



Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

(Registered Charity 1120494)

Trustees' Report and Accounts

31 December 2020

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

2020 Report and Accounts

Contents

Page

2	Contents
3	Legal and Administrative Details
4	Annual Review
6	Independent Examiner's Report
7	Income & Expenditure Account
8	Balance Sheet
9	Funds Flow Statement
10	Notes to the Accounts

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Annual Report
for year ended 31 December 2020

Legal and Administrative Details

Legal Status

- registered charity - number 1120494
- company limited by guarantee – number 06032000
- ‘Cuckmere Buses’ is the company trading name

Objects

The object of the Company is to provide a community bus and a community transport service, including private hire, for such of the inhabitants of East and West Sussex and the City of Brighton and Hove who are in need of such a service because of age, sickness or disability (mental or physical), or poverty, or because of a lack of availability of adequate and safe public passenger services.

Trustees/Directors

Philip Montague Ayers

Susan Olave de Angeli

John Howard Bunce

Stewart Colin Fuller

Andrew John Cottingham

Beryl Anne Smith

Principal Address

The Old Rectory

Litlington

Polegate

East Sussex

BN26 5RB

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc

Co-operative Bank plc

CCLA Fund Managers

Independent Examiner

Nigel Butten FCA

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd

Annual Review

for year ended 31 December 2020

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Review of Activities

Cuckmere Buses is the trading name for Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd (CCB) and is run entirely by trained volunteers. It has been running for over 40 years supplementing existing bus services and providing bus links for village residents throughout the Cuckmere Valley area to their nearest towns for shopping, for appointments, or for social activities.

OUR VISION is being the Community Bus service of choice in our area, and OUR MISSION is providing a safe, reliable, and courteous local bus, serving those rural and urban communities in our part of East Sussex not served by commercial companies.

Based in Berwick, East Sussex, CCB has around 45 volunteer drivers and 10 additional volunteers who run its fleet of eight 16-seater low-floor mini-buses.

2020 was a difficult year owing to the coronavirus. We suspended operations from end March to early June during the initial lockdown period, when many of our drivers self-isolated. We made our buses covid-compliant and started slowly returning to service over the second half of the year with the aim of delivering all timetabled services by spring 2021. The number of passengers carried was limited per service to maintain social distancing, although many passengers were also isolating. Recovery of services and passengers was continuing towards the end of the year, until the company was further impacted by the second lockdown introduced in November. For the year, we ran some 67,600 (2019, 125,000) miles and catered for around 30,000 (2019, 81,000*) passenger journeys. There was no Private Hire after March and no bespoke services for the whole year. A number of drivers continued to refrain from driving at the end of the year owing to covid.

The charity took delivery of a new bus in February and one in December and sold one of its older vehicles all as part of a bus replacement programme. Apart from two remaining older buses, all vehicles were sprayed with the new corporate colours and logo. The website was also updated reflecting the new image.

CCB remains a busy voluntary organisation and always needs new volunteers. The recruitment programme scheduled for the year stalled owing to covid-19 but will now roll over to 2021.

The Charity operates efficiently to a high standard under the control of the Board of Directors/Trustees who met formally on four occasions during the year (three remotely). They reviewed operations of the company, its financial position, and the outlook for the future. Covid-19 implications were a continuing focus item. In addition, two Stakeholder meetings were held plus the AGM in July, all remotely. The usual annual social gathering was cancelled owing to the pandemic. Regular remote meetings were held with drivers to monitor resource availability, passenger levels and the services operated.

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd Annual Review (cont.) for year ended 31 December 2020

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.

At the end of the year, advice was finally received from Department for Transport following their consultation about possible changes to the regulations governing the operation of Section 19 and 22 licences for not-for-profit community transport operators. This review followed an earlier challenge from the Bus and Coach Association. The advice means that we can continue operating as we have done in the past.

Financial Performance

The financial statements are included on pages 7 to 9.

Central and local government supported bus operators generally during the lockdown and subsequently by continuing to pay existing grants and concessionary travel support, both based on estimated levels agreed pre-covid. This, together with no salary nor related costs, and reduced maintenance costs owing to less mileage, has helped the charity maintain a viable operating financial position. A new coronavirus support grant was also introduced by the Department for Transport.

With a gross income of £176,946 (2019, £223,112) and expenditure of £177,008 (2019, £228,868), the year ended with a deficit of £62 (2019, deficit £5,756). Year-end net assets amounted to £231,552 (2019, £231,614) including cash at bank of £94,738 (2019, £163,444). The Charity operates a policy of holding cash reserves to meet projected cash outlays taking account of sourcing requirements for acquisitions under its bus replacement programme. Funds not required in the short term are held in an appropriate deposit account.

The Trustees have not identified any uninsured major risks to which the Charity is exposed.

Post Balance Sheet Date Activities

Extended covid-19 lockdown arrangements were introduced in January 2021 which will further impact the business. We anticipate central and local government will continue with their financial support.

Acknowledgements

As always, thanks go to our volunteer drivers, our regular passengers, to everybody involved in the day to day running of the organisation, and to Berwick Service Station for keeping the buses well maintained. Particular thanks also go to the individuals and local authorities who made donations to the Charity during a difficult year. Thank you all.

**Beryl Smith - Chairman
29 March 2021**

(* incorrectly shown as 85,000 last year)

Cuckmere Community Bus Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the Board of Directors/Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd for the year ended 31 December 2020.

As the Trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records

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.

**NA Butten
Independent Examiner
20 February 2021**

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2020

		£	
	Notes	2020	2019
Income			
Passenger Services	1	152,331	171,635
Grants & Donations	2	20,318	27,602
Private Hire & Special Events		1,830	20,278
Other income		2,467	3,597
Total Income		<u>176,946</u>	<u>223,112</u>
Expenditure			
Servicing, Repairs & Cleaning		(52,446)	(76,281)
Depreciation	3	(45,577)	(54,766)
Licences & Insurance		(29,604)	(30,778)
Operations		(28,688)	(28,795)
Diesel (net of BSOG)		(5,924)	(22,251)
Administration		(14,769)	(15,997)
Total Expenditure		<u>(177,008)</u>	<u>(228,868)</u>
Deficit for the year		(62)	(5,756)
Opening reserves		231,614	237,370
Closing reserves (per Balance Sheet)		<u>231,552</u>	<u>231,614</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus Ltd
Balance Sheet
at 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020	£	2019
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	326,044		201,808
Current Assets				
Debtors	6	27,788	11,036	
Cash at Bank	7	94,738	163,444	
		<u>122,526</u>	<u>174,480</u>	
Prepayments and Accrued Income		2,944	14,461	
Total Current Assets		<u>125,470</u>	<u>188,941</u>	
Creditors due within one year				
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(37,015)	(46,781)	
Accruals and deferred income		(60,605)	(10,788)	
Unamortised grants for purchase of assets	4	(58,804)	(81,184)	
Total Creditors		<u>(156,424)</u>	<u>(138,753)</u>	
Net Current Assets			(30,954)	50,188
Total Assets less current liabilities		<u>295,090</u>		<u>251,996</u>
Creditors due after one year	8	(63,538)		(20,382)
Total Charity Funds		<u>231,552</u>		<u>231,614</u>

- for the year ending 31st December 2020, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006 relating to the small companies
- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with Section 476
- the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts
- these accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The Report and Accounts were approved by the Board on 29 March 2021

Beryl Smith
Director

Stewart Fuller
Director

**Cuckmere Community Bus
Funds Flow Statement
for year ended 31 December 2020**

		£	
	Notes	2020	2019
Deficit for the year		(62)	(5,756)
add back depreciation (net)	3	45,577	54,766
Cash from Trading		<u>45,515</u>	<u>49,010</u>
Net movement of fixed assets		(192,193)	40,713
Movement in Working Capital			
Debtors	(16,752)	(6,775)	
Prepayments	11,517	(4,794)	
Creditors	<u>18,905</u>	<u>12,391</u>	
		13,670	822
Movement in Loans		64,302	(30,851)
Movement in Funds in the Year		<u>(68,706)</u>	<u>59,694</u>
Cash at Bank			
Opening		163,444	103,750
Movement in Funds		<u>(68,706)</u>	<u>59,694</u>
Closing		<u>94,738</u>	<u>163,444</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2020

	£	
1 Passengers Services	2020	2019
Concessionary Fares	122,998	124,092
Ticket Fares	6,364	20,990
Support from:		
East Dean & Friston PC	1,218	2,427
ESCC/B&H	12,580	13,218
Hailsham Town Council	8,871	10,608
Polegate Town Council	300	300
	<u>152,331</u>	<u>171,635</u>
2 Grants and Donations	2020	2019
Alfriston	150	200
Arlington	100	
Berwick	100	100
Chalvington & Ripe	125	100
Cuckmere Valley	250	250
East Dean & Friston	500	
Heathfield & Waldron	500	500
Herstmonceux		500
Long Man	150	150
Pevensey		150
Polegate	200	200
Seaford	2,000	1,000
Westham	100	100
Willingdon & Jevington	800	800
	<u>4,975</u>	<u>4,050</u>
ESCC	2,430	2,430
Wealden District Council	5,500	5,375
Passenger donations	5,431	12,798
Other donations	1,982	2,949
	<u>20,318</u>	<u>27,602</u>
3 Depreciation	2020	2019
Charge in year	67,957	81,776
less amortisation of grant in year (note 4)	(22,380)	(27,010)
	<u>45,577</u>	<u>54,766</u>
4 Unamortised Grants	2020	2019
at start of year	(81,184)	(108,194)
released during year (note 3)	22,380	27,010
at end of year	<u>(58,804)</u>	<u>(81,184)</u>

Cuckmere Community Bus
Notes to the Accounts
for year ended 31 December 2020 (cont.)

	£	
	2020	2019
5 Tangible Fixed assets		
Cost		
at start of year	545,554	637,651
additions in the year	192,243	10
disposals in the year	<u>(76,969)</u>	<u>(92,107)</u>
at end of year	<u>660,828</u>	<u>545,554</u>
 Cumulative Depreciation		
at start of year	343,746	313,354
charges in the year	67,957	81,776
disposals in the year	<u>(76,919)</u>	<u>(51,384)</u>
at end of year	<u>334,784</u>	<u>343,746</u>
 Net Book Value	<u>326,044</u>	<u>201,808</u>
6 Debtors	2020	2019
Accounts receivable	7,867	6,528
VAT reclaimable	<u>19,921</u>	<u>4,508</u>
	<u>27,788</u>	<u>11,036</u>
7 Cash at Bank	2020	2019
Barclays current account	61,449	75,334
Co-operative current account	9,502	4,537
Charities deposit account	23,576	83,362
Petty Cash	<u>211</u>	<u>211</u>
	<u>94,738</u>	<u>163,444</u>
8 Creditors	2020	2019
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	(1,876)	(32,788)
Loan repayments due	<u>(35,139)</u>	<u>(13,993)</u>
	<u>(37,015)</u>	<u>(46,781)</u>
 Amounts falling due after one year		
Loan repayments due	<u>(63,538)</u>	<u>(20,382)</u>

9 Transactions with Directors: There were no transactions between the company and its Directors

10 Related Party Disclosures: There were no transactions between the company and related parties