Wrington Minibus Society CIO

Annual accounts for the year
from 1 February 2025
to 31 January 2026

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered charity no 1196604

Wrington Minibus Society CIO

Financial Statements for the year from 1 February 2025 to 31 January 2026

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Report of the Management Committee for the year from 1 February 2025 to 31 January 2026

The Management Committee presents its report and financial statements for the year from 1 February 2025 to 31 January 2026.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity name:	Wrington Minibus Society CIO
Charity registration number:	1196604
Correspondence address registered with the Charity Commission:	Littlebrook Coxs Green Wrington Bristol BS40 5QU

Management Committee

Mr D R Key	Chair (appointed 13/01/2026)
Mrs J M Pallant	Secretary (appointed 13/01/2026)
Mr J P Empson	Treasurer
Mr A J Hopkins	Chair (resigned as Chair 13/01/2026)
Mrs L A McManus	
Mrs J M Walters	
Mr D J Tomlinson	Resigned 17/09/2025
Mrs A M Ledbury	
Mrs G M Key	

Independent Examiner	Ms S Trafford ACA
Bankers	CAF Bank NatWest Bank

Our Aims and Objectives

The objects of the CIO are:

To provide within the area of benefit a community minibus service for elderly (over 55) and disabled individuals in need and for non-profit making community groups which are established to advance education, provide recreational facilities in the interest of social welfare, or to relieve distress, or for any other charitable purpose.

The Area of Benefit is defined as the villages of Wrington, Redhill, Butcombe and Burrington.

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

At each meeting of the management committee we review the recent outings to establish which have been popular and which less so, in order to guide planning of the future programme and make sure we are meeting the needs of our beneficiaries. We also consider different ways of marketing the programme to try to reach new customers.

The additional outings to events and visitor attractions (introduced in 2024/25) were continued in 2025/26 and led to a further increase in passenger numbers - see 'Achievements and performance' below.

Wrington Minibus Society CIO is a public benefit entity, and as such its primary objective is to provide services for the general public and social benefit for the community it serves rather than with a view to providing a financial return to equity providers, shareholders or members.

The CIO's activities are in accordance with its aims and objectives. A brief summary of the main activities undertaken by the CIO to carry out its charitable purposes for public benefit is given below, in the section 'How our activities deliver public benefit'.

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

How our activities deliver public benefit

We deliver public benefit by providing a programme of outings, at low or no cost, to elderly and disabled people who may be socially isolated or who would otherwise find it difficult to travel outside the village due to their disability or lack of their own private transport. Wrington is served by a single, limited-timetable bus service, and an on-demand service that operates within a small area and at limited times.

The Minibus is equipped for easy access for passengers who are disabled or have mobility issues by means of a dropped side step and a rear hydraulic lift which provides wheelchair access. Wheelchair users can be transported without needing to transfer to a fixed seat.

The Wrington Minibus complements the timetabled and on-demand bus services by offering a variety of day and half-day trips to destinations including market towns, coastal resorts, shopping centres and garden centres, and this has been enhanced over the past 18 months by additional outings to events and visitor attractions.

Regular outings include:

- Shopping trips to local towns such as Clevedon, Nailsea, Wells and Weston-super-Mare;

- Pub lunches and trips to garden centres for afternoon teas;

- Longer half day, full day and evening trips to 'destinations' and events, such as museums, exhibitions, National Trust houses and entertainment venues. In 2025/26 examples included a birdwatching cruise on the Exe estuary, cinema trips to the Curzon Community Cinema in Clevedon and Lyme Regis. These trips attract people who are less confident to drive so far, or at night, or who don't have the confidence to visit on their own.

We also provide transport for local groups such as the Tuesday and Thursday lunch clubs, the Church lunch group and the young people taking part in the annual Youth Week.

We currently operate a 5-tier fare structure. Local journeys (e.g. to Nailsea and Clevedon) specifically for shopping are free of charge, whereas non-shopping local journeys, such as to the Curzon cinema are charged at £2.00. Medium length journeys to nearby market towns and cities (e.g. Wells and Bristol) are charged at £5. Return trips of up to 110 miles are charged at £10. Longer journeys are charged at £15. The fare structure will be reviewed by the Trustees in 2026/27.

Achievements and performance

The minibus was replaced during the year for the first time since 2013. The decision to replace the minibus was reported in 2023/24 and a deposit paid in December 2023, but due to the long manufacture lead time, the purchase was only completed in May 2025. The Citroen Relay minibus is Euro 6 compliant, which has allowed it to enter clean-air zones, including those in Bristol and Bath, without surcharge.

The old Peugeot minibus was sold to the 1st Burrington and Wrington Scout Group, which means it will continue to benefit the parish of Wrington. For financial details of the purchase and sale please see the Financial Review below.

Outings and passenger numbers were as follows:

	2026	**2025**
Number of outings	181	164
No of miles travelled	6,233	5,570
Number of passengers	1,543	1,440
Number of passengers aged over 60	1,449 (94%)	1303 (90%)
Number of disabled passengers	191 (12%)	205 (14%)

We are pleased to report a 10% increase in the number of outings, and a similar 11% increase in passengers carried. The increase is attributable to the new programme of visits to events and attractions, which was introduced during 2024/25 but ran for its first full year in 2025/26.

In the year 2025/26 we ran 106 'public' trips, in addition to the regular village lunch trips. Average occupancy for these trips was 7.22 passengers, with those to events and attractions, as distinct from local shopping trips attracting more passengers (averaging 8.81 v 6.82). 12 trips were cancelled compared to 27 in the previous year.

There were 63 trips providing transport for the village lunch club, the church's Thursday and Sunday Lunch clubs and afternoon teas. At 9.78, average occupancy was just under 90%.

There were 14 private use trips, including 3 for local organisations (e.g. Wrington WI), 2 to local Festivals, and one to transport a disabled relative. The other 9 were for 'taxi' type service for local people to private events, all of whom made donations to the Society's funds.

Who used and benefited from our services?

Our beneficiaries are predominantly people aged 60 and over who live in our area of benefit. We keep records of passengers and their emergency contact details in case they are needed due to an incident during an outing. We also keep (anonymous) data on the number of passengers aged over 60, and the number with a declared disability, which means we are able to state that during 2025/26 94% of our passengers were aged over 60 (2024/25 = 90%), and 12% regarded themselves as disabled (2024/25 = 14%).

The number of people we can reach is constrained in three main ways: the number of people in our target population, the carrying capacity of the minibus and the availability of volunteer drivers.

The Parish of Wrington (our approximate area of benefit) had a total population of 2700 in the 2021 census, of whom 25% were aged over 65 and 13% were disabled under the Equality Act definition. Given that there is an overlap in these categories, the number of elderly and disabled people in our area of benefit is approximately 800 to 900.

The current minibus (a Citroen Relay) can carry up to 12 passengers, including the seat alongside the driver. This capacity is often reached on the lunch club trips. Demand is somewhat variable and unpredictable, but the longer distance journeys are usually more popular.

Our services are advertised very locally, for example in the monthly Village Journal, which is delivered to subscribing households, on noticeboards in the villages, in a monthly e-mail newsletter and on the Wrington Matters Facebook page, to ensure that our potential beneficiaries are aware of our services. Minibus specific pages have been added to the village community website (https://wringtonvillage.com). The Trustees will review the need for a website in 2026/27.

We also maintain the profile of the Minibus Society and raise funds by holding an annual lunch in the village. The lunch held in July 2025 was attended by 120 people. It was held in the garden of a villager and the catering was carried out entirely by volunteers. A prize draw is held at the same time as the annual lunch, and the prizes are donated, allowing the Society to retain 100% of the proceeds.

Contribution made by volunteers

The organisation has no paid employees; it is run entirely by volunteers.

There are currently 8 trustees, who between them carry out the roles of chair, treasurer, minutes secretary, co-ordination of trips and drivers, marketing and arranging the maintenance of the minibus. A trustee carries out driver training for a nominal sum, separately from her role as trustee.

As at 31/01/2026 we had 14 drivers on our books. Some are aged over 70 and need to renew their licence with a medical and eye test triennially. A rota of trips is created each month and drivers volunteer based upon their availability. Their contribution ranges from a few hours to a few days or part days each month.

Financial Review

The Minibus Society received income of £34,115 in 2025/26 (2024/25 = £10,191). This exceptional increase of £23,924 was largely due to the fundraising efforts of trustee Gill Key, who managed to secure grants and sponsorship for the new minibus of £19,589. The largest contributions were from Bristol Airport (£12,000), Alvis Bothers (£2,500) and the Thatchers Foundation (£2,500), but the Wrington Parish Council and 8 other local businesses also agreed to be sponsors.

An additional one-off item was the gain on disposal of the old Peugeot minibus. This was sold to the village Scout troop (see above) for £6,500 in August 2025, once it had been established that local motor dealers were not willing to beat this price. The book value of the minibus was £2,676, resulting in a gain on disposal of £3,824.

Expenditure in the year was £18,829, an increase of £11,576 or 160% over the previous year (2024/25 = £7,253). This was mainly due to much higher depreciation costs. The reducing balance method used by the Society results in higher depreciation in the early years of ownership, and depreciation was £9,980, even after being adjusted pro rata for the 8 months of ownership, not a full year.

The other factor in the increased expenditure was higher insurance costs. The increase in premium by £1,468 (108%) was a reflection both of a higher-value asset and the period of two months in which two vehicles were being insured, the older minibus on short-term policies.

The Minibus Society recorded a surplus of £15,286 (2024/25 = £2,938), which increased unrestricted reserves to £152,123. The book value of the new Citroen Relay minibus (£64,868) represents 43% of reserves.

Reserves Policy

The CIO's policy is to hold sufficient reserves to:

1. Continue the charitable activities of the CIO should its income and fundraising activities fall short and as a cushion against unforeseen expenditure.

2. Replace its primary asset (the Minibus) on a 5 to 10-year cycle, dependent on mileage, wear and tear and legislative changes.

The trustees consider it sensible to aim to build sufficient funds to cover the replacement cost of the minibus (estimated at £75,000 based on the cost of the recently purchased Citroen Relay, but a future electric minibus may cost more than this) and to hold an amount equivalent to running costs for six months (£4,425 based on 2025/26) in case of an unforeseen reduction in income.

However given a replacement cycle of 10 years, there is no certainty that following the first purchase, sufficient funds would become available in time to buy the next minibus. The CIO's income is normally only sufficient to cover costs and provide a small surplus, unless an exceptional bequest is received, as occurred in 2022/23, or one-off grants and sponsorship are secured, as occurred in the 2025/26 campaign, based upon the need to fund the new minibus.

As such exceptional income is not guaranteed, the trustees consider it prudent to hold cash reserves up to the value of the next purchase (say £75,000), together with the asset value of the existing vehicle. Our maximum reserves requirement is therefore £150,000.

Our reserves were £152,123 at 31 January 2026, and cash stood at £87,208. Reserves were therefore slightly in excess of the maximum reserves holding, but this is due to the high book vale of the new minibus, which will depreciate rapidly over the next few years.

As the cash holding was already sufficient to buy a new minibus, at a point in the cycle only 9 months on from the last purchase, the exceptional fundraising efforts of 2025/26 will not be repeated in the foreseeable future.

Investment Policy

Wrington Minibus Society CIO is a small charity with limited funds, and while funds can be held for several years pending the purchase of the next minibus, we are unwilling to accept the risk of loss of funds that investment in stock markets would involve.

Cash reserves are therefore held in three separate accounts with CAF Bank and NatWest Bank. The CAF account is our main current account, and the NatWest accounts are maintained as it allows cash to be paid in, and receives long-term regular donations. We have recently undertaken a banking review and it is our intention to switch from CAF to Unity Trust Bank, another ethical bank which pays more attractive rates of interest.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Wrington Minibus Society Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 16 November 2021, replacing a charitable trust with the same name and objectives. It is governed by a CIO Constitution. If the CIO is wound up, the members of the CIO have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Management Committee

The CIO uses the 'foundation' model of constitution under which the only voting members are the charity trustees. The first (or founding) trustees were appointed for terms of between 2 and 4 years. Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the CIO for their work as trustees. Several trustees made purchases on behalf of the Minibus Society and recovered these costs through expenses claims. These are set out in note 8 to the accounts.

As trustees must live in the area of benefit of the CIO, we use the Village Journal (covering the villages of Wrington, Redhill, Butcombe and Burrington) for our recruitment advertising for new trustees. Specific skills are requested when needed, for example when recruiting a new treasurer.

Mr A J Hopkins retires as a trustee in 2026 when his term of office expires and, being eligible, offers himself for re-election. Additionally Mr Hopkins stood down as Chair on 13 January 2026 and was replaced immediately by Mr D R Key. Mrs J M Pallant was appointed as Secretary on the same day.

Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees are invited to attend a meeting of the trustees before committing to the role, and are given a one-to-one induction by the Chair which covers the operation and management of the CIO in detail. New trustees also receive key documents including the constitution, the most recent accounts and a link to the Charity Commission's online guidance for trustees: 'The essential trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do'.

Risk management

The Management Committee has conducted a review of the major risks to which the CIO is exposed. A risk register has been established and was reviewed in 2025/26. The risks identified include the legality and roadworthiness of the minibus, breakdowns, driver ability, refuelling, fire, injuries to passengers, driver welfare and carrying disabled passengers.

As part of the review of risks, it was established that the Society could benefit from clear written policies in a number of areas, the highest priorities being identified as safeguarding, incident handling and reporting, and data protection. A sub-group led by the Chair is currently working on the development of policies in these priority areas.

A key risk is of course the minibus itself, and to ensure its roadworthiness the minibus is serviced in line with the manufacturer's recommendations and undergoes an annual MoT test. In addition and as per industry guidelines, the Minibus is inspected every 10 weeks by a qualified engineer (Wrington Motors), and the hydraulic rear lift is serviced at 6-monthly intervals. Drivers are required to complete and record a pre-drive inspection and report any issues for investigation and rectification.

Organisational Structure

The CIO has no paid staff and is entirely managed by the volunteer trustees. All tasks are undertaken either by trustees or the volunteer drivers. There is no structure or hierarchy as such, but the management, operation and development of the CIO is guided by the Chair.

Related Parties

Wrington Minibus Society CIO is an independent charity with no related parties.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual 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 which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
b) observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
c) make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
d) state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
e) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the CIO's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the CIO and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the CIO and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 30 September 2026, and is signed on behalf of all trustees by:



D R Key
Chair



J P Empson
Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wrington Minibus Society CIO

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year from 1 February 2025 to 31 January 2026, which are set out on pages 14 to 18.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under s. 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 explanations sought from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and that the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Sophie Trafford .....

Sophie Trafford ACA

Date 15 September 2026 .....

Wrington Minibus Society CIO

Income and expenditure account for the year from 1 February 2025 to 31 January 2026

	Note	2026 Unrestricted £	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Income				
Fares	1	5,191	**5,191**	5,063
Grant funding	2	14,939	**14,939**	444
Sponsorship		4,650	**4,650**	-
Fundraising		3,995	**3,995**	3,607
Donations		983	**983**	715
Bequests		300	**300**	-
Interest on bank deposits		233	**233**	362
Gain on sale of fixed asset		3,824	**3,824**	-
Total income		**34,115**	**34,115**	**10,191**
Expenditure				
Vehicle running costs	3	3,622	**3,622**	3,677
Insurance	4	2,826	**2,826**	1,358
Training		806	**806**	354
Administration and other costs		311	**311**	205
Publicity		194	**194**	121
Monthly bank charges		60	**60**	60
Fundraising expenses		1,030	**1,030**	809
Depreciation of minibus		9,980	**9,980**	669
Total expenditure		**18,829**	**18,829**	**7,253**
Surplus for the year		**15,286**	**15,286**	**2,938**
Funds brought forward		136,837	**136,837**	133,899
Total funds carried forward		**152,123**	**152,123**	**136,837**

Wrington Minibus Society CIO

Balance Sheet as at 31 January 2026

	Note	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Cash funds			
CAF Cash account		**61,829**	85,402
NatWest Current account		**4,402**	9,179
NatWest Business Reserve account		**20,977**	7,771
Total cash funds		**87,208**	102,352
Other monetary assets			
Debtors	6	**557**	845
Asset retained for the charity's own use	5		
Peugeot Boxer WX13 AKN		-	2,676
Citroen Relay YG25 ZFB		64,868	31,444
		64,868	34,120
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	**- 510**	- 480
Net assets		**152,123**	136,837
Funds			
Unrestricted funds			
Funds brought forward		**136,837**	133,899
Surplus for the year		**15,286**	2,938
Closing balance		**152,123**	136,837

The accounts were approved by trustees on 30 September 2026 and signed on behalf of all trustees by:

D R Key
Chair

J P Empson
Treasurer

Wrington Minibus Society CIO

Notes to the accounts

	2026	2025
	£	£
1. Fares		
Cash fares	4,382	4,146
Lunch club fares	-	124
Private hire - individuals	687	447
Private hire - groups	122	346
Total fares	**5,191**	5,063

2. Grant funding	**2026**	2025
	£	£
Bristol Airport	12,000	-
Thatchers Foundation	2,500	-
DfT Bus Service Operators' Grant	439	444
Total grant funding	**14,939**	444

3. Vehicle running costs	**2026**	2025
	£	£
Fuel	1,468	1,436
Servicing	1,787	1,437
Repairs and parts	229	614
Vehicle tax	130	165
Vehicle parking	8	25
Total vehicle running costs	**3,622**	3,677

4. Insurance	**2026**	2025
	£	£
Vehicle insurance	2,449	997
Liability & indemnity insurance	377	361
Total insurance costs	**2,826**	1,358

5. Fixed assets: Peugeot Boxer WX13 AKN and Citroen Relay YG25 ZFB

Note: The minibus is depreciated at 20% of net value each year

	Peugeot Boxer	Citroen Relay	Total
Cost			
At 1 February 2025	5,226	31,444	36,670
Additions in year		43,404	43,404
Disposals in year	- 5,226		- 5,226
At 31 January 2026	-	74,848	74,848
Depreciation			
At 1 February 2025	2,550	-	2,550
Charge for period		9,980	9,980
Disposals in year	- 2,550		- 2,550
At 31 January 2026	-	9,980	9,980
Net book value			
At 31 January 2026	-	64,868	64,868
At 1 February 2025	2,676	31,444	34,120

6. Debtors	**2026** £	2025 £
Trade debtors	-	45
Accrued income: Cash fares	344	530
Accrued income: Donation	6	25
Accrued income: Bus Service Operators' Grant, April - September	182	245
Accrued income: Miscellaneous sales	25	-
Total debtors	**557**	845

7. Creditors	**2026** £	2025 £
Trade creditors	301	480
Accruals	209	-
Total creditors	**510**	480

8. Payments to trustees	2026 £	2025 £
Reimbursed expenses (purchases made by trustees on behalf of Minibus Society from their own funds)	1,222	1,044
Mrs L McManus - MIDAS training for volunteer minibus drivers (separate from her duties as a trustee)	160	-