

included in its monthly licence fee, the landlord has agreed to reimburse RedbridgeCVS for the payment made to the council. This means that the actual operating deficit is approximately £15k. The Treasurer added that whilst many local authorities support their local VCSE by offering charities 100% rate relief, LBR's policy is to only provide the minimum charitable rate relief of 80%.

The Treasurer added that the operating deficit has led to a decrease in the organisation's reserves and emphasised the challenge of rising costs. RedbridgeCVS maintains a healthy reserve fund, however as many public sector grants and contracts do not make provisions for inflation it is likely that RedbridgeCVS will need to further dip into reserves in the current financial year to cover the increased costs of goods, services and wages.

RedbridgeCVS members were satisfied with the information provided and had no questions or observations regarding the annual accounts.

6. Appointment of Auditors 2022/2023

The Treasurer moved for the appointment of Haslers as Auditors for the 2022-23 financial year.

Proposed: Susanne Rauprich

Seconded: Ann Garrard

Members **APPROVED** the appointment of Haslers as Auditors for the 2022-23 financial year.

7. Motions for Resolution or Debate

There were no motions for resolution or debate.

8. Trustee Recruitment

The Vice-chair, Catherine Rowan, highlighted the Trustee application pack which had been circulated along with the papers for the meeting. She emphasised that the Board would welcome applications from within the membership and encouraged anyone with an interest in applying to get in touch to arrange an informal conversation about the role.

9. Chair's Closing Remarks

The Chair expressed her gratitude to RedbridgeCVS's funders, partners, members, staff and volunteers, and to her fellow Trustees for their continued support.

10. CLOSE

The Chair thanked everyone present for attending the AGM and declared the meeting closed.

THE REDBRIDGE COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Trustees V Cummins, Chair
 R Howdle-Rowe (appointed 14 March 2023)
 L Perham (appointed 14 March 2023)
 M Sindha (appointed 14 March 2023)
 C Alexander
 S Rauprich
 J Brindley
 A Garrard
 H Popat
 C Rowan
 K White
 L Nuzi (resigned 18 September 2022)

**Company registered
number** 02569614

**Charity registered
number** 1005075

Registered office 103 Cranbrook Road
 Ilford
 London
 IG1 4PU

Independent auditors Haslers
 Chartered Accountants
 Statutory Auditor
 Old Station Road
 Loughton
 Essex
 IG10 4PL

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Company for the 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. 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 2019).

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The principal activity of the charity to promote, support and develop a strong, effective and independent voluntary and community sector in Redbridge.

The key aims of the charity are as follows:-

- To facilitate an independent and influential voluntary and community sector
- To encourage and support resilient and socially connected communities
- To be a sustainable and flexible organisation

There is a set of objectives and outcomes for each of the aims in the "RedbridgeCVS Strategic Plan 2020-2023" which is available on request.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

b. Volunteers

The charity has welcomed volunteers to assist with reception duties and administrative tasks.

Achievements and performance

a. Review of activities

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regards to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and that the activities carried out by the charity during the year were all undertaken in order to further the charities aims for the benefit of the charity's beneficiaries. There is a detailed explanation of the activities carried out which has been included in the key activities of the charity.

The key activities and achievements of the charity during the year included:-

Supporting a thriving voluntary and community sector

In 2022-23 RedbridgeCVS members played critical role in tackling the impact of the rising cost of living on residents and communities. Voluntary and community groups continue to face increased demand for support

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

13. Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Designated Funds - all funds	98,005	-	(17,558)	-	80,447
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	484,968	9,935	(48,019)	(2,609)	444,275
Total Unrestricted fund	582,973	9,935	(65,577)	(2,609)	1,068,997
Restricted funds					
Cancer Champions	2,981	-	(3,021)	40	-
LBR - Public and Voluntary Sector Partnership	445	8,000	(10,037)	1,592	-
North East London ICB - Health Partnerships	1,477	58,595	(60,071)	-	1
LBR - Volunteer Project	4,663	75,000	(79,953)	290	-
Building Better Opportunities - Community Links	33,471	(33,471)	-	-	-
Building Better Opportunities - Renaissi "RISE"	3,871	-	-	-	3,871
London Borough of Redbridge - TB Awareness	66,336	35,000	(53,198)	-	48,138
City Bridge Trust – Digital Skills	129	49,800	(45,180)	-	4,749
London Borough of Redbridge – Fit for Fun	18,647	72,160	(76,638)	4,000	18,169
Redbridge Institute of Adult Education – Community	29,450	43,095	(56,655)	-	15,890
Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime – Redbridge Safer	8,147	20,230	(19,644)	-	8,733
LBR - Expanding Role of Health Buddies	24,202	-	-	(24,202)	-
London Borough of Redbridge – Social Prescribing	82,956	170,079	(219,334)	-	33,701
London Borough of Redbridge – Covid Awareness	-	75,000	(19,749)	20,202	75,453
Fit for fun	-	10,971	(1,812)	-	9,159

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

London Borough of Redbridge - Latent TB	8,470	-	-	-	8,470
HNPCN	2,308	5,391	(7,703)	4	-
Positive East – HIV Awareness	23,394	31,613	(41,277)	-	13,730
Positive Pathways	14,962	(14,962)	-	-	-
Greater London Authority – Young Londoners Fund (YLF) Local Network	113	38,972	(28,443)	-	10,642
Covid Recruitment Fund	987	-	(987)	-	-
Young Advisors Seed Funding (London Borough of Redbridge)	6,196	-	(6,123)	-	73
The Together Project (National Lottery Community Fund, via Young Advisors Company Ltd)	4,320	1,800	(6,056)	-	64
YA - Co Design	889	-	(889)	-	-
Crest PCN	11,654	(2,050)	(9,617)	13	-
South PCN	29,095	(14,900)	(14,221)	26	-
VCS Emergency Partnership	882	1,500	(2,544)	162	-
ICS lead - Embedding the VCSE in North East London Integrated Care System	-	25,000	(24,935)	-	65
Core	-	3,000	(1,000)	-	2,000
VCS Infrastructure	<u>3,632</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>(99,114)</u>	<u>482</u>	<u>-</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>383,677</u>	<u>754,823</u>	<u>(888,203)</u>	<u>2,609</u>	<u>252,908</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>966,650</u></u>	<u><u>764,758</u></u>	<u><u>(953,780)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>777,630</u></u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,280	1,280
Current assets	504,453	588,360	1,092,813
Creditors due within one year	-	(37,048)	(37,048)
Total	504,453	552,592	1,057,045

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,543	1,543
Current assets	252,906	717,761	970,667
Creditors due within one year	-	(194,582)	(194,582)
Total	252,906	524,722	777,628

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	279,418	(189,023)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	263	803
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(4,023)	(94)
Increase in debtors	(343,524)	(3,447)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(157,534)	109,161
Net cash used in operating activities	(225,400)	(82,600)

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

16. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand	698,778	941,005
Total cash and cash equivalents	698,778	941,005

17. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	941,005	(242,227)	698,778
	941,005	(242,227)	698,778

18. Contingent liabilities

As at 31st March 2023, the charity is in dispute over the dilapidation payment for the 3rd floor and 5th floor of Forest House. The estimated financial effect is £20,927 (2022: £20,927) for the 3rd floor and £19,975 (2022: £19,975) for the 5th floor.

19. Pension commitments

The company operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £27,492 (2022: £27,022). The balance outstanding at the balance sheet date was £4,576 (2022: £3,316).

20. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2023 the Company had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Not later than 1 year	1,701	435
	1,701	435

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

21. 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 £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

22. Related party transactions

During the year, no related party transactions occurred.

Background Note Legal Name Change

Over the last six months, Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service has undergone a process of rebranding. The scope of this work has included planning a name change, in addition to developing a new logo, visual identity and website. We are now ready to launch the new brand.

Our current legal name (Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service) and working names (RedbridgeCVS/RCVS) are confusing. When using our legal name, residents often confuse the charity with Redbridge Council. Partners outside of the sector often confuse 'CVS' (Council for Voluntary Service) with 'VCS' (voluntary and community sector) and use the two interchangeably. In addition, our current name does not accurately represent the nature or breadth of our work, or reflect our values and ways of working (see appendix one and two).

Following careful consideration of options, we are proposing to change our name to Community Action Redbridge. We believe that Community Action Redbridge:

- Better aligns with our vision, mission and priorities, and gives immediate clarity in terms of what the charity does.
- Better aligns with our values and ways of working.
- Communicates and reflects the vibrant and active nature of civil society in Redbridge.
- Is an established and recognisable name which is widely associated with local infrastructure organisations, and communicates that we are part of a wider network. Many other Councils for Voluntary Service across London and the UK have adopted the 'Community Action' name within their areas of operation e.g. Community Action Sutton, Community Action Suffolk, Community Action Bradford and District etc.

In October 2023, the Board of Trustees approved Community Action Redbridge as the charity's new working name, which was subsequently registered and approved as a working name by the Charity Commission.¹ We are now asking our members to formalise the charity's rebrand and name change, by approving the adoption of Community Action Redbridge as the charity's full legal name.²

¹ A 'working name' is a name which an organisation uses to operate/trade but which is not its registered legal name.

² The charity's members are being asked to approve a change to the charity's registered legal name, i.e. the name registered with Companies House and the Charity Commission.

Appendix 1: Our vision, mission, values and behaviours

Our vision is of a fairer Redbridge where every one and every community thrives.

Our mission is to support strong and resilient communities where people lead happy, healthy and fulfilling lives.

Our values are what we stand for. They are the foundations for how we act, individually and collectively, and guide our approach to delivering our strategy. **Our behaviours** set out how we put our values into practice through our everyday actions.

Our values	Our behaviours
<p>We shift power: We know that the best outcomes are achieved when people, communities and organisations work together as equal partners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We reflect on and acknowledge our own power and privilege, individually and as an organisation. • We challenge ourselves to find new ways of equalising power and encourage others to do the same. • We support others to step into spaces of power and build the confidence to take the lead. • We are accountable to the people and communities we serve.
<p>We collaborate: We're stronger and more effective when we work together. By thinking, doing and learning together, we push the boundaries of what success can look like.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We invest time in making connections and nurturing relationships and trust. • We are open to new ideas and different ways of working, even when they feel uncomfortable to us. • We embrace diversity and actively seek perspectives that are different to our own. • We approach problems with curiosity and focus on solutions and innovation.
<p>We learn: We continuously evolve and grow. We experiment and explore to find new ways of understanding the challenges we face, and new solutions to address them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are inquisitive and open-minded. • We know we don't always get it right. We own our mistakes, reflect on them and learn from them. • We actively seek, reflect on and learn from feedback. • We use analysis and evaluation to inform future action.
<p>We see the bigger picture: We look at things through a wide lens. We don't just focus on the individual parts that make up a whole, but on the connections, relationships and interactions between them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We focus on the root causes, not just the symptoms of the problems we're trying to solve. • We understand that the challenges we face are complex and interconnected, and we work holistically to understand and address them.

Appendix 2: Our strategic priorities 2023-29

Priority 1: Harnessing the power and potential of people and communities.

Objectives:

- To support local people to set their own goals and facilitate stronger connections to help them achieve their aspirations.
- To engage with communities to better understand their ambitions and needs.
- To enable communities to identify their own priorities and draw on their own assets to improve the quality of community life.

Outcomes:

- Local people feel an increased sense of resilience, agency and control.
- Greater understanding of community priorities and how inequalities are experienced by local people.
- Increased capacity for social action in communities to respond to their own priorities.

Priority 2: Connecting, strengthening and championing the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector.

Objectives:

- To facilitate stronger connections by creating spaces to explore the complex challenges we face.
- To build the capacity of VCSE organisations through training and bespoke support.
- To advocate for greater influence and investment in the sector by building stronger relationships with decision-makers.

Outcomes:

- VCSE organisations have stronger connections to learn from each other, problem-solve together and collaborate on shared priorities.
- VCSE organisations have the skills, tools and resources they need to increase their reach, impact and resilience.
- Greater recognition of the role and value of the VCSE sector.

Priority 3: Influencing meaningful change and transformation in systems, policies and practice.

Objectives:

- To create opportunities to unite people and organisations to explore ideas together.
- To strengthen the VCSE sector's voice and influence by harnessing the sector's collective power.
- To amplify community voice in decision-making by sharing data and insight.

Outcomes:

- Stronger connections between local people and organisations to support systemic change.
- Better solutions through working together and centring decision-making around the lived experiences of local people.

- The VCSE sector and local communities are recognised for their expertise and supported and empowered to drive and lead change.

Background Note Trustee Nominations

Between December 2023 and January 2024 Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service carried out an open recruitment campaign for new trustees. A nominations committee of the Board shortlisted and interviewed candidates and made a recommendation to the Board. Recommendations were considered at the 30th January Board meeting, and the Board are nominating two candidates for appointment. Information on each candidate and their interests is set out below to inform voting.

Sheila Mair

Sheila is an IT Business Relationship Manager with experience of change management and business analysis in the public and private sectors.

She is passionate about the power of community and has experienced firsthand the benefits of volunteering, having volunteered as a Steward at a local vaccination centre and as an Engagement Volunteer with the Science Museum.

Sheila holds a bachelor's degree in Computer Technology and a master's degree in Digital Systems.

Maeva Ofranc-Sae

Maeva holds a bachelor's degree in Education and Social Science, and a postgraduate certificate in Psychosocial Studies and Education. She built her professional career in education while working as a teacher, private tutor, and parental coach for over a decade, before moving into the non-profit sector.

Maeva currently works as a Talent Programme and Project Manager at The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), where she has been employed for the past five years. As part of her role, she oversees CASE's early career talent programmes in the UK/EU region, as well as managing the Multi-Cultural Network.

Her own lived experience and passion for creating inclusive communities where diverse perspectives are valued led her to co-Chair the organisation's global Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) Committee, and become their Mental Health First Aider Lead.

In her free time Maeva volunteers as a Graduate Mentor. She also enjoys long walks in nature, meditation, writing/reading, crocheting/knitting, and being the proud mother of a 4 years old blind rabbit.