

# **Basingstoke & District Disability Forum**

## *BDDF Impact Report*

*(Annual Review & Accounts)*

*for the year ended 31 March 2022*

*Registered Charity in England & Wales: 1155660*

# Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

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# Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

## Welcome from our Chair

Welcome to our Impact statement for the year to 31 March 2022.

Thank you for taking the time to find out more about Basingstoke & District Disability Forum (BDDF). We exist to offer support to Disabled people, their friends, family and carers, all living within Basingstoke and Deane.

We received £47,553, of which income for the year under the new accruals basis was of which £42,272 and £12,660 was carried forward (2021 - £7,379). These funds have been spent supporting over 1,200 Disabled people in our community directly through the services you will read about and hundreds more indirectly via BDDF hosting events and forums that support local charities and groups who also support Disabled people.

The Report and Accounts have for the first time this year been prepared on an accruals basis as Trustees considered this to reflect more fairly the fair position of the financial position of the charity. The impact of this is reflected in the accounts.

The Trustees met 6 times over the last financial year and during this considered the financial position of the charity, along with risk management and operating activities of the charity.

Covid continued to have a major impact on our members and BDDF reacted to waves of lockdowns by switching our services between in person and virtual as allowed.

Access to the internet is essential to our members to stay connected with loved ones and to keep up to date on the latest advice as well as being able to continue to engage with BDDF during lockdowns and beyond. BDDF continues to focus on inclusivity and looks to support our members by removing barriers to getting online

As we look ahead our strategy needs to evolve to better support the Disabled people of Basingstoke and make BDDF able to financially weather the post covid economy.

There remains an increasing demand for support and services that provide support for a growing number of Disabled people. Coupled with an ageing society, a bleak economic situation especially in terms of charitable grants available and pressure on charities to do MORE with LESS, it really is a very challenging environment to survive in let alone thrive.

We recognise that fundraising ability may be constrained for some time as the economic climate remains uncertain.

Nevertheless, our goal remains to listen to our members, enhance the impact we can have and increase our membership base, so we are reaching and supporting more members of the Disabled community from across all parts of Basingstoke.

Collaboration remains a core value of our charity and we continue to engage with the NHS and other local organisations that support Disabled people so that BDDF can be the voice of our members and provide insights and guidance on how to be more inclusive and to support Disabled people better.

Our annual fundraiser the scarecrow trail was a great success in both bringing in vital funds but also helping raise awareness of our charity. Thank you to all involved – it takes a real team of volunteers to coordinate, we couldn't host a trail without the entrants and we thank all of the local venues and

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businesses that so generously support us. Lastly, I personally want to thank the communities of Chineham and Sherfield park for welcoming the trail walkers so wonderfully.

We continue to focus on raising income through a variety of funding streams. This includes grants, sponsors, events, raffles, and individual donators and we thank all of those who have helped BDDF to continue.

If you are financially able and would like to donate, details about how to do this are at the end of this report.

On behalf of Basingstoke & District Disability Forum, I would like to express our extreme thanks to our staff who continue. Extending thanks to our network of partners, supporters, volunteers and our members – BDDF wouldn't exist without you.

### **BDDF A YEAR AT A GLANCE –**

- **42x Seated Yoga (489 attendees)**
- **43x 'Stroll & Roll' Walks (201 attendees)**
- **19x Cuppa & Chat Support Groups (140 attendees)**
- **6x Chronic Pain Support Groups (62 attendees)**
- **1x Ongoing Signpost service (100x 1 to 1 interactions)**
- **2x IT courses (38 attendees)**
- **5x Community Café - sessions for organisations supporting Disabled people to network (65 attendees)**
- **1x Christmas Event (85 attendees)**
- **1x Community Café (19 organisations)**

# Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

## Who we are

BDDF formed in 2008 to support the local disabled community. At the last census (2011), 1 in 5 people identified as having a disability, and there was no clear organisation representing them. There was a gap in the accessibility of services available as well as a lack of inclusion or opportunities for less-abled people.

BDDF was founded by a group of residents living with disabilities with the aim of supporting the community, giving a voice and addressing the stigma.

With over 24,426 Disabled people living in Basingstoke and Deane living we're committed to offering a programme of core services that are relevant, impactful, and empowering. Latest 2021 census data due in Q1 '23 and we anticipate an increase in Disabled people living in Basingstoke for several reasons including the impact of covid.

**Our Aim:** To healthily promote both visible and nonvisible disability. By increasing awareness, providing information and bringing people together.

BDDF partner and collaborate with fellow disability charities/groups and provide guidance to local businesses who are striving to be accessible and inclusive.

## Membership:

BDDF is a free to join, membership-based organization. BDDF is for all Disabled adults, offering support for those over 18 with visible and invisible impairments, be that physical, learning, mental-health or chronic conditions.

Members receive access to all our free services, our newsletter and activities. Our services are guided by feedback from our members.

## Increasing Demand:

BDDF follows the definition consistent with the Equality Act 2010. A person is considered disabled if they have a self-reported long-standing illness, condition, or impairment, which causes difficulty with day-to-day activities.

The UK has an ageing population. By 2040, it's predicted that the number of people in the UK aged 85+ will double from 1.6 million to 3.2 million. People are living longer with multiple conditions.

Demand for inclusion, support and services will continue to grow. In addition, during the pandemic, many people have unexpectedly become Disabled. disability.

## Our Mission:

To facilitate increased awareness, active involvement and healthy promotion of Disabled people and their impairments and health conditions.

Supported by our **Strategic Objectives:**

1. Involvement - to improve the involvement and representation of Disabled people and their families/carers within Basingstoke.
2. Promotion - to promote greater awareness of disability through initiatives and activities that champion inclusivity, understanding and reduce barriers.
3. Partnerships - To improve partnership working between agencies, both voluntary sector and statutory, who are involved in supporting disability.

# Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

## Our Vision:

To create a community that sees the person, values the difference, and embraces awareness.

Actively promote awareness and understanding of the barriers faced by Disabled people.

Supported by our **Operational Objectives:**

1. Improve the mental and physical wellbeing of Disabled people in Basingstoke.
2. Tackle feelings of loneliness and reduce social isolation within the disabled community.
3. Increase knowledge amongst members and the wider disabled community about support services available, both directly through BDDF and signposting to other local charities and organisations.

## Our People

Our employees each play a vital role in helping BDDF to provide support and services to Disabled people and their families. We are so very proud of their achievements.

### Staff:

- Amanda Knowles, BDDF Service Coordinator (22 hours a week)
- Suzi Owen, Fundraiser and Partnership Coordinator (16 hours a week)
- Sarah Pinnell, BDDF Social Media and graphics designer (5 hours a week)

### Updates:

- We encourage our employees and volunteers to have an active part in providing feedback and helping to shape the future of BDDF.
- We actively consider health and safety.
- We encourage our staff and volunteers to undertake relevant training including accredited courses such as the Trusted Trustee and First Aid.
- We support our staff by providing a training budget and undertaking an annual payment review.
- Moving from one employee to a team, we are working together to establish clear roles and responsibilities and updating the job descriptions.
- Regular feedback is given to staff. It is our intention is to move towards clear established objectives that support each member of staff within their roles to understand their key deliverables. These will support quarterly accountability reviews that will focus on areas of strength and areas where further development support is required.

### Volunteers:

More than 50 volunteers generously donated over 700 hours to support our work across the many facets of BDDF. Thank you.

## BDDF Board

- Chair, Anne Marie Bernadette Spalding - welcomed March 2020
- Vice Chair, Rachel Hicks – welcomed February 2020
- Original Trustee, Julian Paul Thomas – welcomed January 2014
- Rebecca Meakin – welcomed October 2019

## Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

- David John Mark Soutter – welcomed November 2021
- Alderman Jane Frankum- welcomed November 2021

We thank you all for the time and dedication you have continued to show BDDF.

### BDDF Board members stepping down:

Thank you for your hard work and dedication as trustees of BDDF. The energy and enthusiasm for the Disabled Community of Basingstoke has been inspiring and we wish you all the very best.

- David Chatten-Smith – welcomed March 2020 Left February 2022

We continue to embed our updated Trustee recruitment policy and are actively seeking Trustees who will bring both action and passion to the board through lived experience as a Disabled person, diversity and skills.

### BDDF Patrons:

We give thanks to our Patrons who actively support BDDF within the community:

- Lady J. Coleman, Life Patron
- Rt Hon Maria Miller MP, Patron
- Cllr. Simon Bound, Patron

## Our Services

Activities that BDDF undertake are to improve the lives of our beneficiaries and make a difference. All are free to attend

Signposting Service (SPS)	Our Signpost Service remains a central aspect of BDDF. Receiving queries in person, via email, telephone, and messenger on Facebook. This is a tailored service where our volunteers support the member with bespoke responses signposting them to organisations who can support their specific needs.
Cuppa & Chat	Cuppa & Chat has provided a regular support group for our members to chat. Used as mini awareness events BDDF organised a wide range of activities, key speakers / guests & information sessions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- How many sessions any key speakers of note</li><li>- Deaf Awareness</li><li>- Scam Awareness</li><li>- Low Carb benefits</li><li>- Singing to guitar</li><li>- Opensight</li><li>- Parkinsons</li><li>- Hantsar</li><li>- Army Flying Museum</li><li>- You Trust</li><li>- Shopmobility</li><li>- Anvil Arts music</li><li>-</li></ul>
Yoga	Weekly seated yoga sessions via Zoom. We returned to in

## Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

	person sessions, running the online lessons simultaneously in a hybrid approach.
IT Courses	Face to face in a Covid secure location. Course helped our members get more from their own technology allowing them to better connect and to avoid isolation, enabling them to attend our services most importantly help them stay connected to friends and family.
Walking Group	Due to Covid the Walking group has been running intermittently. At some points BDDF were able to offer 2 walking groups a week when lockdown restrictions allowed.
Films to Schools	On hold due to Covid.
Chronic Pain Support Group	Our monthly CPSG sessions restarted in person in September '21. These sessions provide a warm and welcoming environment for individuals with chronic pain conditions to come together to share their experiences. Featuring guest speakers and practitioners providing information and demos including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reiki</li> <li>- EFT</li> <li>- iTalk</li> <li>- NHS Physiotherapist</li> </ul>

Above table shows in rows the Services, the number of sessions YTD and number of unique participants.

## Our Reach

### Social Media Reach:

- Facebook 1595 followers (+49% on last year), reaching 59k people
- One post reached 9,900 people
- Using Twitter, Instagram and Linked in platforms more.

### Website:

Launched our brand new BDDF website that showcases our work & enables us to update & inform our members more easily and clearly.

Tested before launch by members and Trustees who have different disabilities and feedback on accessibility has been positive.

Amongst other features the new website has a dedicated [signposting page](#) full of information split into easy-to-understand subcategories.

### Newsletters:

Sent every 2 months. January 2022 newsletter sent to 821 recipients.

Mainly sent via email with printed copies sent via post to circa 20 members.

Contains information our services and signposts to other local groups and organisations that support Disabled people

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### Leaflets:

Our main BDDF leaflets have been finalised with support from Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council.

### Non-Digital:

Provide service updates via local parish magazines, in the local newspaper (BVA community section) and on local radio.

Events such as the Scarecrow Trail and DAD help us to promote BDDF and the services available in a face-to-face environment.

## Our Awareness Events & Community Collaboration

Supporting our community through partnerships that deliver innovative projects that focus upon improving health and well-being.

### Disability Awareness Day (DAD)

On Friday the 1st of April 2022, BDDF hosted its annual Disability Awareness Day. Open to the public from 9am to 4pm in The Malls Shopping Centre. With our key aims being to Provide information, offer advice and raise awareness.

Despite the cold there was a real buzz in the air. Stalls were hosted 30 local organisations each of whom provide services for Disabled people. Volunteers and staff were on hand to answer questions on a wide range of topics including benefits, transport, health, housing, education, sports and more!

The Disability Awareness Day is our flagship event to healthily promote both visible and non-visible disability. By increasing awareness, providing information and bringing people together.

Ani Spalding Chair of BDDF said ***'It was fantastic to be back out there in person, the Digital divide has a huge impact on our members and the wider Disabled Person community. Getting the right information at the right time helps to make informed choices and by having the many different groups and charities in one place, together, the event allowed us all to provide direct face to face support as well as forging many new connections and deepening the local Disabled community network. Thank you to all who came.'***

### Community café

During the year we host quarterly networking sessions where local organisations and groups who support Disabled people are all welcome to attend to share what services and events they have on and to also problem solve issues with one another.

### Signpost Sundays & Our Newsletter

BDDF continues to regularly share information from member organisations regarding their activities and services via our website, social media and our newsletters. On Sundays we post a ***Signpost Sunday*** article raising awareness of a group or service. Each featured organisation is added to our website, invited to have a stall at DAD and is welcome to attend Tea Break and Community Cafe.

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### Awareness Videos / Films to Schools

- [Talk To Me](#) (Views globally since launch 383k)
- [Like Everyone Else](#) (Views globally since launch 38k)
- [Just Ask](#) (Views globally since launch 103k)

Before Covid our Films to Schools programme took these films into local primary schools to teach children a little more about disability and provide an interactive workshop. The children were given the opportunity to write a letter to a fictional child with a disability who would be joining their school. The winning letter would show empathy and inclusion. We hope to restart this initiative.

BDDF have so far visited: 14 Primary Schools, 3 Cub Packs, 6 schools and reached over 3,000 local children mainly at Key Stage 2.

Ani Spalding

Chairman of Trustees

Date

## Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

#### Report to the trustees of Basingstoke & District Disability Forum

I report to the charity trustees of Basingstoke & District Disability Forum, Charity number 1155660, on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

Patricia Fox FCCA  
Chartered Certified Accountant  
36 Essex Road  
Basingstoke  
RG21 7TB

Date..... 11/1/2023 .....

Signed.....  .....

## Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total Restated
		£	£	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
Donations received	3.1	4,630	-	4,630	2,228
Fundraising events	3.2	7,173	-	7,173	5,562
Grant income	3.3	4,618	25,850	30,468	31,835
HMRC Job retention		-	-	-	2,748
Bank interest		1	-	1	2
<b>Total income resources</b>		<b>16,422</b>	<b>25,850</b>	<b>42,272</b>	<b>42,375</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Costs of charitable activities	4	17,378	25,896	43,274	33,282
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>17,378</b>	<b>25,896</b>	<b>43,274</b>	<b>33,282</b>
<b>Net (expenditure) / income</b>		<b>(956)</b>	<b>(46)</b>	<b>(1,002)</b>	<b>9,093</b>
<b>Gross transfers between funds</b>		<b>(46)</b>	46	-	-
<b>Net movements in funds</b>		<b>(1,002)</b>	-	<b>(1,002)</b>	<b>9,093</b>
<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>		<b>19,488</b>	-	<b>19,488</b>	<b>16,471</b>
Profit for year as previously stated		-	-	-	10,396
<b>Funds carried forward as previously reported</b>		-	-	-	26,867
Restatement to establish deferred income		-	-	-	7,379
<b>Funds balances carried forward</b>		<b>18,486</b>	-	<b>18,486</b>	<b>19,488</b>

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### BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds Restated 2021 £
<b>Current assets</b>					
Accounts receivable		71	-	71	26
Cash at bank and in hand		19,809	12,660	32,469	27,842
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>19,880</b>	<b>12,660</b>	<b>32,540</b>	<b>27,869</b>
<b>Creditors</b>					
Deferred income	7.1	-	12,660	12,660	7,379
Other creditors – sundry creditors		1,394	-	1,394	1,001
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		<b>1,394</b>	<b>12,660</b>	<b>14,054</b>	<b>8,380</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>18,486</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,486</b>	<b>19,488</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>18,486</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,486</b>	<b>19,488</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		<b>18,486</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,486</b>	<b>19,488</b>
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<b>18,486</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,486</b>	<b>19,488</b>

Approved by the Trustees on .....17.01.23..... and signed on its behalf by

Ani Spalding

Chair Trustee

Rachel Hicks

Vice Chair Trustee

## NOTES to the accounts

### 1. Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS102) issued in October 2019).

The results have been restated for the prior year to reflect the change in accounting policy from a Receipts and Payments basis to an Accruals basis, whereby income received in advance and not paid in the year received, is included in Deferred Income. Expenditure for the current year and paid in subsequent years is included in creditors. The impact of this for both the current and the prior year is contained in Note 7 to the Accounts.

### 2. Accounting policies

- 2.1. Recognition of incoming resources: these are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SofA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources and when Trustees are confident that income will be received and the monetary value can be reasonably measured.
- 2.2. Costs of charitable activities included in the Statement of Financial Activities are on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered. Expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in those cost categories
- 2.3. Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, when it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified as Restricted when Grantors have placed restrictions on how and when the funds shall be spent. Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.
- 2.4. Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.
- 2.5. Unrestricted funds: these comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use in accordance with the charitable objects.

## Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

### 3. Analysis of income

	2022	2021
	£	Restated £
3.1 Donations received during the year	4,630	2,228
3.2 Fundraising events	7,173	5,562
3.3 Grants income - Restricted		
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council – CVS grant	14,805	12,354
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation – Net Coronavirus Programme	4,260	4,500
Hampshire County Council – Local Solutions Grant	2,835	-
Tackling Inequalities Fund (Sport England) - DRUK	2,410	-
Magic Little Grants	1,000	-
Infortrend	250	-
Four Lanes Trust Grant	290	-
The National Lottery Covid Fund	-	8,550
Energise Me – Investing in Communities	-	3,750
Groundwork – Tesco Bags of Help Covid-19 Communities Fund	-	1,000
Hampshire County Council Grant	-	300
Total Grants - Restricted	25,850	30,454
Grant income - Unrestricted		
Greenham Trust via Good Exchange	2,618	1,381
Virgin Media O2 Together Fund   Neighbourly	1,000	-
Ecclesiastical - Movement for Good Award	1,000	-
Total Grants - Unrestricted	4,618	1,381
Total Grants	30,468	31,835

## Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

### 4. Costs of Charitable activities

	-----2022-----			2021 Restated
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Advertising & Marketing	105	83	188	100
Audit & Accountancy fees	353	1,070	1,423	1,681
Bank Fees	17	-	17	51
Business Insurance	-	267	267	164
Employee Training	175	165	340	27
Event Costs	1,752	684	2,436	3,445
General Expenses	89	20	109	32
IT Software, Subscriptions and Support	584	1,013	1,597	1,154
Legal & professional fees & licences	-	204	204	132
Postage	32	83	115	38
Printing	5	72	77	204
Rent	950	1,529	2,479	1,620
Room Hire	560	847	1,407	292
Salaries	12,418	16,918	29,336	21,828
Stationery & office equipment	37	89	126	400
Subcontractor Fees re Events	236	2,628	2,864	1,615
Subscriptions	1	96	97	245
Telephone line rental and calls	64	128	192	257
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17,378	25,896	43,274	33,284
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

### 5. Corporation Tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or Section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1962 to the extent that are applied to its charitable objects.

### 6. Staff numbers

The Charity currently employs 3 members (2021: 3) of staff on a part-time basis.

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### 7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

#### 7.1. Deferred income

	2022	2021
	£	Restated £
The Edward Gostling Trust	5,000	-
Hampshire County Council – HCC Local Solutions	2,066	-
Albert Hunt Trust	2,000	-
Arthur Bate Fund	1,500	-
Didymus	1,398	-
Hampshire County Council	466	-
Infortrend	160	-
Four Lanes Trust	70	-
Hampshire and Isle of Wight - Buddy	-	4,260
Good Exchange	-	2,619
Magic Little Grants	-	500
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12,660	7,379

### 8. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

## Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

### Grants & Fundraising

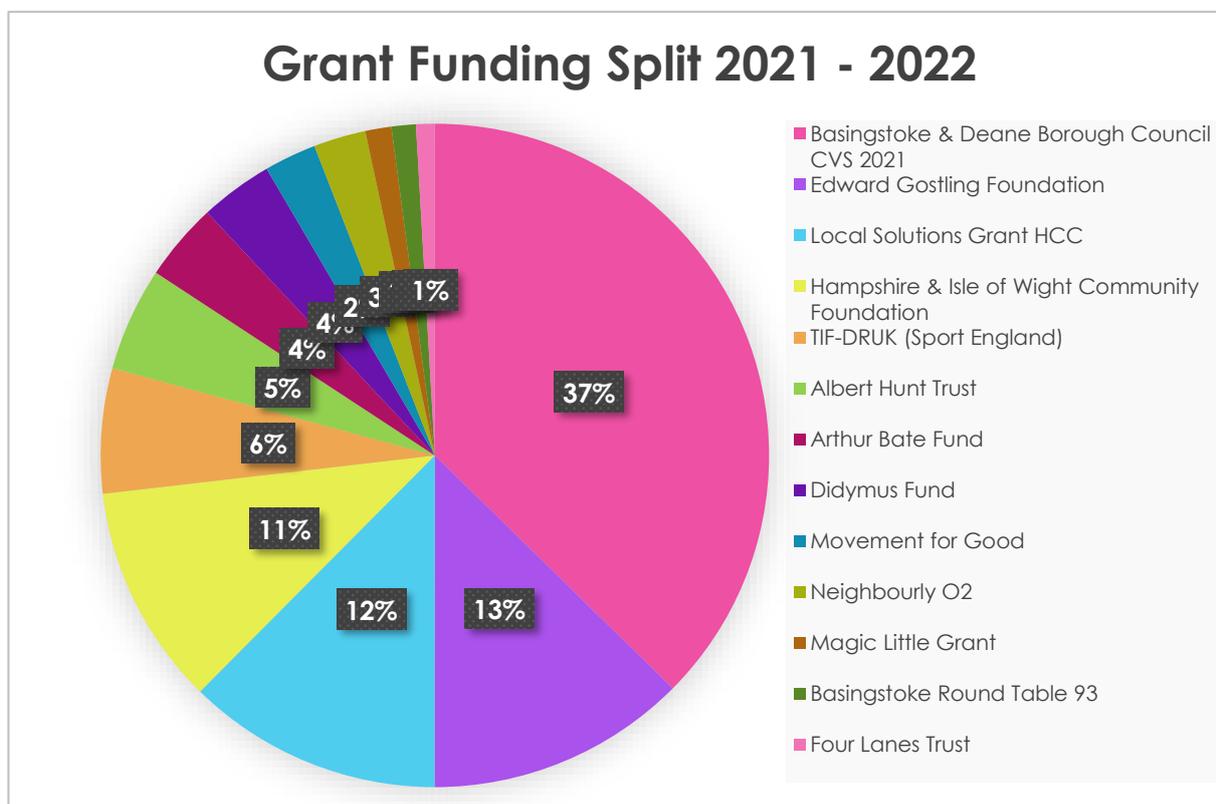
We have invested in new fundraising technology to make donating to BDDF easier than ever, including:

- Cashless payment systems for collections so people can donate digitally.
- Raffles
- Lotteries. BDDF is a member of the Community Lottery ran by Basingstoke Voluntary Action.

As a charity, we believe you need to know we're using our resources effectively. That's why we make these promises to you:

- We promise to provide information about our work and our finances so you can see how your money is being spent and what a difference you're making to the Disabled community in Basingstoke.
- We promise to communicate with you in a way that suits you. If you tell us you'd prefer less contact or don't want to hear from us at all, we'll respect your wishes.
- We promise never to sell your data to any third party. We will not share your details with other charities.
- We promise to adhere to all industry guidelines and regulations and require others acting on our behalf to do the same.
- We'll take appropriate action promptly if we find any failure to meet our standards.
- We promise to make it easy for you to tell us your contact preferences and we're here to talk to you about our work or answer any questions.

We thank each of the individual donators, fund and grant providers that have supported BDDF. Your donations enable us to continue to provide all services and activities to our members all of which we provide for free.



## Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

### Chineham & Sherfield Park Scarecrow Trail

After the popularity of last year's event, we held our second annual scarecrow trail fundraiser on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021 with the theme 'Heroes and Villains'. The local community created 67 incredible displays and this year we invited other local charities and NPO's to join us giving them the opportunity to raise awareness about their causes as well as funds after a difficult 18 months as well as other activities for the visiting public to enjoy.

The event surpassed our expectations with over 500 families attending. We give enormous thanks to the local community, volunteers, venues and to the amazing local businesses who provided 43 generous raffle prizes.

"Thank you for putting on the greatest event I think I have ever been to yesterday was so much fun and lovely to meet a lot of you"

"Thank you for organising such a great event, we came last year and were very excited to see it was on again this year. We even brought along the Grandparents this year!!"

Thank you to our generous sponsors, **Loddon Properties**, for championing the weekend with event boards and winners trophies, **InforTrend** for supplying banners and t-shirts, and **Irwin Mitchell** for printing the trail maps.

Thanks to **Ewa Jones Photography** for capturing all the displays - [Scarecrow Trail 2020 Gallery — Basingstoke & District Disability Forum \(bddf.org.uk\)](#)

The event raised **£6,852!** Thank you again to everyone who helped to make this event a huge success.

### Volunteering with BDDF - Come and Get Involved!

Are you passionate about people, a good listener or have skills with regards to sport, IT. Maybe you enjoy socialising, or walking, we have roles for everyone that play to your strengths and interests. We need volunteers who can donate time, energy and skills to support our work. Most of all you just need to want to help. If you would like to help but feel there is a barrier please talk to us, we will do everything we can to make the volunteer opportunity accessible to all. We can find a way for you to help us.

Get involved, get active and have fun! There are a variety of ways you can help BDDF to raise vital funds.

- Join us at our Scarecrow event on a stall and/or as part of the organising committee.
- Become a corporate sponsor.
- Help with our collection days at supermarkets.
- Be a signposter – you help people find information to remove barriers to their lives.

#### Why volunteer

- |                                     |                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Meet new people                   | Learn new skills  |
| • Help people                       | Make a difference |
| • Give back to your local community | Highly rewarding  |

#### Become a BDDF in the Community Ambassador

During our virtual Disability Awareness Day in March 2021 we announced our first BDDF in the Community Ambassador. Matt has volunteered for BDDF since 2014 on events such as the

## Basingstoke and District Disability Forum CIO

Basingstoke Roll, the scarecrow trail, collecting money for the charity in Tesco and at the Disability Awareness Days. Matt works for Basingstoke Mencap as a leisure support worker.

Matt became confident enough to lead the walking group. He was supported to do this after attending the group since the launch..

### Our Winter Survey - Giving Disabled people a Voice

To follow on from our lockdown survey, we asked our members and the wider community to share their views and experiences about living in Basingstoke and what their primary challenges and barriers are. . 163 responses were received, and we have used this information to focus our work moving forward

#### Top 3 issues and challenges respondents were facing:

1. Physical barriers and access issues = 55%
2. Feelings of isolation = 8%
3. Social barriers = 38%.

57% of respondents felt awareness and education about disability is a key route to tackle these barriers

### Digital Divide

Digital exclusion is affecting our communities and the move to technology triggered by the pandemic is deepening the divide.

**56% of adults not on the internet are Disabled people.** (ONS statistics 2019)

Independence is heavily reliant on access to information and with more information than ever before being online we must break down the barriers and reduce the digital gap

BDDF swiftly moved services online where possible, created a more accessible website and established IT support sessions to help our members get online. However, there are still a vast proportion of the population who are not able to access the internet and more must be done by BDDF and society in general to be inclusive.

### How to Donate

#### Easy Fundraising

Raise donations for BDDF for free as you shop [Basingstoke & District Disability Forum Fundraising | Easyfundraising](#)

#### Amazon Smile

Do you shop on Amazon? Select us as your chosen charity in the Amazon smile section and we will receive a % of items you buy at no cost to you. Simply shop on [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) and select Basingstoke & District Disability Forum as your chosen Charity! It is that simple!

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Every time you shop through AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible purchases to BDDF.

### Basingstoke and Deane Community Lottery

[Support BDDF when you play Basingstoke and Deane Community Lottery - Basingstoke and Deane Community Lottery \(bandcommunitylottery.co.uk\)](https://www.bandcommunitylottery.co.uk)

### PayPal

Please consider adding BDDF as your chosen Charity through the PayPal Giving Fund

Or donate directly here <https://www.paypal.com/GB/fundraiser/charity/3221845>

## Contact us - How to get in touch & keep up to date

Please get in touch via:

- Email [office@bddf.org.uk](mailto:office@bddf.org.uk)
- Facebook Messenger
- Phone 01256 423869
- Or pop in to see us in person at The Orchard (by prearranged appointment only) or by joining us at one of our services / events

### Newsletters

- We offer regular newsletters via email.
- A paper version is available by post if you do not have internet access.
- To be added to our postal mailing list please call **01256 423869** leaving your home address, name & telephone number.

### Website

Information on all our free services is updated regularly on our website <http://www.bddf.org.uk/>

### Social Media

Keep up to date by liking our page on Facebook, Instagram or tweet us!

- **Facebook:** @bddforum
- **Twitter:** @bddforum
- **Insta:** @TheDisabilityForum

### Physical and Registered address

Basingstoke & District Disability Forum

White Hart Lane

The Orchard

RG21 4AF

T: 01256 423869

E: [info@bddf.org.uk](mailto:info@bddf.org.uk)

W: [www.bddf.org.uk](http://www.bddf.org.uk)

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