lynn Richards with Befriending, and Pippa Reid with the Lunch Club, and those who run the support services: Roland Brook our Treasurer, Louise Kaiser our Hon Secretary, Karen Brooks who does so much as our link with Tesco's, Freddie Jones who is our indispensable link with Pulborough Medical Group, and Edna Henly, who has been for so many years a Trustee. Thanks also to David Croxson who has kept our Blue Angel wheelchair accessible vehicle on the road. Everyone and our very many Volunteers, contribute their time and their commitment to helping the people we support to have a more independent and fulfilling life, and to making Pulborough, West Chiltington and the neighbouring villages a better place for everyone to live in.

John Dixon OBE
Chairman

24 April, 2025

Trustees' Annual Report

Trustees who served during the period

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Period served as Trustee
John Dixon OBE	Chair	Whole year
Louise Kaiser	Secretary	Whole year
Roland Brook	Treasurer	Appointed 18 April 2024
Karen Brooks		Whole year
Edna Henly		Whole year
Isla Moran		Whole year
Mike Clenshaw		Resigned 9 January 2024

Structure, governance and management

- **Type of governing document:** The Association is governed by its Constitution which was adopted on 22 July 1985 and amended on 7 October 1991, 31 March 2003, 13 March 2013, 23 March 2015 and latterly on 18 April 2024. The Association is unincorporated.
- **Trustee selection methods:** Trustees are elected by the Committee. Trustees hold office for life or until discharged at their own request or by the Committee by resolution.

Objectives and activities

Our objects are:

- To promote the benefit of the elderly inhabitants of the area of benefit in any manner which is now or hereafter may be deemed to be charitable in law, and
- To relieve persons resident in the area of benefit who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress and to coordinate similar work undertaken in the said area by other voluntary organisations.

In planning our activities for the year we have complied with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Our principal activities in Pulborough and the surrounding villages comprised the provision of a befriending service, community transport, a lunch club, and a pop-in. Further information is provided below. More detailed information regarding our services is available on request.

Our achievements and performance

Pulborough Befriends: Having launched in November 2022, Pulborough Befriends has now completed its second year of operation.

Pulborough Befriends matches Volunteer Friends with adults who live in the Pulborough area who are over 18 and are chronically lonely or socially isolated. Most of our Volunteer Friends are visiting people in their own homes for 1 hour, weekly.

We do not place any time limitations on the service we provide, and the relationship is encouraged to continue for as long as the person we visit, and their Volunteer Friend, wish it to.

During the year we have seen significant growth and overwhelming demand for our service. We have visited 39 people during 2024, and we have also facilitated several Group Befriending activities. These, combined with our visiting service, have enabled us to support 66 people in our community who are chronically lonely or socially isolated.

Pulborough Community Transport: provides transport to any medical appointment for members of the Pulborough community and the surrounding villages who have difficulty in accessing either public or private transport whether due to disability or age. Transport can be provided within an area as far west as Southampton, east to Brighton, north to Guildford and northeast to Redhill and East Grinstead.

During 2024 169 passengers were taken on 583 journeys. There is a general awareness of the service by members of the public alongside an understanding that it is well-organised, affordable and has reliable, polite and efficient drivers. Medical staff based at Pulborough Medical Group, regularly refer patients to PCT confident that a request for transport will usually be satisfied. In addition, 28 passengers completed 50 passenger journeys in the Blue Angel which is a purpose designed wheelchair assisted vehicle.

A total of 29 drivers currently volunteer to drive including 5 drivers trained for the Blue Angel, but there is an active campaign to recruit more drivers given the challenge of finding a driver to service all passenger requests.

We are grateful to our financial supporters including West Sussex County Council Forum for Accessible Transport.

Lunch club: this club provides weekly socials and lunch to older residents and has continued to operate throughout the year.

The number of regular members has increased by over 50% during the year as a result of a marketing campaign, and there are now 33 regular attendees.

Tesco Pulborough kindly provide many of the lunch groceries and also provide volunteer assistance, and we are also grateful for support from Rotary and Pentalpha Lodge. We are also dependent on a number of other valued volunteers who freely give their time to assist with the lunches.

Pulborough Pop-in: the Pulborough Pop-in was an initiative from our late President and Co-founder Jean Seagrim, and we are delighted that one of her children John Seagrim continues to cover the library room hire costs.

Over the past year the Pop-In has seen an average of 6-8 families every week, most of whom are regulars. During the year the Pop-in has been visited by a number of invited guests including the Early Help Team from Horsham District Council and from local churches. We were delighted to receive support from Rotary.

We are very grateful for the grants and donations received from The David Hunt Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation, The Sussex Community Foundation, local councils, local organisations, and from individuals, but also for the many hours which volunteers contribute. Without such contributions we would not be able to continue all our existing activities.

Financial Review

Our cash at the bank as at 31 December 2024 totalled £37,554 including £9,858 in restricted funds.

The main financial risk to the Charity is a reduction in future grants and donations.

Funds are held to cover operational costs in the event of a loss of income and to meet any additional expenditure which may occur whether from current or planned expansion of services.

The Charity reported a surplus of £1,062 during the year. No funds are in deficit on a cumulative basis.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's trustees on 24 April 2025 by:

John Dixon OBE
Chair

Louise Kaiser
Secretary

PDCCA PULBOROUGH & DISTRICT COMMUNITY CARE ASSOCIATION



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

PULBOROUGH & DISTRICT COMMUNITY CARE ASSOCIATION

No 292359

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

For the period	From 1 JANUARY 2024	To 31 DECEMBER 2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Prior year 2023 £
A1 Receipts				
Grants				
Horsham D C	3,500	1,500	5,000	1,250
Pulborough P C	-	-	-	2,172
West Chiltington P C	1,000	-	1,000	-
West Sussex County Council	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
Forum for Assessable Transport	-	6,900	6,900	-
The Sussex Community Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	1,000
The David Hunt Foundation	-	-	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	5,000	-	5,000	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	7,982
Donations/legacies	5,410	-	5,410	1,947
Fares	1,257	-	1,257	1,255
Horsham Lottery	279	-	279	171
Lunch Club	4,988	-	4,988	4,170
Other receipts	406	-	406	675
Interest	380	-	380	253
Sub total	22,220	15,400	37,620	22,876
A2 Asset and investment sales	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	22,220	15,400	37,620	22,876
A3 Payments				
Befriending	938	12,024	12,962	6,327
Cooking for starters	24	-	24	-
Lunch Club	9,122	-	9,122	9,048
Pop-in	945	-	945	648
Transport	9,676	1,500	11,176	10,286
General	2,329	-	2,329	2,892
Sub total	23,034	13,524	36,558	29,200
A4 Asset and investment purchases	-	-	-	-
Total payments	23,034	13,524	36,558	29,200
Net of receipts/(payments)	(814)	1,876	1,062	(6,325)
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	28,510	7,982	36,492	42,817
Cash funds this year end	27,696	9,858	37,554	36,492

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
B1 Cash funds - Bank	27,696	9,858	37,554
B2 Other monetary assets	Amounts receivable		-
B3 Investment assets	N/A		-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			37,554
B5 Liabilities	Amounts payable		-

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees

Signature

John Dixon OBE,
Chair

Roland Brook,
Treasurer

Date of
approval

24 April 2025

24 April 2025

Registered Charity No: 292359



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the Trustees of PULBOROUGH & DISTRICT COMMUNITY CARE ASSOCIATION

On accounts for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2024 **Charity no.** 292359

Set out on page Attached.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report As the charity's trustees, 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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed Peter Lloyd **on** 24 April 2025

Address Highfield, 20 Haglands Copse, Pulborough. RH20 2QW.