#### **Company Registration Number 5333784**

Registered Charity Number 1117546

## ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT
AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2007



Gibbons Mannington
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

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#### ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2007

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Directors / Trustees present their annual report together with the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2007

RVA is a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity. Its governing instruments are its Memorandum and Articles which were an integral part of the incorporation on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2005. On the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2007 RVA became a Registered Charity

Rother Voluntary Action is a young organisation consolidating its position as a Council of Voluntary Service (CVS) covering the whole of the Rother District of East Sussex and absorbing the responsibilities of three smaller CVS. It was set up in response to the challenges put forward by a Government keen to improve infrastructure support to local voluntary organisations and community groups through the Change Up programme

#### **STRATEGY**

On the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2006 the RVA Board approved the Vision that, RVA seeks to strengthen the social and economic wellbeing of local communities and help people fulfil their potential in a socially and environmentally sustainable fashion and 3 key delivery strategies

- to support the development of a vibrant community and voluntary sector in Rother enabling increased and improved services and facilities provided by the voluntary and community sector in Rother
- to facilitate communication and representation between the voluntary and statutory sectors on policy planning and delivery to increase voluntary and community sector involvement in these processes
- to identify local needs and gaps in service provision and work with local communities, service users and other agencies to develop appropriate action to help build the social capital in Rother

#### **FUNDING BACKGROUND**

Rother Voluntary Action has had to work within one of the most challenging climates for the local voluntary sector in recent years. Public sector reform has remained at the heart of the political agenda with the voluntary sector being asked to play an increasing role in the shaping and delivery of services. This has proved both an opportunity and a challenge for the sector and the period of transition is proving difficult for many voluntary groups.

The public sector is fast moving from the 'annual grants round' towards commissioning of services that are targeted directly to public sector priorities. This sees new procurement arrangements being set up with formal contractual arrangements and competitive tendering for services. Whilst there is a general welcome for the opportunities made available to the sector there are also concerns that services must be commissioned and procured in ways that do not drive out the reasons for working with the sector in the first place in entire its independence, flexibility, grassroots knowledge of local need and ability to introduce new and innovative services. However, new contracts need to be properly negotiated and funded on a sustainable basis which is not always our experience. As a local infrastructure organisation Rother Voluntary Action is placed to support the local voluntary sector in using to these challenges.

RVA has also been mindful of the pressures for public services to be delivered across wider areas. This has recently been seen with changes in local health services — where national policy is driven by population size, which challenges a sparsely populated rural county such as East Sussex. The local Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) across East Sussex are also being asked to consider delivery at a County level. All the CVS are aware that their members express a wish for much more local delivery and are working in Partnership to be able to deliver a consistent service across the county whilst retaining our local identities and grassroots knowledge of local groups and local issues.

Constraints on funding have continued to grow and this means that good new projects and the ability to sustain present projects are threatened through lack of investment Difficulties include

- (a) budgetary pressures faced by local councils and health services in East Sussex,
- (b) government funding opportunities, such as the Local Network Fund for Children, drawing to a close without replacement, and
- increased competition for Big Lottery funding, at a time when the availability of funds has been limited by the commitment of funds to the London Olympics of £2 2bn, Reaching Communities, the least targeted of the lottery funds for good causes currently has a success rate of only 1 in 5 applications, and the Community Buildings grant resulted in over 2,000 applications for a total of £558m to a pot of £50m

#### RVA ORGANISATION AND RISK

RVA is governed by a Board of Directors which meets at least four times a year. There were no changes in the membership of the Board in the financial year.

The major risk that the organisation faces is a lack of funding which would inevitably mean a reduction in staff. In an organisation that is still evolving the loss of any key experienced staff member would seriously weaken the organisation.

Funding is partly derived from the East Sussex County Council, particularly to pay for the organisation's CVS role. As this funding only covers part of RVA costs, project work is undertaken. This enables the essential core costs to be absorbed by several activities which benefits all of them and strengthens the whole organisation.

#### **RVA ACTIVITIES**

RVA undertook core CVS services for the Rother area by

- (a) offering support and services to local voluntary organisations and community groups,
- (b) identifying needs and gaps in service and developing solutions to those needs,
- (c) enabling liaison between groups within the voluntary sector and with local statutory providers,
- (d) representing the voice of the voluntary sector in shaping and delivering services, and (e) working in strategic partnership

In addition, RVA undertakes project work which meets the strategic aims and objectives of the organisation

#### 1. CVS CORE SERVICES

#### 1.1 SERVICES AND SUPPORT TO GROUPS

RVA promotes the effectiveness of local voluntary and community groups by providing them with a range of services and support

RVA has offered direct support to 177 individual groups during the year with 475 specific queries 49 of the groups supported were working with RVA for the first time, 12 groups were newly set up, 15 were first working in the Rother area and 22 already established groups Sadly support to 6 groups was to help with their closure General enquiries, back office support and funding advice comprise 73% of all the support requested

RVA support services used by local groups can be summarised as follows

Funding	19%
Governance	12%
General Information	29%
Back Office Support	25%
Training	10%
Volunteering	5%

In addition, RVA

- (a) circulated its Bulletin to more than 550 groups
- (b) worked with Hastings Voluntary Action to produce the annual Hastings and Rother Directory of Voluntary and Community Sector Resources
- (c) worked with Bexhill Community Partnership arranged a comprehensive training programme through autumn 2006

#### 1.2 DEVELOPMENT WORK

The development of new provision to meet identified gaps in service is at the core of RVA work Within East Sussex work has been undertaken to develop the East Sussex CVS Partnership, the East Sussex Social Enterprise Network (ESSEN), and the Children's Services Liaison Group (IMPACT) of the East Sussex Council for Voluntary Youth Service

Across Hastings and Rother work has been undertaken to develop examples of good practice from Hastings into Rother including financial services through the Community Banking Partnership, the Community Fruit and Vegetable project and the expansion of the Rainbow Alliance

Within Rother RVA has been particularly active in supporting the work of the Rother Race Action Forum (RRAF) in successfully achieving a Connecting Communities bid to enable the voice of the Black Minorities Ethnic community (BME) in Rother to be better heard and in the preparation of a Reaching Communities bid to the Big Lottery

RVA has also supported a number of individual groups to extend and expand the work they are undertaking. Much of this work has been linked to the needs of children and young people and the dearth of local provision. RVA has also been able to support the work of ARRCC in developing services for older people following the closure of the Social Services Day Centre in Rye.

#### 1.3 LIAISON

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As a focal point for the local voluntary and community sector, RVA supports networks and forums that enables regular meetings between groups and individuals within the sector, and between local groups and the statutory and private sectors. This allows local groups to share information, learn from one another, establish contacts and work more effectively. During the past year RVA has

#### 1 3 1 supported the local community networks in the rural areas

Rye Network and Muddy Boots which together have a membership of 424, Issues raised by the Networks included Closure of day care centre and related services, closure Meals on Wheels service together with concerns over the quality of the new service, removal of wardens from sheltered housing schemes, lack of adequate youth provision, transport and road safety needs relating to the relocation of the main Rye surgery, opportunities to promote green transport and walking buses, lack of accessible public transport and changes to bus timetables, concerns over heavy traffic and unsuitable road usage by large vehicles, the need for speed limits and traffic calming in villages, reduction in adult education opportunities, the future of Rye Library, concerns over PCT reconfiguration, Fit for the Future consultation worked to develop a similar community network based in Bexhill,

#### 1 3 2 supported the Rother Race Action Forum (RRAF)

membership rose to 171 during the year. The Forum raised the following issues lack of awareness of Racist Incidence Reporting scheme amongst BME residents in Rother, no engagement in Rother regarding Change Up Additional Support programme, ability to feed in specific needs of BME communities to planning processes, ensuring statutory Information dissemination reaches BME residents in Rother.

The Forum was consulted on travellers training for Parish Councils, Trust, and East Sussex County Council equalities strategies developed by Rother District Council, Bexhill and Rother Primary Care

RVA was able to support the Forum to achieve representation for black and ethnic minorities on the Rother Local Strategic Partnership, RRAF coordinated the publicity of events across Hastings and Rother through Black History Season 2006 and received funding from Connecting Communities Plus which enabled the Forum to undertake a series of workshops to identify needs in the BME community in Rother

#### 1 3 3 supported Rother Seniors

The creation of Older People's Forums across East Sussex has been a major development. Within Rother membership of Rother Seniors increased to 207 through the year. The Forum has three subgroups. Health and Well Being, Leisure and Learning, Transport and Road Safety.

Issues raised by the Forum during the year included Opportunities for Volunteering, transport options for older people, Good neighbours/helping hand scheme; Cost of not having internet access eg in paying utility bills, the Forum was particularly concerned that the Rother Local Development Framework would include consideration of the particular housing needs for older people

RVA was able to support the Forum to gain a place on the Rother Local Strategic Partnership to represent the views of older people and supported the Forum in accessing additional funding, for example for the "Who's Helen?" Event

1 3 4 RVA is a member of the Rural Rother Youth Forum; Hastings and Rother Social Care Forum and Voluntary Organisations Supporting Older People (VOSOP) and ensures the needs of communities within Rother are raised within these forums.

#### 1.4 REPRESENTATION – strengthening the voice of the voluntary sector

With government encouraging involvement of voluntary and community groups in shaping and delivering services, RVA, through partnership working, and the development of the local voluntary and community sector forums, promotes the contribution of the voluntary and community sector in enabling individuals to contribute to strategic planning, the development of community action and provides an opportunity for local groups to put forward their views on national, regional and local policies

RVA has coordinated representation on 46 bodies including shaping the delivery of services in the following areas Children and Younger People, Health and Social Services, Housing, Learning and Skills, Older People, Regeneration, Strategic Partnership and Transport

#### 1.5 POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSULTATION

During the past year RVA has

:

- 1 5 1 Supported consultation on a range of local, regional and national initiatives, including the Local Development Framework, the Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement (LAA)
- Worked with statutory partners to advise on community consultation and standards for community engagement
- Supported consultation on East Sussex ChangeUp consortium's Infrastructure Development Plan setting out the kind of support services required to take forward the work of local voluntary and community groups and increase their effectiveness.
- 154 Successfully supported voluntary and community sector involvement in consultation on the reconfiguration of Primary Care Trusts

#### 1.6 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

RVA works in partnership with local government and other statutory agencies to shape the delivery of services and plays a key role in empowering local groups to take part in partnerships and are directly involved in a wide range of strategic partnerships, regeneration, health and social care, and other government initiatives. These may cover several issues or have a particular focus RVA has

1 6 1 Worked through the East Sussex Change Up Infrastructure Development programme to develop the East Sussex CVS Partnership

- 1 6 2 Worked with the East Sussex Social Enterprise Network (ESSEN) to develop Social Enterprise opportunities across the county
- 1 6 3 Been a member of the East Sussex Local Area Agreement (LAA) Volunteering Target sub-group to increase and enhance volunteering in the county
- 1 6 4 Supported Community representation on Rother Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and been a member of the LSP Board and LSP action groups
- 1 6 5 Been a member of the East Sussex Economic Partnership on behalf of the VOICES countywide network
- 1 6 6 Provided the Chair for the Hastings and Rother Community Banking Partnership to enable accessible and approachable financial services for communities in Hastings and Rother
- 166 Worked with East Sussex Council for Voluntary Youth Service (ESCVYS) to develop a Children's Services Liaison Group (IMPACT) to provide a central point of contact for voluntary and community groups to participate in, influence developments of and impact on the strategic planning, design, delivery and commissioning of services for children and young people and their families in East Sussex, with particular reference to 'Every Child Matters', 'Youth Matters' and the Children Act 2004

#### 2. PROJECT WORK

#### 2.1 LOCAL ACTION PLANS

RVA has employed a development worker as part of a two year project with Action in Rural Sussex for the Rother Local Action Planning project supported by the Rother Local Strategic Partnership and worked across rural Rother and in two pilot areas of Bexhill to develop Local Action Plans By March 2007 Peasmarsh and Westfield had published Plans a further eleven rural plans were in progress and consultation work was underway in Sidley and Pebsham The needs of communities highlighted through Local Action Plans are fed through to strategic planning processes by RVA

#### 2.2 SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

In December 2006 RVA employed a Social Enterprise Development Officer through a Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) project to help develop new Social Enterprise ventures across Hastings and Bexhill and to provide training and mentoring for people developing new Social Enterprises

#### 2.3 SUPPORT FOR OTHER PROJECT WORKERS

RVA continues to work closely with project workers employed through Bexhill Community Partnership and Rye and District CVS and the resources of RVA are available to the groups working with these project workers in the same way as they are available to groups working directly with RVA

#### 2.4 END OF PROJECT

National changes to the Patient and Public Involvement Forums saw the ending of the contract with the East Sussex CVS partners in December 2006 RVA was sorry to lose this link with a group of volunteers dedicated to seeing improvements in local health services

#### FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Income for the first complete year of operation which ended 31st March, 2007 was £225,518 This sum included £35,525 received from the ChangeUp programme to facilitate the transition from the Rye & District CVS, Bexhill Community Partnership and Battle & District CVS into Rother Voluntary Action Of the balance of £189,993, 42% was received from grants from public sector authorities (£80,631) to fund core services while 58% (£109,362) was income from projects managed by RVA Expenditure from charitable activities totalled £165,349 for the year of which £49,576 was spent on core

Expenditure from charitable activities totalled £165,349 for the year of which £49,576 was spent on core CVS services and £115,773 on projects and other charitable activities

#### **STAFF**

RVA employed 6 staff Ian Coleman, Martin Fisher, Christina Hall, Clive Mills, Gina Sanderson and Janet Tiltman

#### VOLUNTEERS

RVA would like to recognise the hard work of all the volunteers who work both directly with RVA and through the projects it runs. The amount of time, enthusiasm and expertise these volunteers bring to local projects improves the quality of life in Rother immeasurably.

#### **DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES**

Directors of the Company are also Trustees of the Charity and exercise their authority through the Board which meets at least four times a year

#### **RVA BOARD**

Directors / Trustees Chair

John Izzard

Deputy Chair

Josephine Kirkham

Margaret Lee Tony Moore Tony Pickett

Linda Seddon (from August 2007)

Dennis Smith Ruby Willis

Honorary Treasurer Roderick Davidson

#### **COMPANY SECRETARY & CHIEF OFFICER**

Gina Sanderson

#### **ADVISORS**

Brenda Mason
Janine Portch/Richard Watson
Paul Rideout

Rother District Council Hastings and Rother NHS Trust East Sussex County Council

#### **REGISTERED ADDRESS**

Rother Voluntary Action The Old Bank Chambers 1 Buckhurst Road Bexhill on Sea East Sussex TN40 1QF

#### **BANKERS**

Lloyds TSB 17 Wellington Place Hastings East Sussex TN34 1NX

#### **ACCOUNTANTS**

Gibbons Mannington 20 Eversley Road Bexhill on Sea East Sussex TN40 1HE

By order of the Directors / Trustees

Gina Sanderson Company Secretary

Date

### ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2007

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2007	Total 2006
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Generated Funds Voluntary Income Grants Receivable	2	133,511	40,110	173,621	29,848
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities  Management Charges  Use of Photocopier		13,131 893	ŕ	13,131 893	0
Other Incoming Resources Other Income		371	22 202	371	0
Transfer of funds from Rye CVS  Total Incoming Resources		14,204	23,298 63,408	225,518	29,848
Resources Expended					
Charitable Activities Governance Costs	3	122,882	42,467	165,349	19,977
Management and Administration  Total Resources Expended	4	638 123,520	42,467	638 165,987	$\frac{347}{20,324}$
Net Movement in Funds Reconciliation of Funds		38,590	20,941	59,531	9,524
Total Funds brought forward at 1st April 2006  Total Funds carried forward at 31st March 2007		7,192 £45,782	2,332 £23,273	9,524 £69,055	0 £9,524
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The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities

### ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2007**

- •	Notes	200	07	2006	5
FIXED ASSETS	6		9,397		1,484
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors Cash at Bank and in Hand	7	22,809 52,265		0 27,217	
Total Current Assets	_	75,074	•	27,217	
LIABILITIES Creditors Amounts falling due within one year	8	15,416		19,177	
Net Current Assets	_		59,658		8,040
Net Assets			£69,055	_	£9,524
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY Restricted	9		23,273	-	2,332
Unrestricted			45,782	-	7,192
Total Charity Funds		•	£69,055	_	£9,524

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 249A(1) of the Companies Act 1985 for the year ended 31st March 2007

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2007 in accordance with Section 249B(2) of the Companies Act 1985

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 221 of the Companies Act 1985, and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of each financial year and of its incoming resourses and resourses expended for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 226 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the Company

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1995 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Entities (effective January 2005)

Approved on behalf of the Board on

10A October 2007 and signed on its behalf by

# ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2007

## 1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005 and applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 1993

All activities of the Charity are being continued

#### Funds

The financial statements distinguish between restricted and unrestricted funds. The former are received as grants and are subject to restrictions on the purposes for which they may be used. Unrestricted funds are those where there are no externally imposed restrictions. They include those freely available to the charity for expenditure or appropriation to reserves for internally designated purposes.

#### **Incoming Resources**

All income with the exception of grants is accounted for when received. Grants are accounted for when confirmation is received of the charities entitlement of the grant.

#### Resources Expended

All expenditure is accounted for when incurred

#### **Fixed Assets**

Fixed Assets have been included at cost and are depreciated at a rate designed to write the assets off over their useful lives as follows

Computer Equipment

Straight Line Basis over three years

#### **Current Assets**

Amounts owing to the charity at 31st March are shown as debtors. The cash held by the charity is with Lloyds TSB plc or as Cash in Hand

#### **Current Liabilities**

Amounts owing by the charity at 31st March are shown as creditors

2.	Grants Received	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2007	Total 2006
	Rother District Council	66,333	100	66,433	28,500
	Hastings & Rother Primary Care Trust	22,886	500	23,386	500
	Rother Race Action Forum		2,985	2,985	548
	Age Concern (2006 Grant Refunded)		(300)	(300)	300
	East Sussex County Council	24,847	1,000	25,847	0
	ChangeUp Programme		35,525	35,525	0
	Bexhill Community Partnership	19,445		19,445	0
	Rother Homes		300	300	0
		£133,511	£40,110	£173,621	£29,848

## ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2007

			Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2007	Total 2006
3.	Charitable	Activities				
	Staff Costs		105,470	22,382	127,852	0
	Payroll Cos	ets	250		250	0
	Projects	Rother Seniors		159	159	0
		Rother Race Action		951	951	0
		Patient Forum Support		2,363	2,363	0
		Social Enterprise	4,470		4,470	0
		Local Action Plan	5,977		5,977	0
		ChangeUp Programme		11,543	11,543	0
		Rye & District CVS			0	18,860
	Rent and O	ffice Costs	1,809		1,809	0
	Insurance		738		738	0
	Room Hire		119		119	0
		and Computer Expenses	1,724		1,724	376
	-	and Internet	1,207		1,207	0
		ces, Books and Publications	70		70	0
	Travel and	•	953		953	0
	_	d Course Fees	95		95	0
	Depreciatio	on		5,069	5,069	741
			£122,882	£42,467	£165,349	£19,977
			Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2007	Total 2006
4.	Manageme	ent and Administration				
	Accountance	ev Charges	623		623	317
	Annual Ret	·	15		15	30
			£638	£0	£638	£347

# ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2007

5.	Wages	&	Salaries
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	2007	2006
Staff Salaries	114,744	0
Employers Stakeholder Pension Contributions	2,540	0
Employers N I C	10,568	0
	£127,852	£0

The average number of persons employed by the Charity was 6

During the year the charity employed the above staff, none of whom earned £50,000 p a or more

#### 6. Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment	Total
Cost	Equipment	Total
At 1st April 2006	2,225	2,225
Additions during year	12,982	12,982
At 31st March 2007	15,207	15,207
Depreciation		<u> </u>
At 1st April 2006	741	741
Charge for the year	5,069	5,069
At 31st March 2007	5,810	5,810
Net Book Value	-	
At 31st March 2007	£9,397	£9,397
At 31st March 2006	£1,484	£1,484

7. Debtors	Total 2007	Total 2006
Grants Receivable	22,202	0
Other Debtors	607	0
	£22,809	£0
8. Liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Grants Received in Advance	3,292	0
Other Creditors	12,124	19,177
	£15,416	£19,177

# ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2007

#### 9. Restricted Funds

	Balance at	<b>Movement in Resources</b>		lance at Movement in Resource		Balance at
	1.4.2006	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfer	31.3.2007	
ChangeUp Programme	0	24,525	11,543	(12,982)	0	
ChangeUp Programme - Assets	1,484	0	5,069	12,982	9,397	
Rother Race Action Support	548	3,885	2,191	0	2,242	
Rother Seniors Support	300	1,498	1,164	0	634	
Patient Forum Support	0	22,500	22,500	0	0	
Community IT Project	0	11,000	0	0	11,000	
	£2,332	£63,408	£42,467	£0	£23,273	

The transfers represent the cost of assets purchased during the year, which are depreciated over three years

#### 10. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2007	Total 2006
Fixed Assets	9,397	0	9,397	1,484
Current Assets	43,383	31,691	75,074	27,217
Current Liabilities	(6,998)	(8,418)	(15,416)	(19,177)
	£45,782	£23,273	£69,055	£9,524

#### 11. Capital and Reserves

Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charity in the event of the same being wound up while he is a member, or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for payment of debts and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding-up the same, and for the adjustment of rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding £1

#### 12. Transactions with directors and trustees

No trustees received any remuneration, travel or subsistence expenses during the year

#### 13. Charitable Status

Rother Voluntary Action was incorporated as a Company, Limited by Guarantee, on 17th January 2005, commencing its activities on 8th December 2005. The Company was granted charitable status on 10th January 2007.

## ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION

We report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2007 set out on pages 9 to 14

As described on the Balance Sheet the company's directors (who also act as trustees for the charitable activities of Rother Voluntary Action) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and they consider that the company is exempt from an audit. It is our responsibility to carry out procedures designed to enable us to report our opinion

#### **Basis of Opinion**

Our work was conducted in accordance with the Statement of Standards for Reporting Accountants, and so our procedures consisted of comparing the accounts with the accounting records kept by the Company, and making limited enquiries of the officers of the company as we considered necessary for the purpose of this report. The procedures provide only the assurance expressed in our opinion

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion

- (1) the accounts are in agreement with the accounting records kept by the company under section 221 of the Companies Act 1985,
- (2) having regard to only, and on the basis of, the information contained in those accounting records
  - the accounts have been drawn up in a manner consistent with the accounting requirements specified in section 249C(6) of the Act, and
  - the company satisfied the conditions for exemption from an audit of the accounts for the year specified in section 249A(4) of the Act as modified by section 249A(5) and did not, at any time within that year, fall within any of the categories of companies not entitled to the exemption specified in section 249B(1)

Cubbas Marroth

Gibbons Mannington Reporting Accountants 20 Eversley Road Bexhill-on-Sea East Sussex TN40 1HE

Date 24th October 2007