

AVOW

(Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham)
(A Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee)

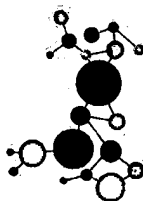
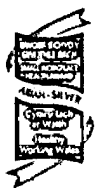
Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31st March 2020



Charity number: 1043989

Company number: 2993429



Cefnogi Trydydd
Sector Cymru
Third Sector
Support Wales



ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

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ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

The Trustees are pleased to present their report, together with the financial statements of the charity, for the year ending 31st March 2020.

Reference and administrative details

Charity number: 1043989
Company number: 02993429
Principal Office: Tŷ Avow, 21 Egerton Street, Wrexham, LL11 1ND
Auditors: WR Partners LLP, 1 Edison Court, Ellice Way, Wrexham
Technology Park, Wrexham, LL13 7YT
Bankers: Nat West Bank Ltd, 33 Lord Street, Wrexham, LL11 1LS

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The Trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

		<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Reappointed</u>
John Leece Jones	Chair from Aug 2012	2011	2018
Stephen Perkins	Vice Chair	2012	2018
Barbara Roxburgh		2002	2019
Joyce M'Caw	Resigned 2019	2012	2015
Mervyn Dean		2015	2018
Wanjiku Mbugua		2015	2017
David Thompson		2016	2018
Mary Walker		2016	2019
Howard Davies		2017	
Margaret Heaton		2019	

During the year, the following Trustees were appointed by the Executive Board to fill vacancies and their appointment will be formally reported to the Annual general meeting for confirmation:

Berni Durham Jones
Gary Jones
Helen Davies
Scot Owen
John Swarbrick

Chief Officer: John Gallanders

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Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

AVOW is a Company Limited by Guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 7th November 1994 (as amended). AVOW is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. Membership is open to all voluntary and community organisations collectively known as the Third Sector and individuals acting for the benefit of the community either as volunteers or employees.

Appointment of Trustees

The AVOW Board consists of up to 20 volunteer Trustees who are also Directors of the Company serving for a three year period. All trustees resign by rotation on a three yearly cycle. All member organisations are circulated with invitations to nominate Trustees prior to the AGM advising them of the retiring Trustees and requesting nominations by the AGM, members then vote to appoint Trustees.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Trustees are appointed by the Executive Committee every year. The Trustees have the power to appoint or co-opt further Trustees to fill vacancies following a thorough skills audit of the Board.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees undergo an induction with a Trustee mentor to brief them on: legal obligations under charity and company law, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision making processes as well as the business plan and an overview of the recent financial performance of the charity. During the induction they meet key employees, members and other Trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate in-house and external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role. Health and Safety and Child Protection training will be undertaken as a minimum requirement as well as online training in partnership with Coleg Cambria in Safeguarding, Equality and Diversity, Data Protection, PREVENT, Whistleblowing and Information Security. All Trustees have undergone a DBS check in the last three years in line with the requirements of Care Inspectorate Wales as AVOW undertake regulated activity at Little Sunflowers Child Care in Plas Madoc.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees, which can have no more than 20 and not less than 6 members, sets the strategic direction of the charity. The Executive Committee currently meets at least bi-monthly and there are committees covering Finance, Personnel (both monthly) and Policy (bi monthly). A Chief Officer is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day to day operations of the charity within a framework of delegated powers along with a team of managers.

Related Party Transactions

Trustees of the charity were involved in related party transactions during the year as follows:

- Barbara Roxburgh is a member of Broughton Community Council who part fund the AVOW Play Team and a Governor of Black Lane School, Pentre Broughton.
- John Leece Jones is a Governor of Coleg Cambria, which AVOW has contracted with for online internal training courses and external training courses. John is also Chair of Governors The Rofft CP School, Governor Ysgol Tanyfron, Director MaesyPant/Hollowfield Action Group Ltd, Trustee Wrexham Hospital League of Friends.

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- David Thompson is a School Governor at Ysgol Rhiwabon and St. Christopher's School who are a potential beneficiary of funds allocated by AVOW. In addition David also works part time for Local Authority Education.
- Wanjiku Mbugua is head of Regional Service at BAWSO who are a potential beneficiary of services from AVOW and a trustee at the Breakthrough Foundation.
- Mervyn Dean is a School Governor at Ysgol Rhiwabon who are a potential beneficiary of funds allocated by AVOW.
- Stephen Perkins has involvement with North Wales and North Powys Recovery Network and is a Trustee of We Are Plas Madoc Steering group.
- Berni Durham-Jones is the Director of Services for Stepping Stones North Wales
- John Swarbrick is a Director of IGL Solutions
- Scot Owen is Chair of the Board of Trustees at Treasure Chest, a childcare provider based at Park CP school. Treasure Chest are clients of AVOW payroll services. Scot is also a director for The Association for Science and Discovery centres (Techniquet) in Wrexham.

The Trustees consider the Board of Trustees and the Chief Officer as comprising the key management personnel of the charity. All of the Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee remuneration was paid in the year.

Trustees are required to declare all relevant interest and withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

The Finance Committee meets annually to review the pay and remuneration of the senior management team. The review of all senior staff pay is with reference to the NJC negotiated pay scales. Any proposed adjustments to the pay of the senior management team are confirmed by the Finance Committee.

Risk management

The Trustees, through Policy and Executive meetings, have undertaken the review of a number of risk matrix documents of all of the AVOW activities.

Financial risk has remained the most significant as there is little stability in funding streams- as we enter a period that is impacted by Covid there are uncertainties that have not yet been assessed. The duration of grants or contract funding have gradually gone down from a high of 5 years about 6 years ago to a point where a two year funding agreement is lucky and one year or rolling contracts being normal.

Delays in financial announcements from a December period in some cases to March are particularly difficult as it can mean staff being put on risk 'of redundancy' notice to comply with Employment Legislation only to find a funder coming through at the last minute.

Having reviewed financial and other risks, strategies were put in place for dealing with identified risks.

This has included on-going professional advice and support with regards to Financial Auditing. The Trustees have reviewed the current WR Partners Audit contract and retained them for the period 2019/20.

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Specialist advisors are contracted to oversee all Health and Safety matters by assessing and advising on risk assessments to ensure the safety of staff, volunteers, beneficiaries and stakeholders

AVOW contracts with external professional advisors on matters such as;

- Employment (due to be renewed May 2021)
- Health & Safety (renewed Feb 2019)
- Insurance (next review date January 2020)
- Financial Auditing (due to be reviewed June 2021)

The Charity like the country, has been hugely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. The Trustees have assessed the potential impact on the future operations of the charity, taking into account its underlying financial resources and strength. They have taken proactive steps to manage the financial consequences to help ease the impact of the Coronavirus outbreak. The Trustees consider the charity to be well positioned to manage.

Vision Statement

The AVOW Vision is the voluntary and community sectors achieving their missions for the benefit of the community within the County Borough of Wrexham.

Mission Statement

To enable the voluntary and community sectors to achieve their missions for the benefit of the community within the County Borough of Wrexham, AVOW will:

- **Support the development of individuals and organisations within the voluntary and community sectors.**
- **Establish and sustain good practice.**
- **Undertake the provision of services appropriate to the voluntary and community sectors.**
- **Consult, represent and champion the voluntary and community sectors locally and nationally.**

An annual Trustee and Managers Awayday which helps to focus on current key issues and look towards the future to identify challenges and opportunities. This is the opportunity to ensure that core functions are in line with the aims and objectives.

Objectives and activities

The object of the charity as stated in the Memorandum and Articles of Association as amended is:

- **To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community in the area of Wrexham County Borough and in particular the advancement of education, the furtherance of health, the relief of poverty, distress and sickness.**

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- Each year the Trustees review these objectives and activities to ensure they continue to reflect the aims of the organisation. In carrying out this review the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The strategies and activities employed to achieve the charity's objectives are:

- To provide and promote an accessible and relevant range of locally available support services to enhance development and effectiveness of voluntary and community action.
- To identify the views of local voluntary and community groups and represent these views to decision makers e.g. Welsh Government (WG), Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) and local statutory bodies, and in ways which lead to effective outcomes and partnerships.
- To assist the development of locally determined and agreed initiatives, which meet the needs of the voluntary sector and enhance community participation.
- To develop and sustain an effective volunteering service.
- To encourage recruitment into charitable, voluntary and community services.
- To provide and promote accurate, current and relevant information.
- To provide and promote a funding advice service for voluntary organisations.
- To provide and promote a range of generic training courses to the local voluntary sector.
- To assist organisations to operate legally and efficiently.
- To facilitate and support the establishment of effective structured partnerships with the local authority and other agencies for the benefit of voluntary and community organisations.
- To identify issues of concern to voluntary and community organisations.
- To identify gaps in provision that can be met by new or existing voluntary organisations working in collaboration with statutory bodies.
- To promote the interests of the third sector in planning service development including community regeneration projects.
- To establish links with the corporate sector; and
- To promote the sector's role in Health and Social Care.

AVOW, as the County Voluntary Council for Wrexham County Borough, is committed to the development of a strong voluntary and community sector for the benefit of the people of Wrexham County Borough.

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Grants distributed

AVOW has administered a Youth Led Grant scheme funded by WG via WCVA for the benefit of young people's organisations during the year. It has its own Grants Panel with independent young people (14-25 yr old) as the lead decision makers. Applications are scored according to a pre-determined set of criteria which is applied consistently across all applications.

Through the Youth Led Grant Scheme, this year, AVOW has distributed £10,000 (original grant of £5,000 was supplemented with slippage from other counties) in amounts of up to £2,000 for young people to develop and deliver projects that increase youth volunteering opportunities and benefit the wider community. The youth led Grants Panel is where panel members discuss potential projects and make decisions on funding. The youth led approach has enabled much greater participation, and this year 7 projects have been successful in their applications:

- Atlas ESU - Explorer Scout Unit- Rebuild the Hut project
- K2 ESU – Explorer Scout Unit – D of E equipment
- International Women's Day Event – Isabella Crowther
- Mental Health Awareness Event – Inclusion Café, Rhos
- YLG Panel Digital equipment and connection
- Bitesize Youth Theatre production of Oliver
- The Venture Youth Club

The Ruabon Landfill tax has been allocated to Friends of Ruabon who received £17,695 and the scheme has now been closed down by Entrust.

A founder member of AVOW, Marjorie Dykins passed away in 2016 and her family generously asked AVOW to create a Memorial Fund in her name to be given to volunteers through an award scheme. AVOW have presented Awards for the last three years and at the Christmas Reception awards went to:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Individual Award (14 nominations received) | Christopher Jones of Blood Bikes Wrexham |
| • Group Award (7 nominations received) | Wrexham Citizens Advice Volunteers |

Both were presented with cheques for £500 and the runners up were presented with Highly Commended Certificates. To date £4,000 has been distributed from the £5,000 originally donated.

AVOW also awarded two organisations £2,500 each from the Learning Disability Transformation fund. The successful applicants were:

Dynamic – to provide supported volunteering opportunities, and
Erlas Victorian Walled Gardens – for IT equipment with specialist software to support people with learning disabilities.

New funding has been received at the end of the financial year to support organisations deal with issues connected with Covid.

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Tŷ Avow – Licencees

Tŷ Avow is a major Resource Centre for the Third Sector in Wrexham County Borough. The building is user friendly with ramped access, lift to first floor, meeting rooms and office accommodation available for hire.

During the year organisations with office accommodation within Tŷ Avow (which are let on a licence to occupy basis) were:

Vision Support	Barnardo's
Empower - be the change	Agoriad
Snap Cymru	Cloud 9 for life
St. Giles	JobSense
Polish Integration Support centre (PISC)	NEW Mind
Friends of Wrexham Carers	

The building is now at full occupancy.

Achievements and performance

AVOW's main achievements during the year include the following;

Information and communication

- Newsletters were produced in Spring and Autumn in 2019. Weekly e-bulletins were produced throughout the year and is now the main communication method to stakeholders. All items of communication are also available to view on the AVOW web site (www.avow.org).
- Information on funding and other beneficial opportunities, is provided on a weekly basis within the AVOW e-bulletin. This format enables information to be circulated quickly and efficiently.
- The Volunteer Centre hosted 10 volunteer drop-in sessions at AVOW and 1 at Tŷ Pawb from April 2019 – March 2020. Each drop-in had up to 10 organisations where those looking to volunteer were able to find out about local opportunities and make the first step towards finding a placement.
- Following the introduction of a TSSW Customer relationship management (CRM) system, this is now the main system to record all level of interactions with stakeholders and the reporting of TSSW KPI's. These were as follows;

○ Funding obtained following support from AVOW	£749,711
○ Funding awarded by AVOW	£32,695
○ Organisations supported with direct advice	80
○ Organisations supported with specialist advice	36
○ Face to face training courses	17
· No of participants	143
○ Partnership Events	23
· Partnership event attendees	467

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○ Volunteers supported to enter volunteering	341
○ Individuals placed into volunteering	140
○ Total membership of AVOW	112

- The Daily Digest is the ebulletin which is distributed most days to the mailing list of the joint Wrexham and Flintshire Health and Wellbeing Team. The information provides members with current information and opportunities for consultation for other third sector organisations and their service users. It is also utilised by the Children and Young Persons Network as necessary. Feedback from the members include the usefulness of receiving information in between network meetings in this format.
- Funding surgeries have been held every month on the last Thursday with approx 8-10 participating. This has led to increased applications to the Lottery with Wrexham receiving further funding to its organisations. There are over 180 followers on the Funding FB page.
- There has been a steady growth in numbers that follow AVOW on both Facebook and Twitter. This allows us to easily send out information to a larger audience. The number of people 'likes' on the AVOW Facebook page has increased by 27.5% in the year and now stands at 2,351 with followers on Facebook reaching 2,304 (from 1955 in the previous year). Twitter has also increased to 3048 from 2,815 the previous year. Our overall post reach for these platforms over the last 12 months was Facebook: 389,874 and Twitter: 215,838. Other departments within AVOW have their own Social Media accounts:
 - Wrexham Volunteer Centre. Facebook – 646 likes (from 234 last year) / Twitter – 1,303 followers
 - Play Team. Facebook – 944 likes / Twitter – 675 followers
 - Wrexham Little Sunflowers. Facebook 402 likes
 - Last year we have introduced LinkedIn and for two years running we have doubled our connections. They now stand at 480.
- At the end of the financial year AVOW launched its new website. The AVOW website continues to be a staple in our organization as it allows us to share and post news articles, events, jobs and any other relevant information. The home page, jobs page and volunteering page are the most popular. The website is securing itself as a hub for Third Sector and community organisations in the Wrexham area.
- A number of themed events have been held during the year to disseminate and share information and best practice. These are often run in conjunction with a variety of partner agencies. These have included:-
 - Plas Madoc Health and Wellbeing day
 - Rhosddu Community Funday
 - Enterprise and Employability event
- With regards events specifically for those who use the various services of AVOW we have facilitated:
 - Volunteers Day
 - Volunteer Drop-in (Monthly)
 - Training sessions for organisations on the Volunteering Wales Website

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- Screening of Resilience-The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope
- Volunteer Managers Network
- Plas Madoc Fireworks
- Christmas Reception
- Christmas Carol Service
- Plastonbury – Plas Madoc music festival
- High Sheriff of Clwyd Community Awards
- Holocaust Memorial Day

Representation, Consultation and Outreach support

AVOW actively engages with Public Service organisations ensuring that the voice and views of the Third Sector are heard in various strategic partnerships and within consultations. The views from the Third Sector can play a major part in the way that strategies and services can be developed.

AVOW, through various network meetings and promotion of consultations, will ensure the Third Sector is made aware of the events and spaces that views are needed.

The engagement with the Public Service Board (PSB) is still ongoing with partners with work areas around the Well Being Plan- the basis of the PSB is to look at key issues and bring together the right people to break down any barriers.

A new subgroup has been established to address issues of Community Resilience that AVOW is leading on. This group had one meeting before Covid started having an impact.

The two main priorities for the PSB still remain:

1. All people have opportunities to learn and develop throughout their lives
 - Achievement levels for children and young people are improved.
 - Appropriate support is available to enable people to access learning opportunities.
2. Children and young people are given a healthy start in life
 - Children and young people have positive mental health and access to services and/or support when they need it.
 - Parents and children and young people are able to make healthy choices.

AVOW has also contributed to the following in the reporting period;

- Director of Social Services' Annual Report.
- Regional Skills Partnership Plan
- Partnership working with Wrexham Learning partnership group and Wrexham Adult Community learning (ACL) group
- A Children and Young People's Wellbeing Network has been established following feedback at a WCBC and Third Sector conference
- Involvement with the Local Implementation Team meetings, to look at the East Area Plan for mental health services, under the Together for mental health strategy.
- Information and support offered with the establishing of the ICAN centres.

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- Joint initiatives (outreach), include The Community Care Hub in which brings together a range of organisations under one roof to provide support to Wrexham's homeless community.
- Representation at Community Agents meetings to support the wellbeing of the local population
- Engagement and influencing at the Early Action Together meetings to plan for the delivery of ACE (adverse childhood experiences) training in Wrexham.
- Outreach work with a GP and Patient Action group to discuss third sector involvement in their proposed new building, in order to strengthen their application.

AVOW facilitated a range of consultation events on local, national and UK wide proposals and plans to highlight changes in legislation. Consultations are carried out at Wellbeing Networks and in addition, the daily digest (daily e-bulletin) provides an opportunity for all recipients to consult on Welsh Government priorities.

The Third Sector is represented on the Public Service Board (PSB) by AVOW enabling representation along with other senior officers from across the key Public Service delivery agents. The PSB is made up of the Chief Executive and senior officers from Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC), Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB), Glyndŵr University - Wrexham, Coleg Cambria, North Wales Police, North Wales Fire and Rescue Service, National Public Health Service, Probation Service, Natural Resources Wales and a representative from the Welsh Government. AVOW's representative ensured that the views of the Third sector were represented across all of the relevant work areas. AVOW is represented on each of the three PDBs – Partnership Delivery Boards.

The Chief Officer has regular meetings with the Leader of WCBC to discuss issues affecting the Council and Third Sector.

AVOW strives to ensure that the Third Sector is an influential voice for change and improvement. AVOW has a seat at the PSB and ensures that the information and perspective of local voluntary organisations are effectively represented. A number of sub-groups are also chaired by AVOW's officers. The Health and Social Care Department actively engage organisations through the Wrexham Well-being Network and have this year actively promoted a wide variety of consultations to the sector.

AVOW is a partner in the Rural Development Programme and is working with Cadwyn Clwyd for the 2015 -2020 schemes covering Wrexham, Denbighshire and Flintshire.

AVOW officers have provided a wide range of outreach support in local communities around Wrexham County Borough in the form of advice surgeries, support sessions, networking events and attendance at community events. Many Third Sector organisations have also benefitted from in-house bespoke support delivered by our officers.

AVOW is also represented at 28 strategic planning or working groups, as well as 21 regional Third Sector forums or networks with other CVC

Projects

Wrexham Volunteer Centre

The Volunteer centre is ideally placed within Tŷ Avow in Wrexham Town Centre which enables the facilitation of a bespoke face to face service for those digitally excluded or with additional support

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requirements. This year the Volunteer Centre have supported 341 volunteers to enter into volunteering.

The Volunteering Wales Website is slowly picking up traction, however, many voluntary organisations need support in managing their opportunities and this is a priority for the Volunteer centre in the coming year to create more volunteering opportunities throughout Wrexham County Borough. There is a well-established partnership with Glyndwr university which promotes volunteering to students on a regular basis. In addition, there have been events and presentations to promote volunteering to other organisations such as Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), Coleg Cambria and Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC).

Recognition for volunteering remains a priority and the Volunteer Star Awards have shown appreciation for a total of 170 hours to several Volunteers across Wrexham County Borough.

Community Development at AVOW

Community Development at AVOW continues to provide all up to date information and good practice that is essential to the third sector in Wrexham County Borough.

Throughout 2019-2020 there has been a steady flow of drop ins, events and online enquiries as to how to start, set up or register a charity. This involves ensuring that groups have the most recent information sheets or website links sent to them online to preserve paper to conform with AVOW's environmental policy. Talking through the steps for which ever topic is requested, is often on a bespoke basis, because each group varies in personnel ability, size, geographical nature and their service.

Wrexham Carers Service

AVOW has continued to provide services to carers throughout Wrexham County Borough, raising awareness of support available to carers through the GP surgeries and hospital discharge contracts ensuring that carers can access appropriate information to help them continue being carers.

Ongoing CVC support is provided to the newly constituted Friends of Wrexham Carers and they hold their counselling services within Tŷ Avow.

Shopmobility

The AVOW Wrexham Shopmobility service operates in Wrexham bus station and there are over 200 members who regularly use the service enabling them freedom to access shops and services. Early in the year AVOW received funds from Welsh Government, Betsi Cadwallader University Health Board and Wrexham County Borough Council to replace a number of aging scooters. 11 scooters were purchased to accommodate a variety of needs and a relaunch took place in August 2019 at which the Mayor was invited and the Community Agents based in Wrexham County Borough. In addition the Shopmobility service received funds from the Co-op meaning a total of £ 35,156 has been invested in the service this year.

Wellbeing Team

The Health and Wellbeing team is a partnership between Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC) and AVOW. The focus of the team is to support Third Sector groups and organisations across both counties which mirrors the East footprint of BCUHB. The Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014 and The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (2015) are instrumental to the planning of collaborative work between the Third and Public Sector. Through this and the work of the team the health, social care and wellbeing of the local population and local services are influenced and developed. In addition regular forums are organised to highlight and/or consult on specific issues, daily e-bulletins are distributed and the sectors perspective is regularly represented at strategic meetings of health and social care public bodies.

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Little Sunflowers Plas Madoc

AVOW continues to manage many services in Plas Madoc:

- Flying Start am
- Flying Start pm
- Early Education
- Rising 4's
- After school club
- Holiday/Fun club

A holiday fun club/ free food drop also runs through the school holidays between 10-1pm. Children enjoy fun activities and parents who use the service for child care are given some help. There is also the option for any children who are out and about playing on the Plas Madoc Estate to call in for a breakfast or packed lunch at lunchtime.

During a recent inspection from Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Little Sunflowers Plas Madoc were highly commended for the transitional work between the setting and Rhosymedre Community Primary School and this was highlighted as best practice.

For a full copy of this inspection report go to:

<https://careinspectorate.wales/find-care-service>

The Play Team

The AVOW Play Team is funded through Invest Local, Children in Need and Families First to work in Plas Madoc providing a service for children, parents and adults of the community.

The Land is a junk playground serving children of Plas Madoc and beyond. Furnished with donated 'junk' The Land responds to children's natural curiosity generating new ideas and creativity. The space is staffed at all times by trained, experienced and devoted play workers who value working with children and asset-based community development. In addition to the Playworkers the team have also recently recruited a Community Development Officer who will support the work and priorities of the We are Plas Madoc Community group.

The AVOW Playwork team also provide playschemes and street play in other communities throughout Wrexham funded from Community Councils. These include Pant, Pentre Broughton and Brynteg.

We are extremely grateful to the "We are Plas Madoc Group" and the Invest Local Funding for their continued financial support for the provision and also to Broughton Community Council and Rhos Community Council for their investments in Playwork provision.

Groups within Play

Kettle Club

The AVOW Play team facilitate a weekly support group at Plas Madoc – the group provides the opportunity for parents to meet in an informal setting. They are able to discuss issues and strategies for working with their children and are also given information regarding other agencies / support they can receive. The parents are encouraged and embrace the opportunity to volunteer at Community Events. Recently the Play Team have introduced activities for the parents; playful opportunities. From this parents can learn transferable skills which can be used in the home with their children. Kettle Club have recently established a new Facebook group called – Plassy Pebbles. Pebbles are designed and created by parents and distributed around the community for others to find.

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The team have secured funding for the development of 'Kettle Club Hub' - a 32ft shipping container which will be used as a community hub. Plans include regular parent and family groups, 1:1 sessions, youth sessions with long term plans for a Community café.

'Drop ins'

In addition to the formal groups the team also hold a weekly drop in session in Plas Madoc. The session starts at 9am in the hope it will attract parents on the school run. The aim of the drop in is to provide support to parents and to signpost them to other services. The team also provide a daily drop in for parents at The Land from 4-6pm.

Drama Club

Drama Club is for children aged 3+ the sessions are staffed by a local Drama Teacher and the children have successfully held their second Panto at Christmas. Thanks to funding from YLG we were able to purchase professional lighting / sound which enhanced the experience and also provided volunteering opportunities for the young people.

Garden Gang

Thanks to funding from the High Sheriff the Play Team were able to facilitate a Summer garden gang for children and families in Plas Madoc and surrounding communities. Weekly sessions gave children the opportunity to learn about plants, the processes of gardening and upcycling – and they got to take everything home with them. The project has had a rippling effect resulting in a popular Facebook page 'Plants Madoc' and many aspiring gardeners.

The Lounge Youth Club

The AVOW Play Team in partnership with WCBC, PMLC, WAPM and Plassy Futures have piloted a youth club in Plas Madoc Leisure Centre. The youth club is for children / young people aged 11+ and has already proven to be successful. Young people have participated in 'rapping sessions' with an organisation 'Letters Grow', exploring issues through music. In addition the young people have had visits from Inspire and plan to fundraise for trips and equipment.

Funding Advice Service

Over the last year the funding advice service has been well utilised within the sector in offering advice, guidance and support to many organisations that were seeking and applying for funding. In the reporting year the service has arranged many sessions to meet funders, non-less than the Lottery, who attended monthly to hold workshops and surgeries the last Thursday of each month. Additionally, the service has continued with the partnership to provide funding workshops each month and offer training alongside to strengthen and empower the sector in their funding aspirations.

Other surgeries held included;

- Heritage Lottery Fund
- Local Giving, practical support sessions
- Children in Need surgery
- Comic Relief

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The service has had many successes where they have supported various organisations examples include;

- Wrexham Youth and Play Partnership Legacy Fund received - £109,000 to continue for another twelve months
- Polish Integration Group £9,960.00 funding them to support the Polish communities of Wrexham - Lottery
- Friends of Wrexham Carers Counselling service £9,860 – Lottery
- Friends of Ruabon received remainder of funding from Landfill Fund Community fund - £18,000
- Rhos Community Cafe reviewed funding from WCBC and Lottery to support minority groups and organisations in the area to the amount of £9,900. A case study was submitted to WCVA in the last quarter to support the work of this group and AVOW's involvement in its success.

The Funding Facebook Page now has a membership of over 180 and is regularly updated with funding support from various grant givers. In the period there has been over 200 updates to the page with an average of 50 views per item.

AVOW has participated in the Funding Practitioner Network which are meetings between the WCVA and all CVC Funding Officers.

Employability and Sustainability

Promoting Entrepreneurship in Less Advantaged Areas (PELAC)

When the current Business Wales support service engages with individuals seeking to start up in business, it is usually at a stage when a clear business idea is already in place.

This Welsh Government funded project has sought to offer support earlier in the process by encouraging entrepreneurial attitudes and helping individuals to explore what being self-employed will mean and overcome real and perceived barriers.

The Wrexham pilot (Wrexham Enterprise Initiative) managed by AVOW is one of 5 across Wales researching different ways of working within less advantaged communities. It was set up in March 2019 to operate for two years.

In each of the focus communities of Plas Madoc, Caia Park and the northern villages (Gwersyllt/Brymbo/Brynteg), we have worked alongside local 'host' groups to help us in co-designing our interventions and act as local champions to ensure our activities are inclusive and reflect local priorities.

When the lockdown was imposed in March 2020, we were just one year into the two-year project. We had:

- embedded local enterprise initiatives within our target communities across Wrexham
- actively supported over 100 individuals interested in being self-employed or setting up in business
- 81 clients registered
- referred 39 clients through to Business Wales as 'pre-start support-ready' with an additional 6 referrals planned by 31 March making 45 in all
- made 16 additional referrals to other organisations offering support for education, training and volunteering

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

From mid March onwards the team moved to provide a 'virtual' service, supporting existing clients with a wide range of issues, including the development of some community-based enterprises in response to Covid-19.

The team continues to review service provision with the support of the Welsh Government, aiming to maximise the impact of the project in its final year.

Events

Volunteers Day

AVOW celebrated Volunteers Day on 29th June 2019 alongside inclusive football club Bellevue FC, the inaugural Brass band Festival and Wrexham Town Festival. Many organisations were represented at the event and Bellevue hosted a 12hour football tournament.

Christmas Reception

Every year AVOW holds an event at Christmas for the Third Sector in Wrexham County Borough. Many organisations, including those from the public and private sector, attended the event for networking. Several Volunteer awards were given out, as well as the Marjorie Dykins OBE Volunteer Memorial Awards in which £500 was each awarded to a group winner and an individual winner.

Holocaust Memorial Day

This year saw the 75th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. AVOW facilitated a community arts project to create a large-scale mural depicting the HMD flame with handprints, footprints and even wheelchair tracks to represent the community of Wrexham County Borough. A canvas print of the mural was then displayed at the national Holocaust Memorial Day event in London at which AVOW representatives were honoured to attend. AVOW's own event took place at the Memorial Hall and featured guest speakers from Wrexham's Town of Sanctuary project, the manager of inclusive football club Bellevue FC, Delwyn Derrick, the Mayor of Wrexham Councillor Rob Walsh, The Bishop of Wrexham, Peter Brignall and Mark Isherwood AM.

Quality

AVOW was due to be re-assessed for the 6th Generation IIP programme on 31st March 2020, however the Coronavirus Pandemic has meant a slight delay.

Financial Review

During the year there was continued pressures on the finances of the organisation, however adaptations were made and finances at the end of the year were better than originally budgeted. The main boost to the unrestricted funds during the year relate to 100% occupancy at Ty Avow

Diversification, constant monitoring, negotiating, applying for new grants and increasing donations have boosted the finances towards the end of the financial year, we will continue to do this in 2020/2021.

The global Covid pandemic hit towards the end of the financial year, however we have been in a very fortunate position and have been successful getting additional Covid funding to support AVOW and also to provide grants for other organisations in the area. These additional funds will ensure we can continue providing services during these uncertain times. We have also been utilising the Government Job Retention Scheme for projects that weren't funded from public funding such as Little Sunflowers Rising 4's the After school club and Shopmobility.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

The interest rates on deposits is still very low and only produces a very small income which is an ongoing issue in respect to funds on deposit.

Restricted reserves have been utilised during the year, meaning the balance at the year-end has reduced to £252,142. Unrestricted funds have been boosted after dropping significantly in previous years to £185,888 this is still within the limits of AVOW's reserves policy.

The Trustees have reviewed all finances for 2020/2021 and accepted a budget in March 2020 that shows a surplus of £1,475.

Principal Funding Sources

The principal funding sources for AVOW remains the Infrastructure Core Grant from the Welsh Government - administered by Wales Council for Voluntary Action – The amount of funding was the same as 2018/2019 however a contribution towards the Customer Relation Management (CRM) system was deducted as with all other CVC's.

There are other various grants and Service Level Agreements with Wrexham County Borough Council and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

WCBC Adventure Play Project- Families First funding
WCBC Flying Start
WCBC Early Education
WCBC Shopmobility & Scooter Grant
BCUHB Health Facilitator
BCUHB Partners In Care
BCUHB GP Facilitator

Other substantial funders are detailed below:

BCT Invest Local for Plas Madoc
Welsh Government Commit Entrepreneurship
Broughton & Rhos Community Council Play funding
Wrexham youth & Play partnership Play funding
BME

Reserves Policy

During the year the Trustees have agreed to continue AVOW's policy of having at least one quarter of the annual running costs, together with a cash flow provision and a redundancy contingency in reserve. In practice this means £105,246 representing one quarter's running costs and redundancy contingency. This amount is covered by the unrestricted reserve £185,888 held at 31st March 2020. Free reserves at 31st March 2020 amounted to £24,264 (31st March 2019 £ (2,637)). The Trustees noted that the free reserves level at the year-end is an improvement on last year's figures due to adapting and utilising our assets to create additional unrestricted reserves.

Investment Policy

AVOW's Memorandum and Articles of Association authorises the investment of monies of the Association not immediately required for its purpose, in or upon such investments, securities, or

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

property as may be thought fit subject nevertheless to such conditions if any as may for the time being, be imposed or required by law.

In practice this has led to AVOW investing funding from its reserves with a number of banks to ensure that we do not exceed our limit of compensation cover to secure the funds within a single Bank Licence cover of £85,000. This investment decision has been reviewed regularly during the course of the year and has been found to be the best available option for AVOW to ensure the level of risk in investing in a single source is reduced.

Future Plans for AVOW and the Sector

AVOW is looking forward to 2020/21 and a number new challenges that will occur- for the reporting period Covid has not yet had an impact. Challenges are no less than for the last few years and it is something AVOW will be taking forward with other organisations and partners.

AVOW will contribute to look at the legislative context in which we all operate but are seeking to gain more momentum with how the Third Sector can be part of the two key acts of Wellbeing of Future Generations and the Social Service and Wellbeing Act. AVOW will still seek to work with partners around the development of Alternative Delivery Models – making legislation come to reality.

The end of the next financial year we will be leading into Welsh Government elections in May 2021 with more uncertainty- it may well be another 4/5 years before ANY real direction is seen and stabilising of public services and the role of the Third Sector in the new Civil Society landscape. The biggest issue will be the lack of long-term funding as neither Welsh Government nor Local Authorities will want to commit beyond political cycle.

We are entering a period of uncertainty as Covid is starting to impact but the UK is a good few weeks behind other countries so we are unable to assess at this stage how we will be affected or what will be the impact on AVOW and Third Sector organisations.

There are many changes occurring with IT and the Third Sector is yet to fully embrace new technologies and how this may impact on service delivery. The pace of change is so rapid that many organisations will be left behind as newer ones are established from a technological base and swifter to embrace change.

The heart of what AVOW and the Third Sector does will always remain citizen focussed and the role of volunteering in society. The value of volunteering for others and the wellbeing benefits on the volunteers themselves should never be underestimated.

Responsibilities of the Executive Committee

Company law requires the Executive Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing such financial statements, the Executive Committee follows best practice and;

- selects suitable accounting policies and applies them consistently.
- observes the methods and principles in the charities SORP.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

- makes judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepares the financial statements on the "going concern" basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

The Executive Committee is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006

Members of the Executive Committee

Members of the Executive Committee, who are Directors for the purpose of company law and Trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 3.

In accordance with company law, as the company's directors, we certify that:

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

WR Partners LLP, 1 Edison Court, Ellice Way, Wrexham Technology Park, Wrexham, LL13 7YT were appointed, following a tender process in December 2014, as the charitable company's auditors and have continued in that capacity until the end of the 2019/20 financial year. The tender process will be undertaken again late 2020.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2015 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Approved by the Executive Committee on 6th October 2020 and signed on its behalf by:



John Leece Jones - Chair

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2020 which comprise the statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2020, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustee report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the financial statements is consistent in any material respect with the trustee's report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Andrew Malpass BA FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
WR Partners
Chartered Accountants
Belmont House
Shrewsbury

Date:

10 November 2020

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds Restated
		£	£	2020 £	2019 £
INCOME					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Donations and legacies	3	6,114	5,011	11,125	10,590
Investment Income-interest receivable		575	-	575	216
Income from charitable activities	4	345,516	511,448	856,964	831,079
Total income		<u>352,205</u>	<u>516,459</u>	<u>868,664</u>	<u>841,885</u>
EXPENDITURE					
Charitable activities	5	385,497	434,574	820,071	869,017
Total expenditure		<u>385,497</u>	<u>434,574</u>	<u>820,071</u>	<u>869,017</u>
Net (expenditure)/income for the year before transfers	8	(33,292)	81,885	48,593	(27,132)
Gross transfers between funds	8	88,240	(88,240)	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>54,948</u>	<u>(6,355)</u>	<u>48,593</u>	<u>(27,132)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	-	130,946	258,491	389,437	416,570
Total funds carried forward	15	<u>185,894</u>	<u>252,136</u>	<u>438,030</u>	<u>389,437</u>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM

COMPANY NUMBER 2993429

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2020

		2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	11		203,317		190,147
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	58,490		69,709	
Cash at Bank and In Hand		<u>295,176</u>		<u>193,743</u>	
		353,668		263,452	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(118,953)</u>		<u>(64,162)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>234,713</u>		<u>199,290</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			438,030		389,437
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	13		-		-
NET ASSETS	14		<u>438,030</u>		<u>389,437</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:					
Restricted funds	14		252,136		258,491
Unrestricted funds					
General reserves	14		80,645		34,731
Designated funds	14		105,249		96,209
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS			<u>438,030</u>		<u>389,437</u>

The charity's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small Companies regime. The Trustees consider that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provision of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act. However, an audit is required in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and their preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 6th October 2020 and signed on its behalf by:



John Leece Jones (Chairman)

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net movements in funds	48,593	(27,132)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	15,963	10,994
Profit or loss in disposal of fixed assets	-	-
Investment income - interest receivable	(575)	(216)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	34,197	(28,368)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	31,810	(12,643)
Deferred Grant	-	-
Net cash generated from operating activities	<u>129,988</u>	<u>(57,365)</u>
 Cash flows from investing activities		
Investment income - interest receivable	575	216
Sale of tangible fixed assets	-	-
Purchase of Fixed Assets	(29,131)	(13,860)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>28,556</u>	<u>(13,644)</u>
 Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>101,432</u>	<u>(71,009)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>193,744</u>	<u>264,753</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>295,176</u>	<u>193,744</u>
 Cash and cash equivalents at the yearend comprise:		
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>295,176</u>	<u>193,744</u>
	<u>295,176</u>	<u>193,744</u>

**ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES:-

The following accounting policies have been used consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements:

(a) Basis of preparation of accounts

The financial statements have been prepared 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 to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham (AVOW) 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 notes.

(b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees have reviewed the current position for 2019/2020 and anticipate that they will fulfil the same service delivery in 2020/2021. Any cuts in income for 2020/2021 will have the appropriate decrease in expenses to safeguard the current level of unrestricted reserves.

(c) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statements of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of service provided by the volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Incoming resources from grants, when related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

**ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020**

(d) Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over them, any condition associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and the economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) general volunteer time is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in the expenditure in the period of receipt.

(e) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit

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 bank.

(f) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charities work or for specific projects being undertaken.

Internal transfers between funds relate to management costs, support and administration charges applied to the projects and recharged back to unrestricted costs. These are a contributions towards management, support and administration costs of the charity as a whole.

(g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

(h) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which supports AVOW and its activities.

**ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WRXHAM
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020**

(i) Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Purchases of furniture and equipment are capitalised where they can be used for more than one year and cost over £500. Depreciation on fixed assets is calculated to write down their costs or valuation to their estimated residual value over the period of their economic lives at the following rates:-

Freehold property	-	2% straight line basis
Furniture and Fixtures	-	20% straight line basis
Computers and Equipment	-	33% straight line basis
Motor Vehicles	-	20% straight line basis

(j) Operating Leases

The costs of operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account as they accrue.

(k) Debtors

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

(l) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term investments.

(m) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(n) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at the amortised cost using the effective interest method.

(o) Pensions

All employees are invited to join the Aegon pension's scheme with a non-contributory 7% contribution on gross salary. The pension is auto enrolment compliant and all those who had not joined the pension scheme as of November 2015 were automatically enrolled when necessary. The contributions made for the accounting period are treated as an expense and were £38,129 (2018: £45,892).

2 LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY

AVOW is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
3 INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES				
Membership Fees	1,110	-	1,110	1,055
Donations (including Gift Aid)	<u>5,004</u>	<u>5,011</u>	<u>10,015</u>	<u>9,535</u>
	<u>6,114</u>	<u>5,011</u>	<u>11,125</u>	<u>10,590</u>

Income from donation and legacies was £11,125 (2019: £10,590 of which £6,114 was unrestricted (2019: £2,729) and £5,011 was restricted (2019: £7,861).

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
4a INCOMING FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES				
Grants and Other Service				
Contract Income				
Wrexham County Borough Council				
Plas Madoc Adventure Play	-	-	-	8,400
Plas Madoc Flying Start	-	63,018	63,018	75,255
Substance Misuse Project	-	-	-	12,831
Carers	-	-	-	33,333
Early Education	-	9,120	9,120	9,358
Community Choice	-	-	-	-
Shopmobility	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Adventure Play Grant	-	5,604	5,604	500
Families First	-	24,392	24,392	17,592
Shopmobility Grant	-	-	-	32,500
Play Innovation Grant	-	-	-	570
Covid 19 Volunteer fund	-	2,000	2,000	-
LSCC Capital Grant	-	3,256	3,256	-

(Continued on next page)

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
4a. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES				
BCUHB				
Health Facilitator	-	41,208	41,208	41,208
Partners In Care	-	32,500	32,500	21,594
GP Facilitator	-	14,000	14,000	13,810
Carers	-	1,642	1,612	-
Social Prescribing	-	-	-	635
Wales Council for Voluntary Action				
Local Voluntary Scheme	100,432	-	100,432	92,122
Volunteering Wales	48,116	-	48,116	56,131
Gwirvol	-	-	-	-
Youth Led Grants	-	11,650	11,650	9,124
Lottery Grants				
Dragon Tales	-	-	-	-
Broughton Community Council	-	14,148	14,148	14,158
Rhos Community Council	-	6,000	6,000	6,000
Carers Trust	-	-	-	200
Children In Need	-	13,632	13,632	13,521
Enterprising Solutions	-	-	-	-
Renew Wales	-	6,371	6,371	6,177
Services income	-	-	-	-
Plas Madoc Invest Local	-	143,607	143,607	120,584
BME	-	17,350	17,350	18,913
Flintshire Grant	-	5,000	5,000	-
PACT	-	500	500	-
We Are Plas Madoc	-	5,134	5,134	-
Welsh Government Community Entrepreneurship	-	79,575	79,575	5,756
Hate Crime	2,150	-	2,150	414
Glyndwr University	-	-	-	540
Wrexham Youth & Play Partnership Legacy Funding	-	10,000	10,000	8,490
AVOW Youth Led Grant	-	-	-	750
Flintshire County Council Autism Grant	-	-	-	25,000
HMRC Job retention scheme	105	-	105	-
Total Grants Receivable	155,803	509,707	665,510	650,736

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
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	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
4b. INCOME EARNED FROM OTHER ACTIVITIES				
Rents and services	63,990	-	63,990	34,892
Photocopying and postage	1,098	-	1,098	3,146
Payroll services	71,104	-	71,104	65,323
Trips and events	485	683	1,168	3,543
Training courses	5,444	30	5,474	3,721
Café income	-	-	-	11,832
LSCC Income	35,821	-	35,821	40,140
Shopmobility	8,768	-	8,768	12,437
Other income	3,003	667	3,670	5,309
Drama Club	-	361	361	-
	<u>345,516</u>	<u>511,448</u>	<u>856,964</u>	<u>831,079</u>

Income from charitable activities was £856,964 (2019: £831,079 of which £345,516 related to unrestricted reserves (2019: £327,912) and £511,448 restricted reserves (2019: £503,167)).

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
5 ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES:				
Grants Payable				
Youth Led Grants	-	8,735	8,735	8,700
Flintshire Transformation Grant	-	2,500	2,500	-
Carers Relief Grant	-	-	-	2,886
Autism Grant	-	-	-	18,866
Wrexham Relief Grant	-	-	-	-
Ruabon Community Grant	-	17,695	17,695	-
VSEF Grant	-	1,000	1,000	-
Marjorie Dykins	-	1,000	1,000	1,000
Other Costs of Charitable Activity				
Grant repayment	-	219	219	-
Café Running Costs	-	-	-	3,474
Staff salaries & pensions	283,986	267,089	551,075	623,043
Staff travel	4,637	2,287	6,924	7,898
Staff training	1,550	640	2,190	5,597
Other staff costs	2,239	398	2,637	1,918
Volunteer expenses	1,116	251	1,367	4,062
Other training costs	2,879	-	2,879	4,200
Depreciation	10,121	5,842	15,963	10,994
Telephone	3,322	320	3,642	11,921
Computer maintenance and expenses	10,863	1,213	12,076	12,080
Insurance	4,682	-	4,682	6,559
Heat and light	6,270	-	6,270	7,196
Water rates	552	-	552	738
Repairs and maintenance	14,288	(233)	14,055	11,750
Printing, postage & stationery	5,934	35	5,969	9,775
Projects and events	3,204	107,692	110,896	66,935
Project publicity and promotion costs	3,550	6,550	10,100	14,474
Sundry expenses	120	-	120	529
Bank charges	3,839	1	3,840	3,887
Carers Therapies	-	-	-	510
Subscriptions, books and publications	305	345	650	2,991
Bid Writer	-	-	-	1,295
Bad and Doubtful Debts	-	-	-	1,679
Shopmobility	2,475	93	2,568	720
Van Expenses	-	2,165	2,165	1,279
Quality	3,000	-	3,000	-
PELAC management Payment	-	8,737	8,737	-
Governance Costs				
Audit fees	4,680	-	4,680	4,680
Non audit fees to auditor	-	-	-	-

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5. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES continued:

Legal and professional fees	11,186	-	11,186	16,017
AGM Expenses	502	-	502	932
Health & Safety	37	-	37	109
Trustee travel expenses	160	-	160	323
	<u>385,497</u>	<u>434,574</u>	<u>820,071</u>	<u>869,017</u>

Expenses on charitable activities was £820,071 (2018: £869,017) of which £385,497 was unrestricted (£2018: £452,873) and £434,574 was restricted (2018: £416,144)

	Costs of activities £	Support costs £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
6 ANALYSIS OF OTHER COSTS				
Grant repayment	219	-	219	-
Café running costs	-	-	-	3,474
Staff salaries	385,337	165,738	551,075	623,043
Staff travel	2,872	4,052	6,924	7,898
Staff training	1,251	939	2,190	5,597
Other staff costs	547	2,090	2,637	1,918
Volunteer expenses	268	1,099	1,367	4,062
Other training costs	2,879	-	2,879	4,200
Depreciation	5,843	10,120	15,963	10,994
Telephone	330	3,312	3,642	11,921
Computer maintenance and expenses	1,921	10,155	12,076	12,080
Insurance	-	4,682	4,682	6,559
Heat and light	-	6,270	6,270	7,196
Water rates	-	552	552	738
Repairs and maintenance	(338)	14,393	14,055	11,750
Printing, postage & stationery	475	5,494	5,969	9,775
Projects and events	108,639	2,257	110,896	66,935
Project publicity and promotion costs	6,588	3,512	10,100	14,474
Sundry expenses	-	120	120	529
Bank charges	393	3,447	3,840	3,887
Carers Therapies	-	-	-	510
Subscriptions, books and publications	531	119	650	2,991
Professional Fees	-	-	-	1,295
Bad and Doubtful Debts	-	-	-	1,679
Shopmobility	2,568	-	2,568	720
PELAC Management payments	8,737	-	8,737	-
Van Expenses	2,165	-	2,165	1,279
Quality	-	3,000	3,000	-

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Governance Costs

Audit fees	-	4,680	4,680	4,680
Non audit fees to auditor	-		-	-
Legal and professional fees	-	11,186	11,186	16,017
AGM Expenses	-	502	502	932
Health & Safety	-	37	37	109
Trustee travel expenses	-	160	160	323
	<u>531,225</u>	<u>257,916</u>	<u>789,141</u>	<u>837,565</u>

Expenditure on other costs was £789,141 (2019: £837,565). of which £531,225 was cost of activities (2019: £550,997) and £257,916 was support costs (2019: £285,568).

**ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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	2020 £	2019 £
7 NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR		

This is stated after charging:

Depreciation	15,963	10,994
Auditors Remuneration	4,680	4,680

8 GROSS TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

This figure comprises internal recharges for services provided by AVOW to various restricted fund projects and contributions towards AVOW's management of the restricted projects, net of any overspends on restricted projects which have been covered by general funds. A more detailed breakdown is given under note 15 c).

9 TRUSTEES AND EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

a) Trustees:

No Trustees received any remuneration during the year (2019- nil).

Travel expenses to the value of £160 (2019: £323) were paid to 6 trustees (2019: 5) during the year to attend meetings.

During the year a number of trustees donated their expenses to AVOW. All the transactions were conducted on an arm's length basis in support of the charity.

	2020 £	2019 £
b) Employees:		
Staff Costs:		
Salaries and Wages	491,263	548,542
Social Security Costs	26,232	31,588
Pension Costs	30,580	38,104
Redundancy Costs	-	1,586
	<u>548,075</u>	<u>619,820</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2019 – nil).

The key management personnel of the charity is the Chief Officer. Their employee benefits total £49,857 (2019: £50,913).

	2020	2019
The average number of employees was:	<u>34.8</u>	<u>39.5</u>
 The average number employees FTE	 <u>24</u>	 <u>27</u>

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
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10 CORPORATION TAX

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

11 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Building £	Furniture & Fixtures £	Computer Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Totals £
COST					
Opening balance 1 April 2019	292,109	117,866	37,015	11,900	458,890
Additions	-	28,012	1,120	-	29,132
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Closing balance 31 March 2020	<u>292,109</u>	<u>145,878</u>	<u>38,135</u>	<u>11,900</u>	<u>488,022</u>
DEPRECIATION					
Opening Balance 1 April 2019	118,304	106,778	37,015	6,646	268,743
Charge for the year	5,842	7,710	30	2,380	15,962
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Closing Balance 31 March 2020	<u>124,146</u>	<u>114,488</u>	<u>37,045</u>	<u>9,026</u>	<u>284,705</u>
Net Book Value 31 March 2020	<u>167,963</u>	<u>31,390</u>	<u>1,090</u>	<u>2,874</u>	<u>203,317</u>
Net Book Value 31 March 2019	<u>173,805</u>	<u>11,088</u>	-	<u>5,254</u>	<u>190,147</u>

The freehold property referred to above is Ty Avow, 21 Egerton Street, Wrexham, which is included in these financial statements at original cost less depreciation.

12 DEBTORS

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade Debtors	49,641	57,591
Prepayments	5,926	6,819
Accrued income	2,608	4,984
Accrued Gift Aid Tax	<u>315</u>	<u>315</u>
	<u>58,490</u>	<u>69,709</u>

**ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
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	2020	2019
	£	£
13 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade Creditors	27,529	13,844
Accruals and Deferred Income	9,010	7,955
Other Creditors	-	-
Payroll Creditor	82,414	42,363
	<u>118,953</u>	<u>64,162</u>

The creditor and bank balances include £82,415 in respect of the HMRC creditor for AVOW's payroll clients along with credits held on account.

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
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14 MOVEMENT OF FUNDS TO 31ST MARCH 2020

a) Summary of funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward	130,946	258,491	389,437	416,570
Net Movement in Funds	54,948	(6,355)	48,593	(27,132)
Carried forward	185,894	252,136	438,030	389,438

b) Unrestricted Funds

	General Fund	Designated Funds: Running Costs and Redundancy Contingency	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward	34,737	96,209	130,946	143,639
Income & Expenditure Account	(42,326)	9,034	(33,292)	(122,016)
Transfer from Restricted Funds	88,240	-	88,240	109,323
Carried forward	80,651	105,243	185,894	130,946

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
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c) Restricted Funds

	At 1st April 2019 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Manage- ment Transfer £	Internal Charges/ O'heads £	Transfers from/ to Unrestrict'd Funds £	At 31st March 2020 £
Autism Grant	656		219			(437)	-
BCT Invest Local	15,405	13,519	13,345				15,579
BCT Development officer	-	29,765	16,174	2,244	1,919	-	9,428
BME	1,330	17,433	13,321	1,040	3,983		419
Carers Covid	-	1,642	-	-	-	-	1,642
Carers Fundraising	379			-	10		369
Carers GP	-	14,000	12,719	1,680	2,151	2,550	-
Carers Partners In Care	-	32,500	20,345	3,900	4,023	(2,550)	1,682
Carers Therapies	602	38	-	-	-	-	640
Carers Trust	200	-	-	-	-	-	200
CCC	(933)		(933)	-	-	-	-
Community Entrepreneurship	4,350	79,575	83,519	-	16	-	390
Covid 19 AVOW donations	-	2,300	-	-	-	-	2,300
DTA	559	4,921	5,088	392	-	-	-
Flintshire Grant	-	5,000	2,500	-	-	-	2,500
H&SC Facilitator & Dev Officer	(1,467)	41,293	33,846	333	5,647	-	-
MAD Grant	1,995	44	-	-	-	-	2,039
Marjorie Dykins Award	2,000	-	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Parent Carers Community Choice	1,000	-	204	-	-	-	796
PM BTC Adventure Play	40,814	100,336	73,268	6,072	7,673	-	54,137
PM BTC Invest Local	2,936	3,872	1,659				5,149
PM Additional Play Funds	1,684	-	110	-	-	-	1,574
PM CIN	294	13,632	12,043	1,180			703
PM Drama Club	373	4,841	2,166	-	-	-	3,048
PM Flying Start	(13,887)	63,018	60,398	2,620			(13,887)
PM Flying Start Additional	-						-
PM Families First	1,582	24,392	14,527	2,963	-	(8,484)	-
PM Land Community Choice	713	-	-	-	-	-	713
Postcode Lottery	110	-	-	-	-		110
PM Gwirvol	-						-
PM Lil Stars	(11,636)	9,120	5,116	-	-	-	(7,632)
PM LSCC Capital Grant	-	3,256	560	-	-	(530)	2,166
PM Play Hunger Project	-	1,625	1,381	-	-	-	244
PM Play PACT Garden Gang	-	500	500	-	-	-	-
PM Play PDG3	-	3,629	3,629	-	-	-	-
PM Community Council Playscheme	-	20,158	4,819	3,996	4,164	-	7,179
PM Lunch Club	433	13	446	-	-	-	-
PM WREN	333		333	-	-	-	-
PM Donations	1,295	2,102	350				3,047
PM Youth Club	-	654	654	-	-	-	-
PM Play Gwirvol	361	-	249	-	-	-	112
PM LSCC Innovation Grant	570	-	254				316
PM Play Legacy	-	10,000	8,727	823	450	-	-

PM Play POCA	2,417	-	206	-	-	-	2,211
PM Play Sufficiency Grant	-						-
PM YSSRG	-						-
Rhosddu Fun Day	347	183	204	-	-	-	324
Ruabon Sports for Distribution	17,996	-	17,996	-	-	-	-
Renew	-	1,450	474	976	-	-	-
Shopmobility Scooter Grant WCBC	32,500	-	7,152	-	-	(19,528)	5,820
Shopmobility Tesco Bags	337	-	337	-	-	-	-
WCVA Youth led Grants	-	11,650	8,826	324	85	(589)	1,826
VSEF	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	(1,000)
Tea & Toast Community Choice	66	-	-	-	-	-	66
Property Grant-Restated	152,773	-	5,842	-	-	-	146,931
Total	258,491	516,459	434,574	28,543	30,121	(29,576)	252,136

Management charges/Internal charges totalling £58,664 represent grant monies expended on services provided by AVOW during the year. Management transfers include contribution towards AVOW's administration according to the terms of the grant. Transfers from unrestricted funds represents any overspends which have been covered by general funds. The negative balances at the 31st March 2020 are timing issues and will be carried forwards to the 2020/2021 accounts.

All the grants listed above are held by AVOW and managed according to their contract restrictions. All restricted funds are used to provide services, assistance and advice to our members, service users and members of the public in the Wrexham area and further afield. All expenses are applied against the correlating income. The property grant relates to the grant AVOW received to purchase Ty Avow, depreciation is charged against the income on an annual basis. Further details of these projects can be found in the Trustees Annual Report.

ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WREXHAM
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15 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Fund Balances at 31st March 2020 are represented by:				
Tangible Fixed Assets	56,386	146,931	203,317	190,147
Net Current Assets	129,508	105,205	234,713	199,290
Long term Liabilities	-	-	-	-
	185,894	252,136	438,030	389,437
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Fund Balances at 31st March 2019 are represented by:				
Tangible Fixed Assets	37,374	152,773	190,147	187,281
Net Current Assets	93,566	105,724	199,290	229,289
Long term Liabilities	-	-	-	-
	130,940	258,497	389,437	416,570

16 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Barbara is a member of Broughton Community Council who gave grants to AVOW during the year totalling £14,148 (2019: £14,158). They are also Payroll bureau clients of AVOW. At the year-end Broughton Community Council had a Nil balance in relation to the grant income (£2019 nil). We have stated nil balances for all of these related party disclosures.

John Leece Jones (Trustee) is a Governor of Coleg Cambria, which AVOW has contracted with during the year for training courses totalling £Nil (2019: £Nil). At the year-end Coleg Cambria had a creditor balance of £Nil (2019: £Nil).

David Thompson is a School Governor at Ysgol Rhiwabon and St. Christopher's School who are a potential beneficiary of funds allocated by AVOW. At the year-end Ysgol Rhiwabon and St. Christopher's School had a creditor balance of £Nil (2019: £Nil).

Wanjiku Mbugua is a Chief Officer of BAWSO who are a potential beneficiary of services from AVOW. At the year-end BAWSO had a creditor balance of £Nil (2019: £Nil).

Mervyn Dean is a School Governor at Ysgol Rhiwabon who are a potential beneficiary of funds allocated by AVOW. At the year-end Ysgol Rhiwabon had a creditor balance of £Nil (2019: £Nil).