



**DERBYSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
(TRADING AS RURAL ACTION DERBYSHIRE)**

A Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a

Share Capital under the Companies Act 1985

TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2011

Registered in England

Registered Number: 03320404

Charity number: 1061531

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Annual report for the year ended 31 March 2011

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Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Chairman's Report

The last year has been one of consolidation and belt-tightening, with the whole of the Voluntary Sector bracing itself for the expected cuts in local authority grants, as the current austerity programmes begin to bite.

It is pleasing therefore to report that our core grant from Defra (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) was continued almost at the level of the previous three years, with only a minor percentage reduction. In this regard Rural Action Derbyshire has been much more fortunate than many other organisations in the Voluntary Sector. We are also very lucky to have a proactive parent body, ACRE, which has been extremely active in lobbying central government on our behalf and on behalf of all thirty eight Rural Community Councils in England.

The staff at RAD have been as ever 100% committed to the tasks in hand. But I do not know how they manage with the relentless pressure of budgetary constraints and reduced hours of work. Nonetheless they do, and it is to their everlasting credit, and in no small measure due to the leadership shown by our Chief Executive, that the work is done to our exacting quality standards. But the strain on staff is very heavy, and we must seek additional ways to guarantee our future survival.

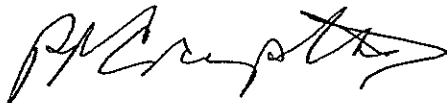
For this reason, and on the instructions of their trustees, the Chief Executives of Rural Action Derbyshire, High Peak CVS and Derbyshire Dales CVS began a series of talks during the year 2010-2011 to see if economies of scale could be achieved by working closer together and by sharing some functions, including the possibility of a merger at some point.

To this end a merger group has been set up, with four representatives from each of the three organisations, led by the three Chief Executives. To the end of our financial year 2011, considerable progress had been made, although much is still to be discussed and ironed out.

Of course, this is only the initial stage, since even if an agreed model is achieved, there is still the extensive consultation all three bodies will have to carry out with our respective members, and only if agreement is reached at this stage can matters be further pursued.

It has, then, been a complex and hectic year, and the progress we have made could not have been accomplished without the efforts of staff and a great deal of time from the trustees in all three bodies.

To everyone then a great deal of thanks is to be expressed for the commitment and hard work invested in our organisation; but a great deal more still remains to be done. With your support, we shall make it.



Mike Crompton
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Company particulars

Operating name	Rural Action Derbyshire
President	Sir Richard Fitzherbert Bt
Company Directors And Charity Trustees	Mr P M Crompton – Chairman Mr R L Bell Ms V Broom Cllr J Dargue Cllr M Dooley Mr G S Gilbert Cllr M Hall Prof J Herbert Mrs F Lee (until 28 September 2010) Cllr M Longden Cllr K G Savidge Cllr M Stanton Mr J Haynes Ms J Hirst Mr R A Parkinson Cllr T Critchlow (until 28 September 2010) Cllr L Baldry (until 8 June 2011) Mr M J Webb Mr N J Moulden Cllr B Lewis (from 29 September 2010) Mrs J Williams (from 29 September 2010) Cllr T Norton (from 7 June 2011)
Company Secretary	Mr G S Gilbert
Chief Executive	Sylvia Green
Treasurer	Mr Michael Webb
Registered Office	Church Street, Wirksworth, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 4EY
Auditors	Smith Cooper, Wilmot House, St James Court, Friar Gate, Derby, DE1 1BT
Principal Bankers	HSBC Bank plc, Market Place, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S40 1TN
Registered Company	03320404
Registered Charity	1061531

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Trustees' Annual Report

Since September 2009 Derbyshire Rural Community Council has operated under the name of Rural Action Derbyshire. Its legal name remains Derbyshire Rural Community Council which is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act, and is also registered as a charity. The company was formed to take over the charitable activities of Derbyshire Rural Community Council and did so with effect from 1 April 1997. Its governing document is the memorandum and articles of association of the company dated 18 February 1997.

The members of the Management Committee (the Board) are both the company directors and the charity trustees. They submit their report and audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011, which have been prepared in accordance with current statutory requirements and the governing documents of the charity. The Company Directors' Report also forms the Trustees' Report as required by Part VI of the Charities Act 1993.

Objectives and Activities

Rural Action Derbyshire's aim is to ensure the well-being of the people who live and work in rural Derbyshire and that they are not unduly disadvantaged. The objectives of the company are "to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community in Derbyshire by assisting the work of the statutory authorities and voluntary organisations engaged in advancing education, distress or sickness, improving the skill of country craftsmen, or in pursuing any other charitable purpose." The company carries on the work of the unincorporated association named Derbyshire Rural Community Council founded in 1924.

A summary of the company's activities and achievements during the year under review can be found in the Chief Executive Officer's report on page 7.

Method of Appointment of Directors (Trustees)

The company's Articles of Association require the Board to consist of such honorary officers and other members as shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting, together with other members nominated by local authorities.

All company directors (trustees) hold office until the next annual general meeting, when they all retire, but they can be proposed for re-appointment by ordinary resolution of the meeting. Any member of Rural Action Derbyshire can also stand for election as a company director provided he/she is properly nominated and seconded by other members.

Company Directors (Trustees) holding office during the period under review are listed on page 2 of this report. None of the company directors has a service contract with the company.

Training and Induction of Trustees

All new trustees undergo an induction process and are provided with written materials setting out the aims, future plans and processes of the organisation as well as information about their role and responsibilities.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Risk Assessment

The major risks to which Rural Action Derbyshire is exposed are kept under review by the Board, which has taken measures to mitigate such risks. The trustees have implemented a risk management strategy, which comprises:

- An annual review of the risks which the charity may face;
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan; and
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise potential impact on the charity should any of the risks materialise.

Reserves Policy

Unrestricted Funds

Sufficient reserves are required to provide:

- Working capital equivalent to three months expenditure,
- Protection against the unpredicted loss of grant funding, and
- A hedge against liabilities.

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level that equates to approximately three months' total expenditure. Based on the accounts to 31 March 2011, this target level (for the Core Business) would be £47,125. At present free reserves amount to £76,399.

Restricted Funds

Sufficient reserves should be retained under each of the restricted funds to meet the company's obligations under that fund.

Quarterly management information is presented to the Management Committee and there are four formal Board Meetings each year. Sub-committees are called between Board meetings to consider issues as and when they arise. In addition, the Chairman has regular contact with the Chief Executive Officer, the Treasurer and the Finance Manager.

The Management Committee is risk averse with available funds invested in high interest bearing accounts.

Grant Making

Rural Action Derbyshire is not a grant making body, but sometimes is asked to administer small grants funds on behalf of funders.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also Directors of DRCC for the purpose 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, 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 the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- 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 disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Chief Executive Officer's Report

This was the year in which the voluntary and community sector became even more focused than usual on funding and how to survive the impending funding cuts.

RAD was no exception and staff and trustees worked together to devise a four point strategy for surviving the hard times ahead. The most radical element of that strategy was to explore merger with other voluntary sector support organisations and RAD trustees began to meet with the trustees of High Peak CVS and Derbyshire Dales CVS to look at how we might work together to pool resources and deliver a more effective service to our members. That work is still ongoing and looks very promising.

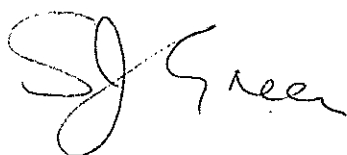
In the meantime funding for projects came to an end, the funding for 3D and Voice ran out and some staff were made redundant. Coalfield Regeneration Trust Funding for Wheels to Work came to an end and the service was significantly reduced in size. The Voice project concluded with a bang however, by commissioning an excellent piece of research from Sheffield Hallam University which mapped the Derbyshire Voluntary and Community Sector, a copy of the report can be obtained from the RAD website.

The year wasn't all bad news and gloom. There was good news from Defra: Our national body ACRE deserves great credit for negotiating a new contract with Defra for all Rural Community Councils which pays us to deliver work against the four Defra themes of housing, broadband, transport and access to services, energy conservation and generation.

Two new projects were established, the Free Project, funded by Calor, is training volunteer energy assessors to help people in off gas grid homes improve their energy efficiency. The Digital Switchover project has recruited staff and volunteers from other agencies to spread the word about the Digital TV switchover help scheme to the most isolated members of our communities.

Funding was secured to establish a new RAD website (if you haven't visited it yet, please do so) and to develop a countywide database of voluntary and community sector agencies, something that has long been needed but never before developed. RAD worked with the other members of 3D to raise the necessary funds and agree how the database should operate and be used.

As 2011/12 unfolds there are still many challenges ahead but I am sure we will find the resources to deal with them and to keep moving forwards.



Sylvia Green
Chief Executive Officer

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Connecting Communities

In Aldercar and Langley Mill the Connecting Communities programme brought local people together with local agencies to revive the community spirit in the area. The programme was led by RAD in partnership with Amber Valley Council for Voluntary Service, Amber Valley Borough Council and other local groups and agencies.

RAD Rural Officers and a youth worker worked with resident volunteers over 6 months, to help form two new community groups to carry forward projects. The Aldercar and Langley Mill Carnival Committee volunteers worked brilliantly to a tight deadline to organise a carnival for August Bank Holiday weekend, while the Aldercar and Langley Mill Action Group worked on developing 10 new projects for the community.

Among the first to take place were the Film Club run by the Derbyshire County Council Youth Service, and a range of holiday activities for children hosted by the Parish Council. Other work will take a little more time; Aldercar Recreation ground is due to be upgraded in line with residents' wishes, and there are plans for community activities in the coming year.

RAD's involvement with Connecting Communities officially ended in March 2011, but the partnership continues to support the community, and the Parish Council and Action Group have an ambitious programme for the future.

Community Led Planning

Holbrook published its Parish Plan in June. Begun in 2008 the plan has helped to capture the energy of the community in a range of projects, including a new set of play equipment for children.

Kilburn set out to produce a Community Led Plan following a presentation by Rural Action Derbyshire's Rural Officer, Joe Dugdale, in June 2010. An enthusiastic Steering Group quickly formed to plan and organise the consultation process which was made possible with funding from Kilburn Parish Council and Amber Valley Borough Council.

With support from Rural Action Derbyshire and the guidance of the ACRE Community Led Planning Toolkit, the Steering Group met regularly to progress the plan, consulting with residents, local schools, businesses and key stakeholders via public meetings, view forms, the Parish Council website and household questionnaires. Despite the Kilburn plan being a collective response to local needs, it also sets out the actions that were considered to be the responsibility of individual residents, that can contribute to making it a better place to live, e.g. support and use local facilities.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Evidencing Rural Need

Rural Officers were able to introduce the Evidencing Rural Need data to Community Led Planning groups – a new resource that shows the real picture of socio-economic issues across rural areas of Derbyshire. Building on pioneering work with the Rural Community Action Network, national body Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) commissioned Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion (OCSI) to develop a set of the reports for all rural areas across England. Evidencing Rural Need comprises a series of reports, prepared for a range of geographies, initially highlighting the incidence of deprivation in rural communities throughout England but now including the rural economy and access to services. Although there is a great deal of data available for villages, hamlets and smaller towns, this information has not previously been brought together so succinctly in a single resource for all settlements in rural England.

SUPPORTING FARMING COMMUNITIES

The Agricultural Chaplaincy project provides practical, emotional and spiritual support to farmers and their families by listening to and understanding their problems, signposting them to specialist partner agencies, and helping them to make life-changing decisions. The project is supported by the Industrial Mission, representing all church denominations, and is hosted by Rural Action Derbyshire.

During 2010-11, additional resources from the Derbyshire Primary Care Trust Choosing Health Fund allowed the project to extend its reach to cover parishes in the southern Derbyshire Dales and Amber Valley in addition to parishes in the northern Dales and High Peak.

The service is provided in total confidence and is carried out through drop-in surgeries at Bakewell and Derby Livestock Markets as well as through visits to farmers at their homes, workplaces or other community settings. A total of 256 visits to farmers took place during the year, and 42 new referrals were followed up, supporting farmers dealing with a range of problems including stress, mental health, hospitalisation, and bereavement. Carols for Farmers Services, to bring together farmers and their families for a festive celebration, were organised in December 2010 in Bakewell and Darley Dale. During 2010-11 the Agricultural Chaplain Graham Hinds also completed his first year as Rural Officer for the Derby Diocese, working alongside and advising the clergy on a range of rural issues.

Over the coming year, plans for the project include: Farmers' Services in the South Dales and/or Amber Valley areas; strengthening connections with other agencies; developing our presence at Derby Livestock Market; and seeking further funding for continuation of this important work.

FUEL POVERTY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The RAD FREE Project is an innovative project offering free home energy surveys. RAD volunteers are trained to make home visits to assess how much heat is lost through the various elements of the building. This information is really useful to householders helping them to make the best choices in home improvements to reduce heating bills. The project is aimed at people in harder to heat homes and who are not on mains gas - these households will typically have very high heating costs.

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During 2010-11 the project got off to an encouraging start, training 15 volunteers so far and finding support from communities and partners including High Peak Borough Council and Derbyshire Dales District Council.

Over the coming year the scheme plans to recruit more volunteers and expand the service to homes in Derbyshire Dales, and will work further afield in Derbyshire as funds permit.

VILLAGE & COMMUNITY HALLS SERVICE

RAD's Village and Community Halls Service provides support, advice and training to the county's rural community hall management committees. As part of a national network of village halls advisors, the service has access to specialist technical support through ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England). As well as 1:1 support, the service keeps halls updated on changes in legislation and relevant news through its quarterly newsletters, *Village Halls News and Information* and *The Playing Field*, and via the members area of the RAD website. The service also offers training – last year this included training on maintaining children's play areas.

The service supports 250 village halls and community buildings across Derbyshire. Most are charities run by local volunteer trustees; others may be Church Halls, Miners' Welfares or statutory managed halls such as Community Centres or Town Halls. The main beneficiaries are the local communities they serve and the numerous groups who use the space to provide local activities.

During 2010-11 Hallmark, a nationally recognised quality standards scheme specifically designed for village halls, was rolled out across Derbyshire thanks to a Derbyshire Community Foundation Firm Foundations Grant in 2009. Hallmark 1 assesses whether a hall is complying with the requirements of its charitable status. Once achieved, halls can work towards Hallmark 2, which assesses compliance with legislative issues and finally Hallmark 3, which looks at the role of the facility in the community and how it interacts with its users and the wider community. The scheme relies upon our team of volunteer Visitors who generously give up their time to carry out the Hallmark assessments.

Five halls achieved Hallmark 1 including Findern Village Institute, Willington Old School Trust, Hilcote Miners' Welfare & Community Centre, Kilburn Village Hall and Doveridge Village Hall

This year also saw the completion of three new Village Halls - Parwich Memorial Hall, Over Haddon Village Hall and Little Eaton Village Hall. The renovation of St Margaret's Hall Alderwasley was also completed, thanks to funding from the Big Lottery Fund's Community Buildings Programme and the advice and support of the RAD Village Halls Service.

During the year ahead, the service plans to help halls to work towards Hallmark 2 (the next level of the quality standard) and to provide more training events, as well as further developing the online resources available to members.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

TRANSPORT AND ACCESS

Wheels to Work Derbyshire and Ways to Work Bolsover are transport projects which help people living in rural areas, or areas poorly served by public transport, to access work, training or education where transport is a barrier. Many jobs now involve shift patterns or hours that don't fit in with bus timetables, and so Wheels to Work enables people to get to these jobs by providing moped loan, including training, protective clothing, insurance and maintenance; or by the subsidised purchase of bicycles, including push bikes and electric bikes. Ways to Work Bolsover is also able to provide bus, train and taxi fares, car mileage costs, subsidised driving lessons and even car repairs if this would enable someone to be able to take up a job offer.

Many people feel that transport is the main barrier preventing them from getting work or taking up training opportunities. Ways to Work Bolsover has been really successful in helping those who were on benefits to afford transport in the early weeks of work, when their benefits had stopped, but they hadn't yet started to receive a regular income. Some of these people would have had to turn down work or training placements as they simply couldn't afford the travel costs.

What has stood out over the last year is the success of partnership working. One person can be helped by several agencies in their journey to gaining employment or training, and we all work together to ensure that individuals get help from whatever source they need to help them improve their life chances. Helping someone with transport is often the last link of the chain, but often the chain can't be completed without that assistance. It's not just about providing transport - it's about someone being given the opportunity to help themselves and not be socially and economically isolated just because they live in a rural area.

The projects have received funding from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust, Derbyshire County Council and Bolsover Working Neighbourhoods Fund, and work in partnership with Jobcentre Plus, who provide most of our referrals, the Family Employment Initiative, Remploy, The Bolsover Apprenticeship Programme, Chesterfield College and many more training providers. CRT funding ended in March 2011, but we are seeking further funding for a new project to begin in October 2011. Derbyshire County Council continues to provide capital funding and funds for a new Wheels to Learn project for 2011-12 which will help 14-19 year olds access education or training, including apprenticeships. This is a welcome addition to our portfolio of transport projects. Funding is inevitably tighter in 2011-12, and demand continues to outweigh supply, especially in areas outside of Bolsover district. Partnership working is even more important as agencies share resources and expertise so that clients do not lose out too much in the challenging economic climate we all work in.

SUICIDE AWARENESS TRAINING

The Suicide Awareness Partnership Training (SAPT) Project aims to raise awareness of suicide throughout Derbyshire (as well as Nottinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Leicestershire and Rutland). It offers free half-day training seminars held in locations throughout the county as well as offering short presentations in the workplace, such as schools, colleges and GP surgeries. The project is funded by the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund.

During 2010-11 the project delivered 14 seminars across Derbyshire attended by 358 people. The project has been extremely well received and seminars are oversubscribed every time; there is currently a waiting list of over 270 people with more requests for training coming in most days.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Those who attend benefit from: Raised awareness of the risk factors and warning signs of suicide; identifying protective factors; challenging common myths and attitudes; and establishing ways of helping vulnerable people. Helpfully, there are often experts in the audience who are willing to share their knowledge.

In Derbyshire, the project has collaborated with the Safeguarding Children Board to develop training to target young people who are vulnerable to suicide. It has also had some funding support from the PCT to train people within the farming community, Job Centre staff and age related organisations. The SAPT website (www.sapt.info) was launched in September 2010.

The project has recently undergone an external evaluation, and the recommendations of this report will help the project to identify key areas to focus on in its final year.

FINANCIAL INCLUSION

Financial Inclusion Derbyshire is about ensuring people can access mainstream financial services and products, and also have the ability and confidence to deal with money issues.

There are three main areas of work:

- Increasing access to banking, affordable credit and savings;
- Debt advice and income maximisation;
- Financial capability (improving skills, knowledge and confidence with money).

The project is aimed at people who are financially excluded - particularly, but not only, people on low incomes, as well as various other groups such as the young and older people, and in particular patches of Derbyshire where there are higher concentrations of people who are financially excluded.

Financial Inclusion Derbyshire is a large partnership of 60-70 organisations/services. It includes local authorities, Primary Care Trust, housing providers, credit unions, banks, voluntary sector agencies, specialist organisations regionally, local financial inclusion staff and advice organisations.

Achievements during the year included coordinated financial capability work in schools across Derbyshire. 10 'Money Matters' events were held across the county, where people could come and talk to someone directly from one of the front line services about their issues, book an appointment or join the local credit union. These events reached a total of 243 people, with two additional events in supermarkets reaching a further 131 people.

The group has produced a directory of all debt advice and income maximisation services in the county. A quality checklist and monitoring process have been developed, that will help ensure people can access quality advice across Derbyshire.

Financial exclusion affects many people across Derbyshire - in both urban and rural areas. It is a crucial area of work, especially in the current economic climate.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

SUPPORT FOR DERBYSHIRE'S VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR

3D (THIRD SECTOR SUPPORT FOR DERBYSHIRE)

3D is a consortium of voluntary and community sector support agencies working collaboratively to achieve the best possible support for voluntary and community groups in Derby and Derbyshire. The nature of support they offer varies, but includes the facilities, structures, systems, relationships, people, knowledge and skills that help frontline voluntary and community sector organisations to achieve their aims. Rural Action Derbyshire is a member of 3D and acts as lead organisation.

A significant piece of work starting during this year was the development of a shared county database of voluntary and community organisations in the county. This brings together data from 15 partner organisations, and links to a searchable website which anyone can use to find and contact voluntary and community groups and services anywhere in Derbyshire.

3D and the Voice Project took a lead role in the development of the action group responsible for creating "an environment for a thriving third sector". Although the national indicators which prompted this work have now been discontinued, those involved agree that it provides an important meeting place for public and voluntary sector partners and are committed to continuing the work. This group established a funding forum bringing together voluntary sector funders and funding advisors to share information, discuss issues of concern, and look at the bigger picture.

2010-11 was the final year of central government (Capacitybuilders) funding for 3D. During the year members took stock of its future, developing both a longer term vision and strategy (2011-14 business plan) defining priorities for 3D going forward, as well as a short term plan to enable the consortium to continue. Despite the financial uncertainty, members are committed to working collectively for the benefit of voluntary and community groups in Derby and Derbyshire.

VOICE FOR THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR

The Voice Project was set up to help voluntary and community groups in Derbyshire understand, engage with and influence representational partnerships in the county. During the final year of the project, a change of Government led to considerable uncertainty about the nature and structures of future partnership work; it also meant that groups were trying to get to grips with a changed world and a prospect of a much more difficult funding environment.

Despite these challenges, the project continued to inform and raise awareness about the activities of partnerships, the importance of engagement and how to achieve this, and to ensure that they had an opportunity to contribute. The independent evaluation states: "It is clear that information was widely disseminated, organisations were reading it and the feedback was positive."

Training was offered on themes such as engagement with the Children's Trust and commissioning processes. One to one meetings helped groups to identify the particular relevance of a partnership to them and to identify meaningful points of engagement.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Voice supported voluntary sector representatives on the different partnerships and linked them into a wider constituency to pick up issues of shared concern and feed back developments. A role description and induction for representatives together with standard formats for reporting back made engagement more consistent and more effective.

During its last 6 months the project focussed on equipping the voluntary sector in Derbyshire with the evidence required for it to demonstrate its economic and social value, in order to negotiate more confidently with new representational structures and commissioners. The project commissioned a piece of research from Sheffield Hallam University to provide a picture of the VCS in Derbyshire and the value of its contribution. The launch of the research report was attended by 68 organisations and was supplemented by workshops designed to help groups measure their value and to lobby and negotiate more confidently with decision makers.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Derbyshire Rural Community Council

We have audited the financial statements (the 'financial statements') of Derbyshire Rural Community Council Limited for the year ended 31 March 2011 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (including summary income and expenditure account), Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to smaller entities the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

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. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters that we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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.

Respective Responsibilities of trustees and auditors

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 6, 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.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit on the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements

Opinion in financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements;

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable group's affairs as at 31 March 2011, and of its incoming resources and the 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 applicable to Smaller Entities; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for the which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Derbyshire Rural Community Council Limited (Continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us
- the 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 exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report.

Janet Morgan (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of
SMITH COOPER
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Wilmot House
St James Court
Friar Gate
Derby
DE1 1BT

Date: 28 September 2011

Derbyshire Rural Community Council
Statement of financial activities
(including summary income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 March 2011

	Not e	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2011	Total funds 2010
		£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
- Voluntary income	2	1,938	-	1,938	3,159
- Investment income	3	667	-	667	586
Incoming resources from charitable activities	4, 16	194,810	552,274	747,084	756,806
Other incoming resources	5	2,865	-	2,865	3,938
Total incoming resources		200,280	552,274	752,554	764,489
Resources expended					
Costs of charitable activities	6, 16	166,250	587,539	753,789	688,218
Governance costs	7	11,555	-	11,555	13,448
Total resources expended		177,805	587,539	765,344	701,666
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers [Net income/(expense) for the year]	9	22,475	(35,265)	(12,790)	62,823
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year		22,475	(35,265)	(12,790)	62,823
Total funds at 1 April 2010		53,924	173,956	227,880	227,880
Total funds at 31 March 2011		76,399	138,691	215,090	227,880

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derived from continuing activities.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Registered Number: 03320404

Charity number: 1061531

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2011

	Note	2011 £	2010 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	40,520	42,556
Current assets			
Debtors	12	80,841	46,595
Cash at bank and in hand		116,537	181,761
		197,378	228,356
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	22,808	43,032
Net current assets		174,570	185,324
Net assets	14	215,090	227,880
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		76,399	53,924
Restricted funds	16	138,691	173,956
		215,090	227,880

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Management Committee on 29 September 2011 and signed on its behalf by:

P M Crompton
Chairman

The notes on pages 19 to 28 form part of these financial statements.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (Revised March 2008).

Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 2. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

Cashflow

The company has taken advantage of the exemptions under Financial Reporting Standard 1 not to publish a cashflow statement as it qualifies as a small company.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be qualified with reasonable accuracy.

Where project income is received in advance of the commencement of a new project, a creditor is recognised in the accounts as disclosed in Note .

For ongoing restricted projects which span the year end no income is deferred in the accounts. The fund balances on these projects at the year end are disclosed in Note 16.

No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Grants are recognised in the Financial Statements as an incoming resource in the year in which they are receivable.

Donations and other voluntary income are accounted for when received but exclude gifts in kind relating to voluntary staff.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Costs of charitable activities comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 (continued)

1 Accounting policies – continued

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided on fixed assets to write off the cost over their estimated useful lives at the following rates:

Land	Nil%
Buildings	5% straight line
Equipment, fixtures and fittings	10% reducing balance

Pensions

The company makes contributions to a money purchase pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the SOFA when due.

2 Voluntary income

	2011 £	2010 £
Membership	1,625	2,659
Donations	313	500
	1,938	3,159

3 Investment income

	2011 £	2010 £
Bank interest received	667	586

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 (continued)

4 Incoming resources from charitable activities (unrestricted income)

	£	2011 £	£	2010 £
Service agreements				
DEFRA	<u>78,980</u>		<u>78,980</u>	
		78,980		78,980
Grants				
Derbyshire County Council	15,378		15,151	
District Councils	<u>18,422</u>		<u>17,313</u>	
		33,800		32,464
Other				
Project management fees	70,717		62,220	
Expenses recharged	<u>11,313</u>		<u>11,480</u>	
		82,030		73,700
		194,810		185,144

5 Other incoming resources

	2011 £	2010 £
Sundries	1,322	1,691
Sponsorship and advertising	1,543	2,247
	2,865	3,938

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 (continued)

6 Resources expended – Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2011 £	Total 2010 £
Staff costs (note 8)	122,705	259,172	381,877	363,854
Prizes & Grants	-	4,950	4,950	850
Travel	1,952	14,661	16,613	17,885
Premises and Office Costs	22,074	21,774	43,848	47,393
Repairs/Renewals	4,487	-	4,487	3,139
Staff training	123	3,396	3,519	2,186
Professional Fees	7,934	33,797	41,731	35,823
Other Miscellaneous Items	5,374	19,832	25,206	29,609
Redundancy costs	1,066	2,322	3,388	-
Publicity	535	16,643	17,178	4,211
Community Development	-	20,108	20,108	23,239
Rural Accessibility	-	158,361	158,361	160,029
Community Database project	-	32,523	32,523	-
	166,250	587,539	753,789	688,218

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 (continued)

7 Resources expended – governance costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2011 £	Total 2010 £
Governance costs				
Travel	207	-	207	390
Professional Fees	5,988	-	5,988	6,356
Audit fee	2,938	-	2,938	2,875
Depreciation	2,036	-	2,036	2,040
Meeting fees	386	-	386	1,787
	11,555	-	11,555	13,448

During the year professional indemnity insurance was purchased in respect of the officers of the company for a premium of £284 (2010: £545).

8 Staff costs

	2011 £	2010 £
Salaries	336,562	324,977
Social security costs	30,301	29,363
Other pension costs (note 18)	13,314	13,626
	380,177	367,966

The average number of employees is 18 (2010: 16). No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 per annum.

9 Net outgoing resources for the year

	2011 £	2010 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	2,036	2,040
Auditors' remuneration	2,938	2,875

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 (continued)

10 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings Wirksworth £	Equipment , fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2010 and at 31 March 2011	60,193	1,782	61,975
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2010	18,000	1,419	19,419
Charge for year	2,000	36	2,036
At 31 March 2011	20,000	1,455	21,455
Net book amount			
At 31 March 2011	40,193	327	40,520
At 31 March 2010	42,193	363	42,556

Included in land and buildings is freehold land at cost of £20,193 (2010: £20,193) which is not depreciated.

12 Debtors

	2011 £	2010 £
Project income	79,922	43,312
Core income	919	3,283
	80,841	46,595

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 (continued)

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2011 £	2010 £
Trade creditors and accruals	12,808	8,336
Income received in advance:		
Projects	10,000	34,696
	22,808	43,032

14 Analysis of net assets by funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	40,520	-	40,520
Current assets	44,362	153,016	197,378
Current liabilities	(8,483)	(14,325)	(22,808)
	76,399	138,691	215,090

15 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No member of the Management Committee is remunerated by the company. Travel expenses of £207 (2010: £205) were reimbursed to 2 (2010: 3) members of the board during the year.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 (continued)

16 Restricted Funds

	Brought Forward	Incoming Resource	Outgoing Resources	Balance Transfers	Carried Forward
	£	£	£	£	£
3D	10,711	57,626	(54,849)	-	13,488
3D Database	-	55,750	(39,340)	-	16,410
Agricultural Chaplaincy	7,516	23,150	(20,536)	-	10,130
Agricultural Chaplaincy Fundraising	1,082	-	(262)	-	820
Calor Free	-	10,066	(7,084)	2,071	5,053
Coalfields Regeneration	7,679	64,368	(77,000)	5,267	314
Coalfield Regeneration Trust 2 Wheels to Work (20)	-	77,971	(67,438)	(10,493)	40
Credit Union Development Study	19,899	-	(18,231)	-	1,668
Derbyshire Association of Local	-	47,015	(47,015)	-	-
Derby County Training Partnership	-	2,713	(2,713)	-	-
Derbyshire County Council Wheels to Work	5,145	-	(5,635)	490	-
Derbyshire Financial Inclusion	8,451	58,716	(67,167)	-	-
Digital Switchover	-	10,447	(946)	-	9,501
Everyone's Talking About Climate Change	1,630	-	-	(1,630)	-
Green Light Streetley	3,595	1,385	(4,980)	-	-
Hayfield Parish Council	-	1,877	(1,877)	-	-
Health Impact Assessment	625	140	(765)	-	-
Langley Mill	28,289	(7,700)	(14,111)	-	6,478
Live and Work	-	1,861	(236)	-	1,625
Mobile Office	-	3,505	(2,492)	-	1,013
NSIO Support	4	-	(4)	-	-
Promotion of Green Community Action	452	-	(11)	(441)	-
Carried forward	95,078	408,890	(432,692)	(4,736)	66,540

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 (continued)

	Brought Forward	Incoming Resource	Outgoing Resources	Balance Transfers	Carried Forward
Brought forward	95,078	408,890	(432,692)	(4,736)	66,540
Project management fees	-	(70,717)	70,717	-	-
Rural Stress Network	1,510	-	-	-	1,510
Suicide Awareness Training	9,151	31,654	(26,590)	-	14,215
South Derbyshire Community Led Planning (33)	-	1,500	-	-	1,500
The Playing Field	2,032	225	(1,407)	-	850
Village Halls Hallmark Scheme	1,456	-	(352)	-	1,104
Voice Project	39,777	67,058	(91,275)	-	15,560
Ways to Work	5,879	69,618	(72,026)	-	3,471
Website and Database	-	15,793	(12,395)	-	3,398
West Derbyshire Fieldworker	-	3,918	(3,918)	-	-
Wheels to Work	17,166	1,797	(2,295)	(490)	16,178
Wheels to Work 2	-	22,482	(13,343)	5226	14,365
Wirksworth Learner Pool	1,907	56	(1,963)	-	-
Carried forward	173,956	552,274	587,539	-	138,691

Transfer of project surpluses

On completion of a project any unspent surplus is transferred to other projects in accordance with the terms of the funding agreement.

Purpose of restricted funds

These comprise funds received for 33 separate projects which are managed by DRCC on behalf of various funders, and for 1 Delegated Grants Fund administered by DRCC on behalf of various partnerships. The balance represents amounts received to cover future expenditure and will be utilized in the forthcoming months.

Project management fees

These are amounts charged by the charity to manage the projects undertaken. All project management fees are agreed with the funder at the start of the project.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 (continued)

17 Post balance sheet events

There are no capital commitments entered into or events after the year end which materially affect the foregoing figures.

18 Pension costs

During the year contributions of £13,314 (2010: £13,626) were paid in respect of the money purchase pension scheme. There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either year end.

Derbyshire Rural Community Council

List of funders

	£
Action for Communities in Rural England	15,793
Amber Valley Borough Council	6,300
Aon	3,430
Big Lottery Fund	95,237
Capacitybuilders	51,794
Coalfields Regeneration Trust	53,724
Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs	78,980
Derby Diocese	3,603
Derbyshire County Council	63,378
Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust	8,016
Derbyshire Dales District Council	13,185
Derbyshire Economic Partnership	3,460
Digital Outreach	7,804
District of Bolsover	2,950
Donations to Agricultural Chaplaincy	2,118
North East Derbyshire District Council	3,750
Regional Efficiency Inclusion Partnership	68,249
Sheffield Methodist Church	3,000
South Derbyshire District Council	5,880
Working Neighbourhood Fund	61,942

This page does not form part of the audited financial statements