THE MIDHURST COMMUNITY BUS

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- For the year ended -

31 MARCH 2026

THE MIDHURST COMMUNITY BUS

TRUSTEES

P Mellings (Chairman)
A Mardle (Treasurer)
L Grocott
R Lovett

REGISTERED OFFICE

Greens Court
West Street
Midhurst
West Sussex
GU29 9NQ

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

R Morrison
Chinthurst
June Lane
Midhurst
West Sussex
GU29 9EW

CHARITY NUMBER

1162657

THE MIDHURST COMMUNITY BUS

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

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THE MIDHURST COMMUNITY BUS

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year to 31 March 2026. The financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements and with the requirements of the Constitution dated 14 July 2015, the Charity's governing document.

The Midhurst Community Bus (MCB) has been registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) (Registration Number 1162657).

OBJECTS OF MCB

As set out in the Constitution, the objects of MCB are to provide transport facilities in Midhurst, West Sussex, and its neighbourhood ("area of benefit") for people who have special need of such facilities because they are elderly, poor or disabled, people with young children or those living in isolated areas where there are no adequate public transport facilities.

In furtherance of the above but not further or otherwise, MCB has the following powers:

(a) to borrow money and to charge the whole or any part of its property as security for the repayment of the money borrowed. The CIO must comply as appropriate with Sections 124 and 125 of the Charities Act 2011 if it wishes to mortgage land;
(b) to buy, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any property and to maintain and equip it for use;
(c) to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any or all of the property belonging to the CIO. In exercising this power the CIO must comply as appropriate with sections 117 and 119-123 of the Charities Act 2011;
(d) to employ and remunerate such staff as are necessary for carrying out the work of the CIO. The CIO may employ or remunerate a Charity Trustee only to the extent that it is permitted to do so by clause 6 (Benefits and payments to Charity Trustees and connected persons) and provided it complies with the conditions of that clause;
(e) to deposit or invest funds, employ a professional fund manager and arrange for the investments or other property of the CIO to be held in the name of a nominee in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the trustees of a trust are permitted to do by the Trustee Act 2000.

THE TRUSTEES AND THEIR POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

During the period under review the Trustees of MCB have been;

Paul Mellings
Alain Mardle (Honorary Treasurer)
Lea Grocott
Roger Lovett

The Trustees met four times during the period.

The Trustees have established a General Purposes Committee to manage the day-to-day activities of the MCB.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of MCB has been the operation of the Midhurst Yellow Bus (MYBus) in Midhurst and the surrounding villages. We continue to work with the Sir Geoffrey Todd Trust on the provision of a shopping service for individuals with mobility challenges.

We are currently reviewing routes in an attempt to increase passenger numbers.

The outings are popular and a good fundraiser. Each month there is a trip to take passengers to Petersfield so that they can visit a bank and go shopping.

West Sussex County Council has continued to pay the concessionary fares at the pre lockdown levels, which provided essential revenue.

The Trustees are extremely grateful to our Volunteers without which we would not be able to provide the services that we do.

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Thanks to the generous support of local organisations, the support of parish and town councils, together with West Sussex County Council, the period reported on in the Financial Statements has been a reasonably positive one for MCB. We have seen a very large increase in our insurance premiums this year.

The trustees believe that existing sources of income will continue to suffer. It is not known whether West Sussex County Council will continue to provide the annual operating grant.

RESERVES POLICY

It is the policy of MCB that unrestricted net current assets (debtors & prepayments, plus cash at bank, less current liabilities) should be maintained at a level equivalent to six months' forecast expenditure.

The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue MCB's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

At the year end the net current assets of £49,000 are split between Unrestricted and Designated funds as follows:

Unrestricted funds are £7,918, this being six months' forecast expenditure (Forecast annual running expenses excluding depreciation are £15,836).

The Vehicle Replacement Reserve (designated fund) now stands at £41,000.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)

RISK FACTORS

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the association is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:-

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Trustees are satisfied that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

P Mellings
By Order of the Trustees

Date: xx April 2026

THE MIDHURST COMMUNITY BUS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MIDHURST COMMUNITY BUS

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026 which are set out on pages 5 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:
- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:-

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

R Morrison
Chinthurst
June Lane
Midhurst
West Sussex
GU29 9EW

Dated: 2026

THE MIDHURST COMMUNITY BUS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Income from:	1.3					
Donations, legacies & grants		5,077	0	0	5,077	5,714
Charitable activities		3,043	0	0	3,043	3,280
Other trading activities		2,682	0	0	2,682	3,338
Investment income		2,149	0	0	2,149	1,435
	2	12,951	0	0	12,951	13,767
Expenditure on:	1.4					
Charitable activities	3	15,646	0	0	15,646	17,321
Net incoming (outgoing) resources for the year before transfers		(2,695)	0	0	(2,695)	(3,554)
Transfers between funds	8	500	(500)	0	0	0
Net incoming (outgoing) resources for the year		(2,195)	(500)	0	(2,695)	(3,554)
Fund balances brought forward		22,232	41,500	0	63,732	67,286
Fund balances carried forward	8	20,037	41,000	0	61,037	63,732

The notes on pages 7 to 10 form part of these financial statements

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BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
FIXED ASSETS	5		12,037		16,050
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	6,242		4,286	
Cash at bank and in hand		43,068		43,798	
		49,310		48,084	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	7	(310)		(402)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			49,000		47,682
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			61,037		63,732
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after one year			0		0
NET ASSETS			61,037		63,732
REPRESENTED BY:					
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund			20,037		22,232
Designated fund			41,000		41,500
Restricted funds			0		0
Total funds	8		61,037		63,732

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on xx April 2026 and signed on their behalf by:-

P Mellings
Trustee

The notes on pages 7 to 10 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of Accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Funds

MCB reviews incoming resources to determine whether any funds should be treated as restricted. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in Note 10.

The Trustees have the power to set unrestricted funds aside for specific purposes. These funds are known as designated funds. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in Note 8.

1.3 Income

Donations, legacies, grants and similar income are accounted for on a receipts basis.

Income from operating activities in furtherance of the objects of the charity are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Investment income represents interest on bank deposits and is accounted for on a receipts basis.

1.4 Expenditure

Direct charitable expenditure represents the running costs of the vehicle and the costs of administration of MCB. This is accounted for on an accruals basis.

1.5 Unpaid Trustees & Volunteers

The Trustees are unpaid in their capacity as Trustees. Neither this, nor the value of contributions by volunteers, is reflected within the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.6 Depreciation

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Motor vehicles	- over seven years on a writing-down basis

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

2. INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Donations, legacies & grants:				
Donations & grants	2,060	0	2,060	3,197
Legacy	0	0	0	0
Memberships	17	0	17	17
Revenue support grant	3,000	0	3,000	2,500
	5,077	0	5,077	5,714
Charitable activities:				
Fares (including concessions)	3,043	0	3,043	3,280
Other trading activities:				
Fund-raising	1,390	0	1,390	1,842
Hirings	1,292	0	1,292	1,496
	2,682	0	2,682	3,338
Investment income:				
Interest on bank deposits	2,149	0	2,149	1,435
Total income	12,951	0	12,951	13,767

The major source of income for the year was the Revenue support grant of £3,000 from West Sussex County Council.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

3. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Charitable activities:				
Vehicle running expenses	10,268	0	10,268	10,527
Vehicle depreciation	4,013	0	4,013	5,350
Telephone	208	0	208	314
Print, post & stationery	0	0	0	60
Marketing	86	0	86	180
Professional fees	727	0	727	400
Sundry expenses	344	0	344	490
Training	0	0	0	0
Total expenditure	15,646	0	15,646	17,321

4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year MCB reimbursed 3 (2025 – 3) trustees a total of £297 (2025 - £603) for expenses incurred on behalf of MCB.

Goodale Mardle Limited, a company of which A Mardle is a director and shareholder, charged MCB £300 (2025 - £300) for professional services provided to MCB. This is permitted by the Constitution.

5. FIXED ASSETS

	Total £
Cost:	
At 1 April 2025	50,727
Additions	0
Disposals	0
At 31 March 2026	50,727
Depreciation:	
At 1 April 2025	34,677
Charge for the year	4,013
Disposals	0
At 31 March 2026	38,690
Net book value:	

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At 31 March 2026	12,037
At 31 March 2025	16,050

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

6. DEBTORS

	2026 £	2025 £
Trade debtors	388	296
VAT repayable	225	788
Prepayments & other debtors	5,629	3,202
	6,242	4,286

7. CREDITORS – amounts falling due within one year

	2026 £	2025 £
Trade creditors	10	102
Other creditors	0	0
Accruals	300	300
	310	402

8. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2026 £
General fund	22,232	12,951	(15,646)	500	20,037
Designated funds:					
Vehicle replacement reserve	41,500	0	0	(500)	41,000
Total funds	63,732	12,951	(15,646)	0	61,037