

# AVSED

Supporting Aireborough Seniors for over 30 years



## Annual Report April 2022 to March 2023

Established in 1992 -		In the summer we reached our 30th anniversary and held a grand party
LCC began supporting us in 1994 - Purchased our 1st	- 1993 we had 2 staff,	to celebrate all the achievements so far
	64 volunteers, 130 members	
	- 1995 Registered as a charity	
minibus in 1996 - Incorporated charitable company in 2016 -	- 2005 Officially became A Neighbourhood Network Scheme	<image/>
	- 2020 /22 made it through Covid with a relaunch & rebrand	

**AVSED** is a local charity working to prevent social isolation and loneliness for Aireborough seniors by supporting happy, healthy and independent living

# **Charity Details**

Registered address:

Nunroyd Pavilion, Nunroyd Park, Yeadon, Leeds. LS19 7HR Moving to Greenacre Hall - November 2023

Tel: 0113 250 1702 Email: info@avsed.org.uk Web: www.avsed.org.uk All Socials : AVSEDest1992

#### Aims and Objectives, as set out in the "Articles of Association"

AVSED is established for the following charitable purposes for the benefit of older people (over 60 years of age) living in the community of Aireborough (LS19 and LS20 postcodes) in the city of Leeds:

1) For the public benefit to relieve the charitable needs of older people in particular but not exclusively by relieving their loneliness and isolation and by promoting and supporting their independence.

2) To promote the social inclusion of older people by preventing them from being socially excluded and assisting them to better integrate into society.

3) To promote the health and wellbeing of older people for the public benefit.

4) To advance education for the public benefit.

#### **Directors and Trustees**

Ken Elliott - Chair Sheila Bower - Vice Chair Neil Moffoot - Outgoing Treasurer Wendy Hanson - Secretary Christine Pearce Roy Blanshard Elaine O'Brien Susan Doubtfire Graham Latty Richard Gray - Incoming Treasurer from May 23

Advisors:

Local ward Councillors Ryk Downs (Yeadon & Otley) and Paul Wadsworth (Guiseley & Rawdon)

### **Charity Background**

AVSED is a charitable company and was registered with the Charity Commission on 29th February 2016 (number 1165792) and the company was registered on 20th November 2015 (company number 09882948). The charitable company commenced operations on 1st April 2016 and inherited the assets and contracts of the former charity, also known as "AVSED" (Aireborough Voluntary Services to the Elderly with Disabilities, Charity Number 1048902). This founding charity was initiated in 1992 by a group of caring local people who recognised the loneliness and isolation of older people living in Leeds and first registered as a charity in 1995.

AVSED is managed and run by eight paid staff and supported by a team of registered volunteers. The Board of Trustees consists of nine volunteers who help to guide and support the staff team and ensure the charity is a going concern. The Board is made up of volunteers who reflect the makeup of the organisation. Two local Councillors sit on the Board meetings to provide local information, give support and offer advice.

Membership is free to everyone in the registered area over the age of 60.

AVSED is an independent registered charity, working within the Leeds Older People's Neighbourhood Network which consists of 34 separate organisations spread across the city.

AVSED relies on income, charitable donations and grants to financially secure its position and activities. Its main funders during the year were Leeds City Council and the National Lottery Community Fund.

### **Operational Reports**

#### <u>Chairman's Report</u>

We started the year with our AVSED Relaunch Party at Nunroyd Pavilion which celebrated coming out of Covid 19 and putting into practice all the new projects and plans we had been working on for the future of AVSED. We also used this event to thank all the many people, both inside and outside the organization, who helped us through a very difficult period.

In August we had a major anniversary celebration to mark the 30 years since the formation of AVSED by a group of local people who realised that the elderly of Aireborough needed an organisation to offer help and support in their daily lives.

From that early conception we have grown our membership to over 600, a larger volunteer base, improved transport and professional staff to manage the extra work load and we are proud to be the lead organisation for our Community Anchor which is called 'Aireborough Together'.

The "National Lottery Community Fund" supported our application and we received funding for a further 3 years, and planning is in place to generate more income to relieve the dependency on large grants.

We have applied for a joint partnership bid with OPAL in Cookridge to "Motability" for the supply of 2 new wheelchair- accessible vehicles to support community transport across the Outer North West.

Debbie Fawthrop, our Manager, has been updating all our Policies and Procedures, which is a mammoth task due to changes in legislation over all the areas AVSED covers.

The Trustees, along with all the staff members, are in the process of putting together a new 5 year Strategy Plan which will guide AVSED's aims and objectives for the future.

#### I would like to thank you all for the support given to the AVSED team. We will continue to sustain our commitment to the Seniors of Aireborough.

#### <u>Manager's Report</u>

The current climate for any charity or company is a struggle – everyone is striving to do their best, to achieve bigger and perform better. And here at AVSED we have felt the tremendous burden of harsh cuts to funding, difficulty with cost of living rises, and an increase in the need and stretch of local community services.

But AVSED has remained strong and resilient, facing many challenges and barriers, and has brought a new and developed programme of activities and services to the seniors of Aireborough. This includes a regular programme of 3 health groups, 4 physical exercise classes and 6 social activities, plus an array of ad-hoc, bespoke and person-centred services to support happy, healthy and independent living.

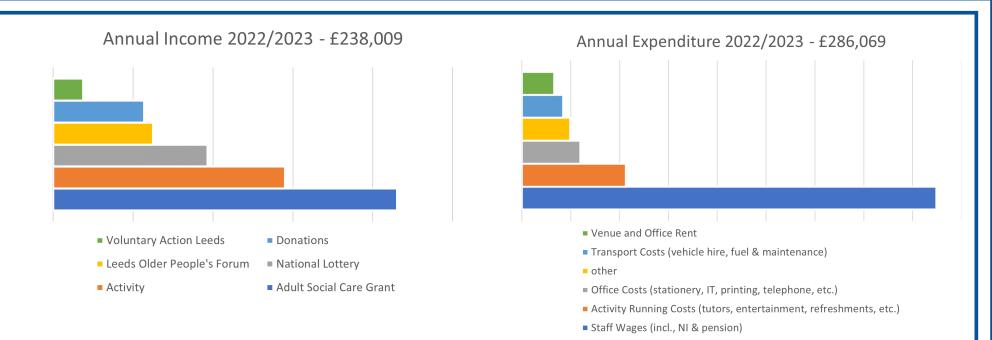
This past year has seen the staff team cement their planning through member and volunteer journeys into grounded facilities that are full to capacity, enjoyable and delivering the right support at right time to our members. The staff team have gone above and beyond in their work to ensure every aspect of our charity is working to its full potential, and I thank them wholeheartedly for their commitment, dedication and hard work.

The AVSED team would not be complete without our amazing volunteers who turn up week after week, supporting us to deliver our work and putting the AVSED caring, friendly and welcoming touch into every session. Thank you very much for every minute of your precious time you give to supporting AVSED from the staff team, all our members and myself. You are truly amazing!

This coming year has already proved to be exceptionally busy – ensuring we are compliant and in order with our governance; making sure every aspect of AVSED is fit for purpose, safe and reflective of a forward– moving and fast-developing community asset.

#### I look forward to discovering all the wonderful things we have lined up for the future and making AVSED the place to be for Aireborough Seniors.

### Finance



Overall, AVSED's finances saw a net loss of £48,060. This loss was expected due to a reduction in our core funding from Adult Social Care, a half-year grant from the National Lottery, and a post-pandemic reduction in general grants and donations overall.

This was coupled with AVSED investing in the staff team, resulting in additional salaries to facilitate the restructure. Moving into the next financial year, the new Strategic Plan sets out AVSED's goal for a stable financial forecast, developing income generation over the next 5 years to sustain growth and reduce reliance

upon grants.

Our Membership remained free throughout the year

Our activity fee didn't change throughout the year

### Our Funders, Supporters & Partners

We are very grateful to everyone who has helped to support us over this year. Support doesn't always mean a grant or funding: many local businesses, statutory services and local partners support us in kind with donations of goods and services; or partnership work on projects; as well as sponsoring our fabulous quarterly newsletters. Every penny, every donation, every act of kindness & hour of support helps AVSED do what we do – even better.

#### A huge thank you to all our Funders, Supporters & Partners

Adult Social Care & Leeds City Council National Lottery - Community Fund Leeds Older People's Forum Voluntary Action Leeds The Little Fisherman Local Councillors Family funeral collections & Legacies Frank Parkinson Trust Aireborough Pacers TTP Local Care Partnership (LCP) Leeds Convalescent Fund Wharfedale View SJK Taxis **Morrish Solicitors** Full Circle Funerals Whitaker Firth Solicitors Ghyll Royd Nursing Home Aireborough Together Community Anchor Group Dynamic Social Support







### The AVSED Team

Our Team developed during 2022 to ensure we were effective in the delivery of our new programme.

Debbie – Scheme Manager Ella – Activities Coordinator Michelle – Volunteer Coordinator Stacey – Membership Coordinator Deborah – Administration and Finance Lead Judith – Dementia & Inclusion Lead Perry – Minibus Driver Jon – Minibus Driver













We are supported by a wonderful team of 88 Volunteers, including 9 Trustees



Our Membership continued to increase throughout the year; as of 31st March 2023 we had 614 members.



### Volunteers

#### 30 million Thank yous and counting! A million for every year you have made possible here at AVSED



8789.2 volunteering hours donated this year - amounting to a real-time saving of nearly **£110 thousand pounds,** if estimated at £12.50 p.h.

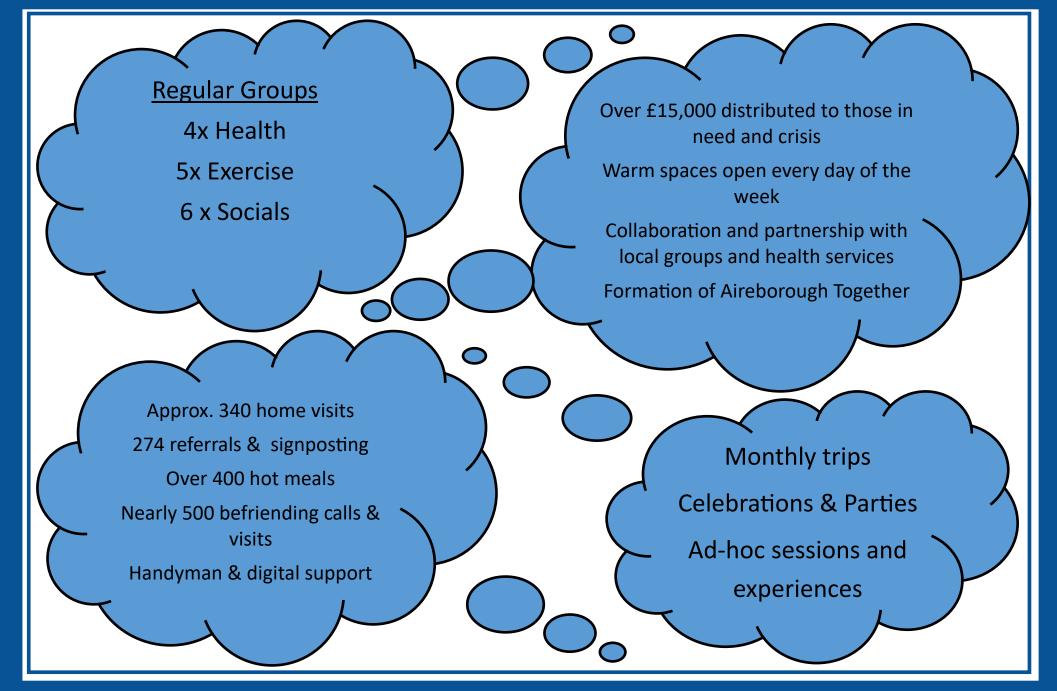


# **Our 30th Birthday Celebration**

This Summer AVSED turned 30 years old - We celebrated in style with a big party to say thank you to everyone who has been involved over 3 decades of supporting Aireborough Seniors.



### Activities & Services





















# The year ahead

As this years AGM rolls around we are already 6 months into the new year and we are far from taking things easy. There is a community of opportunity awaiting us, as we continue to make AVSED the place to be for seniors in Aireborough .

#### Our brand New 5-year Strategy was

#### launched in August 2023

Our Goals for the next 5 years :

- **1.** Adapt to changes in need & capacity.
- 2. Secure long term financial stability and sustainable growth.
- 3. Increase happiness, improve health services and enable independent living.
- 4. Achieve Excellence.
- 5. Enhance Community Development.

The team will begin working towards achieving these goals by developing a number of aims that will structure our work and direction over the coming years.



#### **Moving Premises**

Under goal number 2, we had a strategic aim to research & develop having our own premises.

Here at the AGM, we launch the start of our new premises at Greenacre Hall. This venue is not owned by AVSED, but does give us the opportunity to build capacity and growth due to larger and better facilities and space for both our staff team and the activities we provide. This will be the first step in securing more stability for our future, and a fantastic opportunity to support our 5th goal of enhancing community development as we offer more to the Aireborough region.