

# WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

England & Wales · Charity number 302491

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1963-06-14

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Rene Milton Hall  
17 Cross Street  
Watford  
Herts  
WD17 2QD

**Phone** 07932746181

**Email** [contact@watfordblindcentre.org](mailto:contact@watfordblindcentre.org)

**Website** [www.watfordblindcentre.org](http://www.watfordblindcentre.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** A PLACE WHERE BLIND PEOPLE MAY MEET FOR SOCIAL INTERCOURSE ENTERTAINMENT AND EDUCATION TO PLY CRAFTS PECULIAR TO BLIND PEOPLE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF ENABLING BLIND PEOPLE TO ENTER INTO INDUSTRY AND THE PROFESSIONS AND TO BECOME AS FAR AS POSSIBLE SELF SUPPORTING.

**Activities:** The charity provides a club where visually impaired people may meet socially enjoying weekly activities, entertainment & support specifically for those with sight loss. Regular days out and an annual holiday for members can be enjoyed. The club is open every week for two days & runs entirely on a self funded and voluntary basis.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** WATFORD.
- Hertfordshire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£237,797	£41,122	-	-
2023-12-31	£77,047	£38,343	-	-
2022-12-31	£44,569	£26,933	-	-
2021-12-31	£24,407	£24,684	-	-
2020-12-31	£23,321	£17,843	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Jenny Marsh</b>	Chair	
Abigael Radcliffe		2018-03-19
Dennis Dumbleton		2011-10-31
Diane Abbott		2015-09-21
Edward Marsh		2022-11-11
HILDA MATHER		
Nicholas John Rayner		2022-05-05
Rachael Gilthorpe		2018-03-19

**WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND**

England & Wales - Charity number 302491

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# Accounts

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Registered Charity No. 302491

**WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND  
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

# WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

## REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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# WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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### LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

#### **Status**

Watford Social Centre for the Blind is a registered charity (no. 302491).

The Charity is an unincorporated organisation governed by a declaration of trust dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 1951. It was registered in June 1963.

#### **Registered Address**

Watford Social Centre for the Blind  
Rene Milton Hall,  
17 Cross Street,  
Watford WD17 2QD

#### **Trustees**

The trustees who served the year were:

J.Marsh (Chair)  
R. Gilthorpe  
H. Mather  
D. Abbott  
D.Dumbleton

M. Brunton - resigned  
R. Townley  
A.Radcliffe  
N. Rayner  
E. Marsh - appointed treasurer

#### **Legal**

VWV, 45 Clarendon Rd, Watford WD17 1SZ

#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank, Atria Shopping Centre, Units 32 & 32a, Watford WD17 2UB

#### **Independent Examiner**

Barry Dutnall ACMA  
105 Tile Kiln Lane  
Leverstock Green  
Hemel Hempstead  
Herts HP3 8NX

# WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

## TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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### **Introduction**

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### **Objectives of Watford Social Centre for the Blind**

To provide a place where visually impaired people may meet socially to enjoy various activities, entertainment and excursions while gaining peer as well as volunteer support and guidance.

### **Review of Activities**

The hall is open twice a week and every first Saturday of the month. Each day has a theme. Mondays being keep fit and games, i.e., darts, scrabble, craft work etc. Wednesdays are social with lunch provided, raffles, sale of crafts made on Mondays, and a visiting talk or entertainment. Once a month members enjoy an afternoon of games on a Wednesday. Outings are regularly enjoyed to local places of interest. Saturdays are for those in the 18-50 age bracket. It is an active group with many outside activities planned and a forum to help those looking to re-join employment. An annual UK based holiday is arranged for members and partners who are independent and self-sufficient which is well attended and appreciated. In addition, the charity has been involved and is supporting Watford Goalball Club which meets for training twice a month on a Sunday at Watford Central Leisure Centre. There is a link with younger visually impaired members playing for the team and attending our working age group sessions.

### **Volunteers**

There are 8 volunteers who between them give support at the centre for an average of 5 hours a week. In addition, Di Abbotts gives about 10 hours and Jenny Marsh gives about 35 hours a week. All trustees are volunteers. The charity does not have any employed staff and no volunteers claim expenses.

### **Review of Financial Position**

A summary of the charity's financial position is shown on page 7&8.

It should be noted that the charity continued to fundraise and accumulate funds to undertake the renovations. This has resulted in an increase of profit again for 2024. During the year, we received a grant from the National Lottery of £184,000 which was used to pay for the refurbishment and extension of the hall. The accounting shows the receipt of the grant within income, however the expenditure is treated as a fixed asset addition of £199,127, as such resulting in an increased profit.

The project was completed in November 2024 and we are aware our income will decrease dramatically for at least a few years. We have therefore saved some reserves for the day to day expenses running the charity.

Finally, please note that a total of £561 has been deducted from the income accounted within the profit and loss statement. This relates to the income held within the holiday account for the members in anticipation of the upcoming holiday in 2025.

### **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees policy is to accumulate free reserves at a level to cover one years running costs and any unforeseen costs. At the end of the year designated reserves were £35,000 which the trustees consider more than adequate.

### **Risk Assessment**

The trustees have undertaken a full assessment of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. Training for first aid for volunteers is provided on a regular basis and risk factors are reviewed annually.

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

Under the charities Act 1993, the Trustees are required to prepare a statement of the accounts for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of the income resources and application of resources. In preparing this statement, the trustees are required to:

- a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable;
- b) State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and reporting by Charities" 2000 and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- c) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume the Watford Social Centre for the Blind will continue its operations.

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 the Trustees to ensure that any statement prepared by them complies with the regulations of section 42(1) of the charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of Watford Social Centre for the Blind and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

For on behalf of the Trustees

Jenny Marsh  
Chairman

# WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Watford Social Centre for the Blind ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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 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 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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.

Barry Dutnall ACMA

105 Tile Kiln Lane  
Leverstock Green  
Hemel Hempstead  
Herts  
HP3 8NX

# WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024	2023
<b>Income</b>	£	£
Donations (ex transfer)	15,387	22,817
Legacies and Bequests	500	20,000
Fund raising events	2,207	16,686
Subscriptions	1,050	880
Holidays	15,604	4,030
Lunches	3,322	2,865
Chiropody	910	0
Outings	1,944	2,947
Transport	812	640
Merchandise	898	2,731
Raffles	2,323	1,859
Investment Income	1,320	1,059
Refurbishment NL Income	184,000	0
Transfers between accounts	4,715	0
Collections/Other	3,366	533
Member Holiday Reserves	-561	0
	<u>237,797</u>	<u>77,047</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Premises	7,497	7,182
Office (Miscellaneous)	1,493	384
Outings	3,066	6,239
Gifts	431	475
Chiropody	2,325	2,700
Lunches	546	420
Holiday	15,761	4,658
Merchandise	867	1,204
Transport	31	107
Gala Dinner	0	4,796
Refurbishment Project	0	8,578
Fundraising Activity	2,898	0
Other	1,000	0
Transfer between accounts	4,715	0
Depreciation	491	1,600
	<u>41,122</u>	<u>38,343</u>
Profit for the Year	<u>196,676</u>	<u>38,704</u>

# WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

		2024	2023
	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets:			
Fixtures and Equipment	1,963		0
Land & Building	310,296		113,624
		312,260	113,624
Investments		<u>35,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>
		347,260	148,624
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand	107,275		108,675
Accrued Revenue (holiday fund)	-3,116		-2,555
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>104,159</u>	<u>106,120</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><u>451,420</u></u>	<u><u>254,744</u></u>
<b>Reserves</b>			
Unrestricted		416,420	186,825
Designated		35,000	67,919
Restricted		0	0
<b>Total Funds</b>		<u><u>451,420</u></u>	<u><u>254,744</u></u>

For and on behalf of the Trustees  
J Marsh (Chair)

# WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

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### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, the Statement of Recommended Practice “Accounting and Reporting by Charities” 2000 and with applicable accounting standards.

#### 1.2 Donations and fundraising

Donations and fundraising income are recorded in the financial period in which they are received.

#### 1.3 Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets, other freehold land and buildings are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rate calculated to write off the cost less estimated value of each asset over its expected life as follows:

Fixture and equipment	-	20% reducing balance
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Please note that our policy in relation to fixed assets is to depreciate fixtures and fittings over a 5-year basis. No depreciation is made on land and buildings.

#### 1.4 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

# WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

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### 1.5. **Taxation**

The charity's surpluses are derived from, and are applied towards, the maintenance of charitable activities and as such are not subject to taxation.

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

### 1.6. **Other Notes**

As noted above, it should be noted that the charity continued to fundraise and accumulate funds to undertake the renovations. This has resulted in an increase of profit again for 2024. During the year, we received a grant from the National Lottery of £184,000 which was used to pay for the refurbishment and extension of the hall. The accounting shows the receipt of the grant within income, however the expenditure is treated as a fixed asset addition of £199,127, as such resulting in an increased profit.

Further, please note that a total of £561 has been deducted from the income accounted within the profit and loss statement. This relates to the income held within the holiday account for the members in anticipation of the upcoming holiday in 2025.

## 2. **TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION**

None of the trustees (or anyone connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

**WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND**

England & Wales - Charity number 302491

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# Accounts

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Registered Charity No. 302491

**WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND  
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

# WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

## REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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### LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

#### **Status**

Watford Social Centre for the Blind is a registered charity (no. 302491)

The Charity is an unincorporated organisation governed by a declaration of trust dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 1951. It was registered in June 1963

#### **Registered Address**

Watford Social Centre for the Blind  
Rene Milton Hall,  
17 Cross Street,  
Watford WD17 2QD

#### **Trustees**

The trustees who served the year were:

J.Marsh (Chair)  
R. Gilthorpe  
H. Mather  
D. Abbott  
D.Dumbleton

M. Brunton  
R. Townley  
A.Radcliffe  
N. Rayner  
E. Marsh appointed

#### **Legal**

VWV, 45 Clarendon Rd, Watford WD17 1SZ

#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank, Atria Shopping Centre, Units 32 & 32a, Watford WD17 2UB

#### **Independent Examiner**

Barry Dutnall ACMA  
105 Tile Kiln Lane  
Leverstock Green  
Hemel Hempstead  
Herts HP3 8NX

# TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

---

## **Introduction**

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31 December 2023

## **Objectives of Watford Social Centre for the Blind**

To provide a place where blind people may meet for social intercourse, entertainment and educate to ply crafts peculiar to blind people and with the object of enabling blind people to enter industry and the professions and to become, as far as possible, self-supporting.

## **Review of Activities**

The hall is open twice a week and every first Saturday of the month. Each day has a theme. Mondays being keep fit and games, i.e., darts, scrabble, craft work etc. Wednesdays are social with lunch provided, raffles, sale of crafts made on Mondays, and a visiting talk or entertainment. Once a month members enjoy an afternoon of games on a Wednesday. Outings are regularly enjoyed to local places of interest. Saturdays are for those in the 18-50 age bracket. It is an active group with many outside activities planned and a forum to help those looking to re-join employment. An annual UK based holiday is arranged for members and partners who are independent and self-sufficient which is well attended and appreciated. In addition, the charity has been involved and is supporting the start-up of Watford Goalball Club which meets for training once a month on a Sunday at Watford Central Leisure Centre.

## **Volunteers**

There are 8 volunteers who between them give support at the centre for an average of 5 hours a week. In addition, Di Abbotts gives about 10 hours and Jenny Marsh gives about 35 hours a week. All trustees are volunteers. The charity does not have any employed staff and no volunteers claim expenses.

## **Review of Financial Position**

A summary of the charity's financial position is shown on page 5.

It should be noted that the charity has continued to fundraising and accumulate funds to undertake a major renovation of their 1950's built hall improving accessibility, improve toilet facilities, including adding a disabled cubicle and creating a consultation room. This has resulted in an increase of profit again for 2023 with the renovations due to take place in 2024.

WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

TRUSTEES' REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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## **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees policy is to accumulate free reserves at a level to cover one years running costs and any unforeseen costs. At the end of the year unrestricted free reserves were £35,000 which the trustees consider more than adequate.

## **Risk Assessment**

The trustees have undertaken a full assessment of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. Training for first aid for volunteers is provided on a regular basis and risk factors reviewed annually.

## **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

Under the charities Act 1993, the Trustees are required to prepare a statement of the accounts for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of the income resources and application of resources. In preparing this statement, the trustees are required to:

- a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable;
- b) State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and reporting by Charities" 2000 and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- c) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume the Watford Social Centre for the Blind will continue its operations.

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 the Trustees to ensure that any statement prepared by them complies with the regulations of section 42(1) of the charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of Watford Social Centre for the Blind and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

For on behalf of the Trustees

Jenny Marsh  
Chairman

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Watford Social Centre for the Blind ('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 financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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 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 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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.

Barry Dutnall ACMA

105 Tile Kiln Lane  
Leverstock Green  
Hemel Hempstead  
Herts  
HP3 8NX

## **WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND**

### **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	2023	2022
<b>Income</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>

Donations (ex transfer)	22,817	32,737
Legacies and Bequests	20,000	0
Fund raising events	16,686	0
Investment income	1,059	276
Subscriptions	880	781
Holiday fund	4,030	2,470
Lunches	2,865	2,290
Outings	2,947	1,024
Transport	640	965
Merchandise	2,731	1,954
Raffles	1,859	1,663
Collections	533	409
	<u>77,047</u>	<u>44,569</u>

### **Expenditure**

Premises cost	7,182	6,699
Office costs	384	1,419
Depreciation	1,600	2,461
Outings	6,239	2,728
Gifts	475	782
Chiropody	2,700	2,345
Holiday Account	4,658	2,741
Lunches	420	2,414
Merchandise	1,204	1,554
Transport	107	3,790
Gala Dinner	4,796	0
Refurbishment Project	8,578	
	<u>38,343</u>	<u>26,933</u>

Profit for the Year	<u>38,704</u>	<u>17,636</u>
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## **WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND**

### **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	2023		2022	
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>

Tangible Fixed Assets:	Fixtures and Equipment	0	1,600
	Land & Building	113,624	113,624
		113,624	115,224
Investments		<u>35,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>
		148,624	150,224
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		108,675	67,526
Accrued Revenue (holiday fund)		-2,555	-1,710
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>106,120</u>	<u>65,816</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><u>254,744</u></u>	<u><u>216,040</u></u>
<b>Reserves</b>			
Unrestricted		186,825	181,040
Designated		67,919	35,000
Restricted		0	0
Total Funds		<u><u>254,744</u></u>	<u><u>216,040</u></u>

For and on behalf of the Trustees  
J Marsh (Chair)  
Trustee

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## WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, the Statement of Recommended Practice “Accounting and Reporting by Charities” 2000 and with applicable accounting standards.

#### 1.2. Donations and fundraising

Donations and fundraising income are recorded in the financial period in which they are received.

#### 1.3. Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets, other freehold land and buildings are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rate calculated to write off the cost less estimated value of each asset over its expected life as follows:

Fixture and equipment	-	25% reducing balance
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Freehold land and buildings are included at cost including improvements to date. No depreciation has been provided as this would be immaterial. Impairment reviews are performed annually

#### 1.4. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

#### 1.5. Taxation

The charity’s surpluses are derived from, and are applied towards, the maintenance of charitable activities and as such are not subject to taxation.

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

## **2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION**

None of the trustees (or anyone connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

**WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND**

England & Wales - Charity number 302491

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# Accounts

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Registered Charity No. 302491

**WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND  
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**WATFORD SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE BLIND**

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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### LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

#### **Status**

Watford Social Centre for the Blind is a registered charity (no. 302491)

The Charity is an unincorporated organisation governed by a declaration of trust dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 1951. It was registered in June 1963

#### **Registered Address**

Watford Social Centre for the Blind  
Rene Milton Hall,  
17 Cross Street,  
Watford WD17 2QD

#### **Trustees**

The trustees who served the year were:

J.Marsh (Chair)	M. Brunton
R. Gilthorpe	R. Townley
H. Mather	A.Radcliffe
D. Abbott	N. Rayner
D.Dumbleton	E. Marsh appointed (17/11/22)

#### **Legal**

VWV, 45 Clarendon Rd, Watford WD17 1SZ

#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank, Atria Shopping Centre, Units 32 & 32a, Watford WD17 2UB

#### **Independent Examiner**

Barry Dutnall ACMA  
105 Tile Kiln Lane  
Leverstock Green  
Hemel Hempstead  
Herts HP3 8NX

# TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

---

## **Introduction**

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31 December 2022

## **Objectives of Watford Social Centre for the Blind**

To provide a place where blind people may meet for social intercourse, entertainment and educate to ply crafts peculiar to blind people and with the object of enabling blind people to enter industry and the professions and to become, as far as possible, self-supporting.

## **Review of Activities**

The hall is open twice a week and every first Saturday of the month. Each day has a theme. Mondays being keep fit and games, i.e., darts, scrabble, craft work etc. Wednesdays are social with lunch provided, raffles, sale of crafts made on Mondays, and a visiting talk or entertainment. Once a month members enjoy an afternoon of games on a Wednesday. Outings are regularly enjoyed to local places of interest. Saturdays are for those in the 18-50 age bracket. It is an active group with many outside activities planned and a forum to help those looking to re-join employment. An annual UK based holiday is arranged for members and partners who are independent and self-sufficient which is well attended and appreciated. In addition, the charity has been involved and is supporting the start-up of Watford Goalball Club which meets for training once a month on a Sunday at Watford Central Leisure Centre.

## **Volunteers**

There are 7 volunteers who between them give support at the centre for an average of 5 hours a week. In addition, Di Abbotts gives about 10 hours and Jenny Marsh gives about 35 hours a week. All trustees are volunteers. The charity does not have any employed staff and no volunteers claim expenses.

## **Review of Financial Position**

A summary of the charity's financial position is shown on page 4.

It should be noted that the charity has started fundraising and accumulating funds to undertake a major renovation of their 1950's built hall to improve accessibility, improve toilet facilities, including adding a disabled cubicle and creating a consultation room. This has resulted in an increase of profit for 2022 with the renovations due to take place in 2024.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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### **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees policy is to accumulate free reserves at a level to cover one years running costs and any unforeseen costs. At the end of the year unrestricted free reserves were £35,000 which the trustees consider more than adequate.

### **Risk Assessment**

The trustees have undertaken a full assessment of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. Training for first aid for volunteers is provided on a regular basis and risk factors reviewed annually.

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

Under the charities Act 1993, the Trustees are required to prepare a statement of the accounts for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of the income resources and application of resources. In preparing this statement, the trustees are required to:

- a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable;
- b) State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and reporting by Charities" 2000 and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- c) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume the Watford Social Centre for the Blind will continue its operations.

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 the Trustees to ensure that any statement prepared by them complies with the regulations of section 42(1) of the charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of Watford Social Centre for the Blind and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

For on behalf of the Trustees

Jenny Marsh  
Chairman

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Royal Victoria Trust for the Blind ('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 financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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 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 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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.

Barry Dutnall ACMA

105 Tile Kiln Lane  
Leverstock Green  
Hemel Hempstead  
Herts  
HP3 8NX

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
<b>Income</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations (ex transfer)	32,737	15,585
Investment income	276	6
Subscriptions	781	300
Holiday fund	2,470	2,652
Lunches	2,290	1,162
Outings	1,024	271
Transport	965	950
Merchandise	1,954	1,833
Raffles	1,663	1,320
Collections	409	328
	<u>44,569</u>	<u>24,407</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Premises cost	6,699	7,219
Office costs	1,419	655
Depreciation	2,461	1,868
Outings	2,728	3,269
Gifts	782	325
Chiropody	2,345	2,237
Holiday Account	2,741	2,111
Lunches	2,414	900
Merchandise	1,554	386
Transport	3,790	4,786
70th Anniversary	0	928
	<u>26,933</u>	<u>24,684</u>
<b>Profit for the Year</b>	<u>17,636</u>	<u>-277</u>

BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

		2022	2021
	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets: Fixtures and Equipment	1,600		1,545
Land & Building	113,624		113,623
		115,224	115,168
Investments		<u>35,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>
		150,224	150,168
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand	67,526		50,314
Accrued Revenue (holiday fund)	-1,710		-2,066
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Sundry Creditors: British Gas			-13
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>65,816</u>	<u>48,235</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><u>216,040</u></u>	<u><u>198,403</u></u>
<b>Capital and Reserves</b>			
Share Capital Account		169,261	169,261
Unrestricted Net Assets		29,143	29,419
Profit / Loss for year		17,636	-277
<b>Total Funds</b>		<u><u>216,040</u></u>	<u><u>198,403</u></u>

For and on behalf of the Trustees  
J Marsh (Chair)  
Trustee

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022

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### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, the Statement of Recommended Practice “Accounting and Reporting by Charities” 2000 and with applicable accounting standards.

#### 1.2. Donations and fundraising

Donations and fundraising income are recorded in the financial period in which they are received.

#### 1.3. Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets, other freehold land and buildings are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rate calculated to write off the cost less estimated value of each asset over its expected life as follows:

Fixture and equipment	-	25% reducing balance
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Freehold land and buildings are included at cost including improvements to date. No depreciation has been provided as this would be immaterial. Impairment reviews are performed annually

#### 1.4. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022

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**1.5. Taxation**

The charity's surpluses are derived from, and are applied towards, the maintenance of charitable activities and as such are not subject to taxation.

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

**2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION**

None of the trustees (or anyone connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.