

Registered number: 03327628
Charity number: 1061538

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

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BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Trustees	C Barker (appointed 11 February 2019) J M Barnes B S George P Grayson, Chair Dr T J Hedges Cllr T Hill Rev S C Holroyd I J Kelly J H Lewis A Lovesey E Masih Dr J S May B G Prickett I Riches S Sohanpal (appointed 11 October 2018) Cllr J Wheeler (resigned 11 October 2018)
Company registered number	03327628
Charity registered number	1061538
Registered office	The Old School Cardington Beds MK44 3SX
Company secretary	J M Boswell (until 13 July 2018), Mrs T Cowan (appointed 13 July 2018)
Chief executive officer	J M Boswell (until 13 July 2018), Mrs T Cowan (appointed 13 July 2018)
Independent auditors	Streets Audit LLP Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors Potton House Wyboston Lakes Great North Road Wyboston Bedford MK44 3BZ
Solicitors	Woodfines LLP 16 St Cuthberts Street Bedford MK40 3JG

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND
ADVISERS (CONTINUED)**
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Bankers

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

National Westminster Bank plc
81 High Street
Bedford
MK40 1NE

Scottish Widows
PO Box 12757
67 Morrison Street
Edinburgh
EH3 8YJ

Virgin Money
Jubilee House
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 4PL

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the charitable company for the year 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective January 2015).

Since the group and the charitable company qualify as small under section 383 of the Companies Act 2006, the Group Strategic Report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

The group and the charitable company also trade under the names BRCC.

Founded in 1953 as Bedfordshire Rural Community Council, Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) is a member of a national network of Rural Community Councils under an umbrella organisation, ACRE.

Objectives and activities

a. Mission and role

BRCC exists to support local community life in Bedfordshire. Its role is as follows:

- A **coordinator** of local community activity to enable communities to do more for themselves and reduce reliance on the state
- An **intermediary** between public (and private) service providers and the people in local communities they need to reach
- A **manager of partnerships** across public, private and voluntary sectors to achieve common objectives (e.g. conservation, rural economic development)
- A direct **provider of services** (e.g. community transport) that help people to participate in the community

b. Areas of benefit

BRCC is still unquestionably the leading countywide organisation working with rural communities in Bedfordshire. However, it is not always helpful to make the distinction between urban and rural when services are delivered across whole local authority areas. While retaining its rural specialism, BRCC increasingly supports 'local community life' across all areas of the county.

Also, BRCC now operates outside Bedfordshire in some cases (e.g. where projects based in Bedfordshire have extended across county boundaries).

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Desired outcomes

The high level outcomes that BRCC seeks to achieve are as follows:

- Communities are more involved in delivering local services and managing their local assets
- Potentially vulnerable and/or disadvantaged people gain more independence
- People increase their physical, mental and social well-being
- People with barriers to the labour market gain skills and employment
- Rural communities have a more thriving local economy
- Bedfordshire's built and natural environment is conserved and enhanced

d. Public benefit

Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 requires the Board of Directors to comply with their duty to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

The Board of Directors has reviewed the organisation's mission and values (as listed above) in the context of its charitable purposes and considers that they meet the two key principles of public benefit as identified by the Charity Commission:

- there must be an identifiable benefit or benefits
- benefit must be to the public, or section of the public

BRCC has introduced a checklist for use to ensure that all of its activities are for public benefit. It is based on the two principles above and the relevant factors under each principle identified by the Charity Commission. All existing work has been assessed against the checklist, and it is used by the Strategic Development Committee to assess proposed new areas of work. As a result, all areas of the charity's work are deemed to be for the public benefit according to Charity Commission guidance.

Achievements and performance

a. Review of activities -

Supporting Communities

Social Prescribing

This year saw us expand our Social Prescribing service, building on work undertaken in the previous year by our Local Community Coordinators in Bedford. Our 3.5 FTE Local Community Coordinators were joined by 5.5 FTE Community Wellbeing Champions (1.5 FTE in Bedford Borough and 4 FTE in Central Bedfordshire). The service seeks to support individuals facing complex life situations, improving their health and wellbeing while reducing costs to social care and health services.

Village and Community Agents

Our Village Agents operate across all of the villages in Bedford Borough, funded principally by Bedford Borough Council. A team of part-time Agents identify hard-to-reach people in rural areas and help them to improve their quality of life by referring them to mainstream services, or support networks within the community. In addition, we have x4 Community Agents working with individual communities in Central Bedfordshire through local funding arrangements. In 2018/19 we delivered positive outcomes for 1,190 clients in total.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Good Neighbour and Village Care Scheme Network

Good Neighbour and Village Care Schemes play a valuable role in their communities, enabling people in need to access the kind of occasional voluntary help that one neighbour might provide for another, which can be a factor in enabling people to continue living independently in their own homes. The Network now comprises 44 schemes across Bedfordshire, with a total of over 900 active volunteers, carrying out a total of over 21,000 jobs during the year. During the year we supported the launch of a new group in Kempston Rural.

Housing and planning

BRCC supports local communities to plan for their future through Neighbourhood and Green Infrastructure (GI) planning. During the year we supported 22 Neighbourhood Plan groups; including the delivery of workshops in partnership with Local Authorities. We worked with 4 communities on Green Infrastructure Plans, including the identification of important sites to be designated and protected as Local Green Spaces.

We also help rural parishes to meet their affordable housing needs by carrying out household surveys: 5 housing needs surveys were completed during 2018/19, and we assisted central Bedfordshire Council in delivering x2 Community-Led Housing.

Green Infrastructure

BRCC is leading on a number of 'Green Wheels' (linking publicly accessible green spaces and routes within and around rural towns) in the Ivel Valley area. During 2018/19 we launched the Sandy Green Wheel and planned the launch of the Etonbury Green Wheel. BRCC continues to deliver a variety of other activities that involve local people in designing, conserving and being active in their local green spaces, including Walking 4 Health and the Ivel Valley Conservation Volunteers.

Voluntary sector support

BRCC continues to deliver support services to voluntary and community sector groups, including group transport hire, DBS checking and specialist advice to community building committees. During the year we responded to 106 requests for support from 50 community building committees.

b. Community Transport

Door to Door / Wheels in Motion

BRCC operates Door to Door, a personalised transport ('dial-a-ride') service for people in Bedford Borough who experience significant difficulties in accessing conventional public transport. Alongside this, Wheels in Motion, our 5-year lottery funded project to develop community transport solutions in rural areas, entered its final project year during 2017/8.

Community Rail Partnerships

BRCC now hosts two Community Rail Partnerships (for the Marston Vale line and the Abbey Line), which act as a bridge between the railway industry and local communities. At the end of the year we reached agreement to set up a third Community Rail Partnership, covering part of the Thameslink line between Bedford and St Albans.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Corporate Services

Financial management

During the year we have continued to develop our procedures for monitoring and reporting our financial performance.

Design and Communications

Most of BRCC's communication now uses online channels including our website, e-bulletins and social media. In 2018 we produced a new printed publication entitled #WhatWeDo featuring a range of highlights from BRCC's activities. Our graphic designer left BRCC during the year, although continues to carry out work for us on a freelance basis.

d. Rural development

Rural Development Programmes

BRCC is operating Rural Development Programmes between 2015 and 2020 using EU LEADER funding on behalf of Local Action Groups (LAGs) for the Greensand Ridge and Beds & Hunts Claylands areas. Following the restructure of the restructuring of the LEADER Delivery Team, and throughout 2018/9 the programme has committed just over £2.02m to 37 projects in the Greensand Ridge and Beds & Hunts Claylands areas. The programme has now closed to new applications but will remain open until 31st December 2020 for project claims and inspections.

Greensand Country Landscape Partnership

The Delivery Phase of our Greensand Country Landscape Partnership programme is now well under way. The Delivery Team and project partners have continued to make good progress in delivering projects in the various thematic areas. The new destination brand has been launched and is becoming widely recognised in the area. A very successful Greensand Country Festival was held in May 2018, with over 70 events held throughout the area resulting in very positive feedback from attendees and event organisers alike.

The Bridge

The Bridge Project closed on 5th January 2019. A final evaluation was carried out and submitted to the Big Lottery Fund who, despite the many issues that had been encountered over the years, encouraged us to focus on the positive outputs that had been achieved during the delivery of the project rather than the issues. During this financial year we continued to operate the Stockwood Gardening Service and established a new bakery within the Barn Cardington (see below). The café (taken over by Druglink in April 2018), closed in December 2018 as income was not covering expenditure.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

e. BRCC Services Ltd

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity operates a wholly-owned subsidiary company entitled BRCC Services Ltd, the purpose of which is to raise funds to support the charity. The directors/officers of the company are:

P Grayson
B George
J May
I Kelly
T Cowan (Secretary)

The main trading activities of BRCC Services Ltd are currently:

The Barn Cardington

BRCC took over the lease of the Summerhill Farm Shop, up the road from our Cardington headquarters, and re-launched it as a café/deli/butchery. The purpose of the enterprise is to support local producers and suppliers; provide the local community with access to high quality produce on its doorstep; and provide employment and volunteering opportunities for local people.

Warden Abbey Community Vineyard

BRCC manages the Warden Abbey vineyard as a community project, in order to provide rewarding volunteering opportunities locally while also continuing to make award-winning local wines. The Friends group continues to be particularly active in helping to ensure the sustainability of the project. This year's harvest was much better than 2017 and approx. 3500 bottles will be produced. Next year will be the 10th Anniversary and some of the wine has been held back to create a special vintage for 2020.

Kings Reach public art project

This contract with a housing developer consortium to deliver public art within the new Kings Reach development east of Biggleswade, was due to complete but due to developer delays this project remains outstanding.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Strategic report (continued)

Financial review

a. Financial review

During the year, the charity and its trading subsidiary BRCC Services Ltd raised income totalling £1,796,907 (2018 £1,936,766) to enable it to deliver a range of activities under its charitable objects. This income came principally from local and central government, the European Union, lottery distributing bodies and other funders through a range of service level agreements, grants and contracts. A sizeable proportion also came directly from clients and beneficiaries (through fees and charges), and some from retail activities and donations.

Total expenditure during the year amounted to £1,983,258 (2018 £1,614,219). Costs reported in 2019 include the ongoing delivery of some projects where grant income had been awarded and recognised in the previous financial year. The overall net movement in funds for the year amounted to a deficit of £186,351 (2018 surplus of £322,547).

Transfers have been made to recognise the value of additional assets purchased in the year, increasing the balance in the Fixed Asset Reserve to £597,452, and matching the total net book value of the fixed assets as at 31 March 2019. The other designated reserves (Contingency and Buildings & Vehicle Maintenance reserves) have been maintained at the same level.

As a result of this year's activity, the Charity's total Restricted Funds have reduced from £591,837 to £512,020 and the General Fund has reduced from £183,152 to £71,709. The remaining restricted funds will continue to be used to deliver projects in and around Bedfordshire in accordance with the funding documentation. The trustees recognise that the General Fund balance is less than the minimum level set by the Reserves Policy (above) and restoring the General Fund to at least the minimum level is a priority over the forthcoming year.

The charity's trading subsidiary, BRCC Services Limited, completed its first full year of trading at The Barn and, consequently, reported a significant increase in turnover in its accounts to 31 March 2019. However, the sales were still too low to cover the staffing and overhead costs, resulting in a loss for the year of £15,948 (2018 loss of £101) and a deficiency of shareholder fund of £15,073 (2018 capital and reserves amounted to £873). The charity's staff and trustees are monitoring the situation closely, to monitor both the level of sales and the profit margins achieved, in addition to looking for new marketing opportunities to promote the venture. The charity has continued to provide cash loans to enable the subsidiary to meet its liabilities as they fall due for payment but it is hoped that additional sales can be generated, to enable the company to trade profitably in the future and repay its loans to BRCC.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Strategic report (continued)

Financial review (continued)

b. Reserves policy

The trustees have identified the need for the Charity to hold unrestricted reserves for three principal reasons:

- a) To remain resilient and manage risk in an increasingly uncertain and volatile operating environment
- b) To accommodate cash flow pressures at a time when a number of BRCC's income streams involve payment in arrears
- c) To allow for significant contingency, particularly the costs incurred in the event of closing down the Charity

Its unrestricted reserves will therefore contain two elements:

1. Resilience funds: BRCC will hold between 1 and 3 months' total budgeted operating costs in order to provide sufficient cash flow for the organisation while enabling it to address future opportunities, threats and risks as part of its long-term financial planning, as well as sensitively managing the cessation of services to beneficiaries where required.
2. Designated funds: the trustees have designated a Contingency Fund (to cover the costs of winding up the organisation); a Building & Vehicles Maintenance Reserve (to cover extraordinary repairs or maintenance costs); and a Fixed Assets Reserve (reflecting the current value of its Fixed Assets). These funds will not be used day to day for the purposes outlined in 1 and 2. The trustees review the levels of these designated funds annually.

The Charity will not hold more reserves than it needs to deliver the aims of this policy, in order to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of its current beneficiaries as effectively as possible.

The level of reserves held will be monitored monthly by the Management Team and quarterly by the Board of Directors. The Board will review this reserves policy annually.

c. Grant-making policy

In administering grant schemes, Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity will ensure that:

- it only manages funding programmes that clearly fit in with its own priorities, objectives and mission
- there is an independent and representative panel of people established as the body accountable for making decisions on grant allocation
- staff carrying out developmental work with projects are not involved in any way with decision making
- all grants funds will be promoted and advertised in ways that aim to reach the full range of target beneficiaries, and the application procedures are straightforward, transparent and clearly explained
- once awarded, expenditure of the grant and monitoring of progress is carried out at appropriate intervals to ensure that the funding is spent for the purpose for which it is given
- all conditions attached to the offer of the grant are met – in the event of this not being the case, the grant offer will be withdrawn
- final reports are submitted from the recipients of the grant outlining the outcome of the funding
- appropriate financial records are kept and reporting obligations of funders are met.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Strategic report (continued)

Financial review (continued)

d. Principal risks and uncertainties

The directors recognise that there are potential risks to which the charity may be exposed. The directors have identified five main areas of risk:

- governance and management of the charity
- operational risks
- financial risks
- environmental and external factors
- compliance with law and regulation

The processes for monitoring and mitigation of these risks have been identified and are recorded in a risk register. The directors have delegated the day-to-day implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the risk register to the management team. During the year the Board received reports from the Chief Executive and agreed actions to mitigate any serious risks.

e. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity is a company limited by guarantee, having no share capital, and is a registered charity.

The charity was incorporated on 4 March 1997 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The liability of its members in the event of the charitable company being wound up is limited to a sum not exceeding £10 per member.

Objects

The charity's objects are:

- to promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community primarily in the historic county of Bedfordshire, and in particular, the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty, distress or sickness.
- in furtherance of that said purpose, but not otherwise, to promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the same and to that end to bring together representatives of the voluntary organisations and statutory authorities in the historic county of Bedfordshire.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Structure, governance and management (continued)

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the group and the charitable company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Memorandum of Association.

c. Governance

The directors and senior managers of the organisation who served during the year are set out on page one. The directors of Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. Members of the charity are entitled to nominate directors, from whom the Board is elected at the Annual General Meeting. All new directors are provided with an induction by the Chief Executive and the Chair of the Board.

The Board of Directors meets quarterly. Many of its responsibilities are delegated to three Board Committees: the Strategic Development Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Quality and Impact Committee, which also meet quarterly.

Day-to-day responsibility for the running of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive and three departmental managers (as listed on page one).

d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are invited to meet with staff and existing trustees before they are appointed. They are also invited to attend meetings as an observer to gain an insight into the charity's activities and practices in each area of work.

e. Pay policy for key management personnel

The charity uses the NJC payscales as a basis for all staff salaries, including the CEO and management team who make up the Key Management Personnel.

f. Related party relationships

The charity's trustees and officers are involved in a wide range of other businesses and organisations, as directors, trustees, employees and councillors.

Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council provide funding to BRCC but the trustees do not consider that any councillors who are also trustees of BRCC are able to influence the charity's relationship with those organisations.

Details of related party transactions are given in note 24 to the financial statements.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Plans for future periods

The charity has identified the following objectives as its priority for the forthcoming year:

- Successfully deliver the HLF funded Greensand Country Landscape Partnership programme
- Further establish our Social Prescribing work within a new Community & Wellbeing Service; securing funding from LA's/ CCG and the soon-to-be formed Primary Care Networks
- Continue to develop the Good Neighbour and Village Care Scheme Network
- Develop our ambition to become a Digital Organisation and increase our Brand
- Further expand our Community Transport activities
- Successfully deliver both 5-year Big Lottery Fund projects
- Continue to develop collaborative relationships with other local organisations and within the ACRE Network
- Continue to diversify income streams where possible

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and the charitable company and of their incoming resources and application of resources, including their income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the group and the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the group and the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable group's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable group's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, Streets Audit LLP, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

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



Ms T Cowan
Company Secretary
Date: 3 October 2019

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2019 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Charitable company Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, 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, including 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 group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2019 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its 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 and the Charities Act 2011.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 group's or the parent 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.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY (CONTINUED)

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' Report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 group's and the parent 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 group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES
CHARITY (CONTINUED)**

Auditors' 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 Auditors' 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: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, 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 members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Linda J Lord (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of
Streets Audit LLP

Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

Potton House

Wyboston Lakes

Great North Road

Wyboston

Bedford

MK44 3BZ

Date: 16 December 2019

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND
EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

		Restricted funds 2019 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £	Total funds 2018 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	29,745	2,054	31,799	60,953
Charitable activities	4	1,464,381	77,846	1,542,227	1,741,494
Other trading activities	5	440	220,119	220,559	133,858
Investments	6	-	2,322	2,322	461
Total income		1,494,566	302,341	1,796,907	1,936,766
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		420	150,072	150,492	90,206
Charitable activities	7	1,567,794	264,972	1,832,766	1,524,013
Total expenditure		1,568,214	415,044	1,983,258	1,614,219
Net expenditure		(73,648)	(112,703)	(186,351)	322,547
Transfers between funds	18	(6,169)	6,169	-	-
Net movement in funds		(79,817)	(106,534)	(186,351)	322,547
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		591,837	935,520	1,527,357	1,204,810
Net movement in funds		(79,817)	(106,534)	(186,351)	322,547
Total funds carried forward		512,020	828,986	1,341,006	1,527,357

The Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 21 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2019

		2019 £	2018 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	597,452	576,595
		<u>597,452</u>	<u>576,595</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	14	28,603	29,903
Debtors	15	394,978	363,136
Investments	16	106,237	104,529
Cash at bank and in hand		414,236	563,828
		<u>944,054</u>	<u>1,061,396</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(200,500)	(110,634)
Net current assets		<u>743,554</u>	<u>950,762</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,341,006</u>	<u>1,527,357</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset		<u>1,341,006</u>	<u>1,527,357</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>1,341,006</u></u>	<u><u>1,527,357</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	18	512,020	591,837
Unrestricted funds	18	828,986	935,520
Total funds		<u><u>1,341,006</u></u>	<u><u>1,527,357</u></u>

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

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



P Grayson
Chairman
Date: 3 October 2019



Dr J S May
Chairman of Finance Committee

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CHARITABLE COMPANY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 MARCH 2019

		2019 £	2018 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	597,452	576,595
Investments		100	100
		<u>597,552</u>	<u>576,695</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	15	442,247	416,613
Investments	16	106,237	104,529
Cash at bank and in hand		386,121	528,500
		<u>934,605</u>	<u>1,049,642</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(175,976)	(99,753)
Net current assets		<u>758,629</u>	<u>949,889</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,356,181</u>	<u>1,526,584</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset		<u>1,356,181</u>	<u>1,526,584</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>1,356,181</u></u>	<u><u>1,526,584</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	18	517,367	591,837
Unrestricted funds	18	838,814	934,747
Total funds		<u><u>1,356,181</u></u>	<u><u>1,526,584</u></u>

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

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


P Grayson
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Date: 3 October 2019


Dr J S May
Chairman of Finance Committee

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	2019 £	2018 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(94,188)	169,897
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	28,691	24,464
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	876	1,383
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(83,263)	(19,858)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(53,696)	5,989
Cash flows from financing activities		
Movement in fixed term investments	(1,708)	(1,730)
Net cash used in financing activities	(1,708)	(1,730)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(149,592)	174,156
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	563,828	389,672
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	414,236	563,828

The notes on pages 21 to 43 form part of these financial statements

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

1. General information

As set out in the trustees' report, Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The address of their registered office is The Old School, Cardington, Beds, MK44 3SX.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

The charity's objects are stated in the trustees' report.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Consolidated Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the charitable company and its subsidiary undertaking. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own Statement of Financial Activities in these financial statements.

2.2 Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Charitable Company's accounting policies, which are described further in note 1 below, management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described below:

Allocation of costs - Direct expenses are charged to individual cost centres wherever possible. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities, they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of those resources.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Company status

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page . In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charitable company.

2.4 Going concern

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

2.5 Fund accounting

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

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the group for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2.6 Income

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

2.7 Expenditure

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

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

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Expenditure (continued)

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

2.8 Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity and all of its subsidiary undertakings ('subsidiaries').

The charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption contained within section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 not to present its own Income and Expenditure Account.

The net deficit for the charity, before transfers and excluding the activities of the trading subsidiary, was £170,403 (2018 net incoming resources £166,632).

2.9 Interest receivable

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

2.10 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition are included in the measurement of cost.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- Over the remaining life of the leasehold property Property improvements - 99 or 25 years from March 2009 Fixed plant and equipment - 4 years per annum straight line
Long-term leasehold property	- Over the remaining life of the leasehold property Ridgmont Station - 25 years from March 2009 Cardington Office - 10 years from April 2011
Short-term leasehold property	- 10% or 20% per annum straight line
Motor vehicles	- 25% or 33% per annum straight line
Office equipment	- 25% or 33% per annum straight line

2.11 Investments

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

2.12 Stocks

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

2.13 Debtors

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

2.14 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.15 Liabilities and provisions

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

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.16 Financial instruments

The group 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 amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.17 Pensions

The charity provides a workplace pension scheme, compliant with Auto-enrolment procedures. The charity also continues to contribute to the previous stakeholder pension scheme for those staff who are eligible for membership under the terms of their contracts of employment. Pension contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities for the year in which they are payable.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2019 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £	<i>Total funds 2018 £</i>
Donations	29,745	2,054	31,799	60,953
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total 2018</i>	<hr/> 51,985 <hr/>	<hr/> 8,968 <hr/>	<hr/> 60,953 <hr/>	

4. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2019 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £	<i>Total funds 2018 £</i>
Income from charitable activities	1,464,381	77,846	1,542,227	1,741,494
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total 2018</i>	<hr/> 1,645,962 <hr/>	<hr/> 95,532 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,741,494 <hr/>	

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Restricted funds 2019 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £	Total funds 2018 £
Rent received	-	26,369	26,369	24,003
Sundry income	440	1,338	1,778	220
	<u>440</u>	<u>27,707</u>	<u>28,147</u>	<u>24,223</u>
<i>Total 2018</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,223</u>	<u>24,223</u>	

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £	Total funds 2018 £
BRCC Services Limited - sales income	192,412	192,412	109,635

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £	Total funds 2018 £
Loan interest	-	-	54
Bank interest	2,322	2,322	407
	<u>2,322</u>	<u>2,322</u>	<u>461</u>

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2019 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £	Total funds 2018 £
Charitable Activities	1,567,794	264,972	1,832,766	1,524,013
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total 2018</i>	<i>1,392,148</i>	<i>131,865</i>	<i>1,524,013</i>	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2019 £	Support costs 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £	Total funds 2018 £
Charitable Activities	1,584,466	248,300	1,832,766	1,524,013
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total 2018</i>	<i>1,303,080</i>	<i>220,933</i>	<i>1,524,013</i>	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2019 £	<i>Total funds 2018 £</i>
Staff costs	964,034	784,326
Room hire, meetings and conferences	7,805	3,696
Publicity, publications and subscriptions	43,510	31,676
Printing, postage, stationery and telephone	31,086	31,308
Repairs and renewals	64,494	54,198
Contractors fees	184,073	159,308
Travel and subsistence	14,166	12,670
Recruitment and other staff costs	14,485	13,715
Volunteers expenses	2,347	6,205
Rent, rates and service charges	69,337	27,952
Legal and professional fees	858	2,031
Grants paid	147,677	120,946
Vehicle costs	39,692	54,403
Lease costs	902	646
	<u><u>1,584,466</u></u>	<u><u>1,303,080</u></u>

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2019 £	<i>Total funds 2018 £</i>
Staff costs	101,678	102,349
Depreciation	62,408	61,674
VAT lost on partial exemption	2,910	3,264
Premises costs	78,203	54,396
Bank charges	1,230	633
(Profit)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	(876)	(1,383)
Bad debts	2,657	-
Governance costs	90	-
	<u>248,300</u>	<u>220,933</u>

9. Auditors' remuneration

	2019 £	<i>2018 £</i>
Fees payable to the charitable company's Auditor for the audit of the charitable company's annual accounts	9,220	9,220
Fees payable to the charitable company's Auditor in respect of: All Non-audit services not included above	<u>3,175</u>	<u>-</u>

10. Staff costs

	Group 2019 £	<i>Group 2018 £</i>	Charity 2019 £	<i>Charity 2018 £</i>
Wages and salaries	973,726	813,265	973,726	813,265
Social security costs	69,697	56,477	69,697	56,477
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	22,289	16,933	22,289	16,933
	<u>1,065,712</u>	<u>886,675</u>	<u>1,065,712</u>	<u>886,675</u>

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

10. Staff costs (continued)

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

	Group 2019 No.	<i>Group 2018 No.</i>	Charity 2019 No.	<i>Charity 2018 No.</i>
Project staff	62	52	62	52
Administration and governance	3	1	3	1
	<u>65</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>53</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	Group 2019 No.	<i>Group 2018 No.</i>	Charity 2019 No.	<i>Charity 2018 No.</i>
Project staff	36	33	36	33
Administration and governance	2	1	2	1
	<u>38</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>34</u>

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

The key management personnel of the charity are the trustees, Chief Executive Officer and Management Team. No trustees received any remuneration during the year (2018 £nil). The total remuneration paid to the CEO and three members of the Management Team during the year amounted to £163,263 (2018 £153,398).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2018 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 March 2019, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2018 - £NIL).

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

12. Tangible fixed assets

Group and Charity

	Freehold property £	Long-term leasehold property £	Short-term leasehold property £	Motor vehicles £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 April 2018	505,445	82,120	35,535	136,754	78,521	838,375
Additions	-	-	-	77,605	5,658	83,263
Disposals	-	-	-	(17,400)	-	(17,400)
At 31 March 2019	505,445	82,120	35,535	196,959	84,179	904,238
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2018	32,671	36,658	27,455	107,279	57,717	261,780
Charge for the year	6,529	3,969	2,693	36,002	13,213	62,406
On disposals	-	-	-	(17,400)	-	(17,400)
At 31 March 2019	39,200	40,627	30,148	125,881	70,930	306,786
Net book value						
At 31 March 2019	466,245	41,493	5,387	71,078	13,249	597,452
At 31 March 2018	472,774	45,462	8,080	29,475	20,804	576,595

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

13. Subsidiary Undertakings

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the charitable company:

Name	Company number	Registered office or principal place of business	Principal activity	Class of shares	Holding	Included in consolidation
BRCC Services Ltd	4475077	England and Wales	Operation of farm shop, wine production and other commercial activities	Ordinary	100%	Yes

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Income £	Expenditure £	Profit/(Loss) / Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year £	Net assets £
BRCC Services Ltd	192,412	(208,360)	(15,948)	(15,075)

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

14. Stocks

	Group 2019 £	<i>Group 2018 £</i>
Goods for resale	28,603	<i>29,903</i>

15. Debtors

	Group 2019 £	<i>Group 2018 £</i>	Charity 2019 £	<i>Charity 2018 £</i>
Due within one year				
Trade debtors	371,995	<i>207,007</i>	343,036	<i>202,250</i>
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	<i>-</i>	83,977	<i>65,712</i>
Other debtors	7,749	<i>9,404</i>	-	<i>1,926</i>
Prepayments and accrued income	15,234	<i>146,725</i>	15,234	<i>146,725</i>
	394,978	<i>363,136</i>	442,247	<i>416,613</i>

16. Current asset investments

	Group 2019 £	<i>Group 2018 £</i>	Charity 2019 £	<i>Charity 2018 £</i>
Bank deposit (over 90 days)	106,237	<i>104,529</i>	106,237	<i>104,529</i>

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2019 £	<i>Group 2018 £</i>	Charity 2019 £	<i>Charity 2018 £</i>
Trade creditors	79,521	<i>29,129</i>	61,392	<i>27,053</i>
Other taxation and social security	51,593	<i>30,576</i>	46,198	<i>29,556</i>
Other creditors	9,385	<i>1,336</i>	9,385	<i>1,336</i>
Accruals and deferred income	60,001	<i>49,593</i>	59,001	<i>41,808</i>
	200,500	<i>110,634</i>	175,976	<i>99,753</i>

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

18. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2019 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Fixed Asset Reserve	576,595	-	(62,408)	83,265	597,452
Contingency Fund	150,000	-	-	-	150,000
Building and Vehicle Maintenance Fund	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
	<u>751,595</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(62,408)</u>	<u>83,265</u>	<u>772,452</u>
General funds					
General Fund	183,152	109,929	(214,148)	(7,224)	71,709
Subsidiary Company Fund	773	192,412	(138,488)	(69,872)	(15,175)
	<u>183,925</u>	<u>302,341</u>	<u>(352,636)</u>	<u>(77,096)</u>	<u>56,534</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>935,520</u>	<u>302,341</u>	<u>(415,044)</u>	<u>6,169</u>	<u>828,986</u>

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - current year (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2019 £
Restricted funds					
Care in Bedford Borough	16,747	62,009	(65,920)	5,000	17,836
Care in Central Bedfordshire	4,704	90,565	(92,833)	10,000	12,436
Green Infrastructure	52,728	149,848	(155,715)	-	46,861
CBC Infrastructure	7,533	44,134	(53,876)	2,209	-
Greensand Ridge and Claylands RDPE	509	90,597	(92,567)	1,461	-
Warden Abbey Vineyard	-	16,252	(30,580)	14,328	-
Marston Vale CRP	56,007	94,391	(55,328)	-	95,070
Abbey Line CRP	134,064	53,000	(50,615)	-	136,449
Bedford to St Albans CRP	20,000	-	(14,828)	-	5,172
Rural Transport Partnership	1,649	-	(750)	-	899
Wixams / Greensand Country Community Transport	50,000	64,206	(66,041)	(48,165)	-
Door to Door	20,977	219,430	(181,301)	(29,440)	29,666
Wheels in Motion	6,758	57,335	(62,372)	-	1,721
Mobility Hub	650	8,374	(21,572)	12,548	-
The Bridge	-	42,935	(52,942)	10,007	-
Local Community Coordination	66,475	103,128	(159,327)	-	10,276
Social Prescribing CBC	58,615	77,310	(107,794)	-	28,131
GCLP Projects	94,421	315,540	(282,458)	-	127,503
Ridgmont Station	-	5,512	(21,395)	15,883	-
	<u>591,837</u>	<u>1,494,566</u>	<u>(1,568,214)</u>	<u>(6,169)</u>	<u>512,020</u>
Total of funds	<u>1,527,357</u>	<u>1,796,907</u>	<u>(1,983,258)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,341,006</u>

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 April 2017 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 March 2018 £</i>
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Fixed Asset Reserve	618,411	-	(61,674)	19,858	576,595
Contingency Reserve	150,000	-	-	-	150,000
Building and Vehicle Maintenance Reserve	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
	<u>793,411</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(61,674)</u>	<u>19,858</u>	<u>751,595</u>
General funds					
General Fund	162,239	129,184	(78,911)	(29,360)	183,152
Subsidiary Company Fund	874	109,635	(81,086)	(28,650)	773
	<u>163,113</u>	<u>238,819</u>	<u>(159,997)</u>	<u>(58,010)</u>	<u>183,925</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>956,524</u>	<u>238,819</u>	<u>(221,671)</u>	<u>(38,152)</u>	<u>935,520</u>

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year (continued)

	<i>Balance at 1 April 2017 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 March 2018 £</i>
Restricted funds					
Care in Bedford Borough	14,527	60,440	(63,732)	5,512	16,747
Care in Central Bedfordshire	203	83,903	(89,402)	10,000	4,704
Green Infrastructure	30,880	159,341	(137,493)	-	52,728
CBC Infrastructure	5,771	72,634	(70,872)	-	7,533
Greensand Ridge and Claylands RDPE	-	102,458	(105,790)	3,841	509
Warden Abbey Vineyard	-	11,334	(25,857)	14,523	-
Marston Vale CRP	37,790	82,272	(64,055)	-	56,007
Abbey Line CRP	6,114	163,317	(35,367)	-	134,064
Bedford to St Albans CRP	-	20,000	-	-	20,000
Rural Transport Partnership	2,059	-	(840)	430	1,649
Wixams / Greensand Country Community Transport	-	50,000	-	-	50,000
Door to Door	-	232,153	(211,176)	-	20,977
Wheels in Motion	-	98,696	(97,693)	5,000	6,003
Mobility Hub	-	12,954	(11,549)	-	1,405
The Bridge	50,942	98,862	(137,949)	(11,855)	-
Local Community Coordination	-	156,403	(89,928)	-	66,475
Social Prescribing CBC	-	60,115	(1,500)	-	58,615
Landscape Partnership	-	4,818	(2,755)	(2,063)	-
GCLP Projects	100,000	222,646	(228,225)	-	94,421
Ridgmont Station	-	5,601	(18,365)	12,764	-
	<u>248,286</u>	<u>1,697,947</u>	<u>(1,392,548)</u>	<u>38,152</u>	<u>591,837</u>
Total of funds	<u>1,204,810</u>	<u>1,936,766</u>	<u>(1,614,219)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,527,357</u>

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Designated Funds:

Fixed Asset Reserve

This fund represents the total net book value of the Charity's Tangible Fixed Assets which comprise: Leasehold Land & Buildings, Renovation at Ridgmont Station, Improvements made to the Cardington office, Motor vehicles and Fixtures, fittings & equipment. Transfers to the fund represent the value of assets purchased during the year.

Contingency Reserve

This represents the Trustees' calculation of the likely costs that would be incurred in the event of having to wind up the Charity. It comprises staff redundancy payments and commitments on leases.

Building & Vehicles Maintenance Reserve

These funds have been designated to cover any extraordinary repairs and maintenance that may be required to the Cardington office and the Charity's vehicles.

Restricted Funds:

Care in Bedford Borough:

This fund was established in April 2009, following the formation of the two new Unitary Authorities in the county. Funding from the Borough Council (Adult Services) has been received to continue support for the Carers Short Break Bureau; the Good Neighbours Schemes and the Village Agents "Just Ask" initiative. Income and costs associated with the services provided have been charged to the project with £5,000 of unrestricted funding being allocated towards the cost of providing these services.

Care in Central Bedfordshire:

The charity provides care for adults in Central Bedfordshire through the Village Care Scheme. Income and costs associated with the services provided have been charged to the project with £10,000 of unrestricted funding being allocated towards the cost of providing these services.

Green Infrastructure:

This fund comprises several funding streams that are ring fenced for the provision of services and the purchase of capital items and/or payments to contractors in respect of the various environmental sites that are managed by the RCC's Green Infrastructure Team. Costs are charged to the fund as and when the various projects are delivered, in partnership with local authorities.

CBC Infrastructure Grant:

In 2016/17, the charity became the lead body in administering the Central Bedfordshire Council's Voluntary and Community Sector funding. The agreement is initially for a 3-year period to 2019 but with a possible extension to 2020. Costs are charged to the fund as and when projects are delivered, in partnership with local authority.

Greensand Ridge and Beds Claylands RDPE:

The charity manages the Local Action Group (LAG) for Greensand Ridge and Beds & Hunts Claylands which were awarded LEADER funding to invest in local projects between 2015 and 2020. LEADER is part of the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) and all claims for funding and administrative costs are held in restricted funds.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Warden Abbey Vineyard:

The charity continued to receive grant income and donations to assist with the costs of managing the Warden Abbey Vineyard, to provide opportunities for volunteering. The vineyard management costs have been charged to the restricted fund and a transfer totalling £14,328 (2018 £14,523) has been made from general funds to support the project.

Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership (MVCRP):

BRCC employs the MVCRP Officer, which is funded primarily through a Service Level Agreement with London Midland Trains, West Midlands Trains Ltd and Milton Keynes Borough Councils. MVCRP seeks to publicise and promote increased usage of the Marston Vale Community Rail Line.

Abbey Line Community Rail Partnership (ALCRP):

BRCC employs the ALCRP Officer, funded primarily through a Service Level Agreement with London Midland Trains and West Midlands Trains Ltd. ALCRP seeks to publicise and promote increased usage of the Abbey Line Community Rail Line. The charity also administers the accumulated reserves of ALCRP, which are available for the continued development of the community rail partnership. These funds belong to ALCRP but are held in a restricted fund in BRCC's accounts, in accordance with the terms of the charity's hosting agreement with ALCRP.

Bedford to St Albans CRP:

BRCC received funding from Greater Thameslink Railway in 2017/18 to employ a community rail officer on the Bedford to St Albans Line. The appointment was made in 2018/19 and further funding has been secured for the ongoing service in 2019/20.

RTP - Rural Transport Partnership Delegated Funds:

The RTP funds were established in February 2000 to provide grants to small-scale transport projects in rural Bedfordshire. Although continuing financial support from Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire Councils has ceased, grants will continue to be made until the present funds are extinguished.

Wixams Community Transport/Greensand Country Community Transport:

The charity received £50,000 S106 funding from Bedford Borough Council in 2017/18 to be used to implement the recommendations of a community transport study undertaken in 2013/14. The funds were used to purchase a new vehicle and to launch the Greensand Community Transport scheme in 2018/19, supported by funds received from Central Bedfordshire Council.

Door to Door:

The charity took over the assets and activities of North Bedfordshire Community Transport on 1 April 2013. The charity continues to receive an annual grant of £80,000 from Bedford Borough Council for the provision of community transport services, together with contracts to operate services for individuals with special needs.

Wheels in Motion:

In 2013/14 the charity was awarded a 5-year grant from the Big Lottery, Heritage Lottery Fund to establish a 5-year project in Bedford Borough to develop community transport solutions. Funding for the Wheels in Motion project also includes contributions from Bedford Borough Council.

The Bridge Lottery Project:

In 2013/14 the charity was awarded a 5-year grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to establish a 5-year project to support people living in Luton recovering from drug and alcohol use in finding pathways back to work. The project was concluded in 2018/19 with the final costs being met from the charity's general funds.

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Local Community Co-ordination:

The charity continued to receive funding to help people in Bedford Borough to remain independent and connected within their local community, with services being provided by Local Community Coordinators. The programme supports patients with social, emotional or practical needs by finding non-clinical solutions that will improve their health and wellbeing.

Social Prescribing:

BRCC has been commissioned by Central Bedfordshire Council to pilot Social Prescribing across Bedfordshire. The programme supports patients with social, emotional or practical needs by finding non-clinical solutions that will improve their health and wellbeing. The only costs in the year ended 31 March 2018 were recruitment costs.

Greensand Country Landscape Programme (GCLP):

BRCC was awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, on behalf of the Greensand Ridge Landscape Partnership, to establish the Greensand Ridge area of Bedfordshire as a living and working landscape. The project seeks to create a strong, community led partnership and strategic framework to promote the area's interests and secure long-term financial and community investment. The Landscape Partnership scheme started in July 2016 and will run until December 2020.

Ridgmont Station:

The charity completed the refurbishment of Ridgmont Station in 2014 and continues to receive specific donations for the ongoing development of the facility. The restricted funding, together with unrestricted rental income, is used to cover the maintenance and upkeep of the station building.

19. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2019 £
Designated funds	751,595	-	(62,408)	83,265	772,452
General funds	183,925	302,341	(352,636)	(77,096)	56,534
Restricted funds	591,837	1,494,566	(1,568,214)	(6,169)	512,020
	<u>1,527,357</u>	<u>1,796,907</u>	<u>(1,983,258)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,341,006</u>

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

19. Summary of funds (continued)

Summary of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 April 2017 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 March 2018 £</i>
Designated funds	793,411	-	(61,674)	19,858	751,595
General funds	163,113	238,819	(159,997)	(58,010)	183,925
Restricted funds	248,286	1,697,947	(1,392,548)	38,152	591,837
	<u>1,204,810</u>	<u>1,936,766</u>	<u>(1,614,219)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,527,357</u>

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2019 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	597,452	597,452
Current assets	-	944,054	944,054
Creditors due within one year	-	(200,500)	(200,500)
Total	<u>512,020</u>	<u>828,986</u>	<u>1,341,006</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Restricted funds 2018 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2018 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2018 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	576,595	576,595
Current assets	591,837	469,559	1,061,396
Creditors due within one year	-	(110,634)	(110,634)
Total	<u>591,837</u>	<u>935,520</u>	<u>1,527,357</u>

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

21. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	Group 2019 £	<i>Group 2018 £</i>
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(186,351)	322,547
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	62,406	61,674
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(28,691)	(24,464)
Profit on the sale of fixed assets	(876)	(1,383)
Decrease in stocks	1,300	4,372
Increase in debtors	(31,842)	(54,620)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	89,866	(138,229)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	(94,188)	169,897

22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Group 2019 £	<i>Group 2018 £</i>
Cash in hand	214,236	363,828
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	200,000	200,000
Total cash and cash equivalents	414,236	563,828

23. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2019 the group and the charitable company had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Group 2019 £	<i>Group 2018 £</i>	Charity 2019 £	<i>Charity 2018 £</i>
Not later than 1 year	44,816	44,816	44,816	44,816
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	64,132	153,764	64,132	153,764
	108,948	198,580	108,948	198,580

BEDFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITIES CHARITY
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

24. Related party transactions

The charity's wholly owned subsidiary company, BRCC Services Ltd, operates from the Cardington Office and is managed by staff employed by the parent charity. Staff costs and overhead costs totalling £66,437 (2018 £27,602) were recharged to BRCC Services Ltd during the year. BRCC Services Ltd reported a loss of £15,948 (2018 £101) for the year ended 31 March 2019.

The charity has advanced loans totalling £50,000 (2018 £55,695) to the subsidiary company, charging interest of £3,436 (2018 £1,688) at a rate of 3.0% above the bank base rate. At the balance sheet date, BRCC Services Ltd owed the charity a total of £65,712 (2018 £65,712) in respect of the loans and staff recharges which remained unpaid at the balance sheet date.

The charity also had the following transactions with related parties:

Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire Council and Luton Borough Council: organisations where some trustees and their close family members are employed, or where trustees serve as local or borough councillors. No one person is considered to be in a position to exercise significant influence over these organisations and consequently no transactions are disclosed in these financial statements.

25. Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he/she is a member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £NIL for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

26. Taxation

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity is a registered charity and therefore is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income or gains derived from its charitable activities, as they fall within the various exemptions available to registered charities.