

BALLYMOTE & DISTRICT CREDIT UNION LIMITED

The Rock, Ballymote, Co. Sligo Tel: 071 9189022 / 9189022 Email: info@ballymotecreditunion.ie Web: www.ballymotecreditunion.ie

REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

OFFICE HOURS OF BALLYMOTE & DISTRICT CREDIT UNION

Monday - Closed Tues & Wed - 10.00am to 1.30pm Thursday - 10.00am to 5.00pm Friday - 10.00am to 4.00pm Saturday - 10.00am to 1.00pm WE ARE OPEN THROUGH LUNCH

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING in the Coach House Hotel, Ballymote

on Tuesday 18th December 2024 at 6pm

AGENDA

- 1. Ascertainment that a quorum is present;
- 2. Adoption of Standing Orders.
- 3. Reading and approval (or correction) of the minutes of the last annual general meeting.
- 4. Report of the Board of Directors;
- 5. Report of the Manager;
- 6. Report of the Auditor;
- 7. Declaration of dividend / Interest Rebate;
- 8. Report of the Board Oversight Committee;
- 9. Report of the Credit Committee;
- 10. Report of Credit Control Committee;
- 11. Report of Membership Committee;
- 12. Report of the Nomination Committee;
- 13. Appointment of Auditor & Officers;
 - Election of Auditor
 - Election to fill vacancies on the Board Oversight Committee
 - Election to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors
- 14. Amendments to Rules.
- 15. Any other business.
 - a. Motion to change the membership fee from ${\tt \pounds 1.50}$ to ${\tt \pounds 1}$
 - b. Motion to increase the minimum membership share balance from €6.35 to €10
- 16. Close of meeting.

Chairpersons Address – AGM 2024

I am glad to report that we finished the year on an excellent note, with a **healthy surplus**. With the lifting of the lending restriction in 2022, our **loan book has increased significantly** (72%). There has also been a big increase in the amount and duration of loans. Many of our members have been able to undertake substantial home improvements and home extensions with the larger loan amounts on offer. Energy efficiency is one of the key drivers of these larger loans.

With a levelling out of the **inflow of shares**, the cap of €25K for individuals and €50K for clubs and societies, is been kept under review. We would hope to do a full risk analysis in the new year to determine if it would be prudent to increase this level further to facilitate members with larger lodgements.

Although **interest rates** have recently fallen, **investment returns** and investment interest have continued to be stable and a substantial contributor to the income of the Credit Union.

BDCU is mindful of the importance of reducing our **carbon footprint** and measures are being taken to make the building more energy efficient. Actions being considered are additional insulation, installation of solar panels and a more efficient heating system on the first floor. As a first step, an energy monitor is being installed. The physical risks to the building due to climate change have been assessed and it has been determined that the building is not at high risk due to its favourable location on higher ground and without excessive exposure to high winds.

We set up a **social fund** last year and are very happy to report that a wide variety of clubs and groups were recipients of support and sponsorship from the Credit Union. This extended from sports to individual community initiatives in the towns and villages of our common bond. We continue to host the table quiz each year and co-ordinate the art competition, which are very well received by the younger cohort of our membership. We have two entries in the art competition that have gone to national level this year.

We wish to thank the good work of **management and staff** during the year who continue to provide an efficient, effective, and personal service to all members in these times when there is a dearth of personal banking services in the local community and the town.

The Board of Directors and Board Oversight committee are responsible for the general control, direction, and management of the Credit Union. They generously give of their time and expertise voluntarily. Their contribution is hugely important, and they deserve great gratitude.

I would like to offer a huge thanks to **Caroline Queenan** who has been with us for some years and is also sadly leaving us this year.

We need to renew our Board and we appeal for new **volunteers** to come forward to fill positions on the board and other sub committees. You can call in, email or phone for information.

In conclusion, I wish you all a Very Happy Christmas.

Pauline Brennan Chair

Managers Address

Key Developments

- The Credit Union has seen a big **increase in lending** due to the lifting of the lending restriction in 2022. We have a loan book of €10.5m with 951 borrowers. That means, nearly a 1000 people spending locally. These funds are circulating around in the local economy allowing members to move forward with a variety of purchases and projects, providing local employment and allowing development. Members borrow for everything, from new washing machines to major retrofit projects. The Credit Union is there to try and help and support the community from a financial perspective.
- There have been very good investment returns over the last 2 years with the high level of interest rates. This provides the Credit Union with significant additional income and allows the Credit Union to build up its reserves for a rainy day. Between good investment returns and increasing loan interest, we are able to build our reserves and put a higher level of funds into the community fund. The community fund stands at €35k this year. This will allow us to support and assist local groups in the community during the next year, while also building a reserve for bigger projects in the future in the community.
- The large increases in net savings year on year moderated significantly in the final half of the year. The trend is for significant increases in the first half of the year due to government credits and farm payments. In the second half of the year, these funds tend to flow out as members undertake projects and bigger purchased during the spring and summer. As mentioned by Pauline, we would hope to review the member share limit of €25k this year.
- We had a Central Bank engagement at year end. They sampled a number of loans and review a variety of other areas such as strategy and governance. The will issue a risk mitigation plan (RMP) – recommendations on how to run the Credit Union more effectively – in due course which we will have to action. This will take time and resources but should result in a stronger Credit Union.
- Credit Unions are issued with reports on a quarterly basis from the Irish League of Credit Unions (ILCU) which allows them to **benchmark** (measure) their **performance** against other Credit Unions on a range of key measures. For example, last year (Sept 2023) we had the second highest loan growth in the country on a % basis. So, for our size, we gave out more loans than most other Credit Unions in the country. This was due to the increase in out lending limit to €50k. On most measures (KPIs) such as capital reserves, return on assets, income to expenses and arrears we compare quite favourably to our peers and we will continue to try and maintain this level of performance.

The Future

- Product Development We are currently considering some of the following:
 - o Business Accounts
 - o Business Loans
- Increase in the Savings limit
 - We will consider raising the member savings limit of €25k in the new year. A full analysis and risk assessment will have to be undertaken before any action is taken.
- Online functionality
 - We will look to further develop our online functionality further to provide a faster and more efficient loan and member joining service.
- Volunteers
 - We are always looking for members to participate on the board or on some of the committees of the Credit Union. Please contact us if you have an interest in volunteering.

We continue to follow our main objective, which it to remain as a standalone Credit Union working in the best interests of our members and the surrounding area. On that basis, I would like to thank the board and board oversight for all their work during the year. As volunteers they give up their time and energy to help move the Credit Union forward in the best interests of the community and its members. I would also like to thank all the staff for all their hard work during the year.

Yours Sincerely Baruch Scully

Accounts

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd Report and Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

DHKN Limited Registered Auditors Galway Financial Services Centre Moneenageisha Road Galway

Registered Number: 444CU

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd

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Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd DIRECTORS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Pauline Brennan (Chairperson) Directors Keith Henry Michael Doddy Peter Lyons Derek Tighe Sile Feely Fiona Dunleavy Maureen Lavin (Resigned 19 December 2023) Caroline Queenan (Resigned 19 December 2023) Padraic Rogers (Appointed 19 December 2023) Collette Lavin (Appointed 19 December 2023) Hubert Killoran **Board Oversight Committee Members** Mary McGettrick Mary Porter (Resigned 19 December 2023) Caroline Queenan (Appointed 19 December 2023) 444CU Credit Union Number The Rock **Registered Office and Business Address** Ballymote Co.Sligo DHKN Limited Auditors Galway Financial Services Centre Moneenageisha Road Galway Bankers Allied Irish Bank plc 26 Stephen Street Sligo Co.Sligo Danske Bank 3 Harbourmaster Place International Financial Services Dublin 1 O' Connor Johnson Solicitors O'Connell Street Ballymote Solicitors

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Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd

for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Credit Union and of the income and expenditure of the Credit Union for that financial year. In preparing these financial statements the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the credit union will continue in business.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements. The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Credit Union and enable them to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable Irish law and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including the standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, and in particular FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Credit Union and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the Credit Union's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the Credit Union's auditor is unaware, and
- the directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Credit Union's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf by:

Member of the Board of Directors

Member of the Board of Directors

Date

STATEMENT OF BOARD OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) requires the appointment of a Board Oversight Committee to assess whether the board of directors has operated in accordance with Part IV, Part IV (a) and any regulations made for the purposes of Part IV or Part IV(a) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) and any other matter prescribed by the Central Bank in respect of which they are to have regard in relation to the board.

Approved on behalf of the Board Oversight Committee

Member of the Board Oversight Committee

Member of the Board Oversight Committee

Date

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd REPORT OF THE BOARD OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

Every Credit Union must elect a Board Oversight Committee consisting of 3 or 5 members. The Board Oversight Committee must assess whether the Board of Directors have operated in accordance with Part IV & IV(a) of the Credit Union Act 1997, as amended, and any regulation or direction of the Registrar or Central Bank. The Board Oversight Committee of the Credit Union hold at least one meeting in every month, and meet with the Board of Directors at least 4 times in every year to facilitate carrying out the oversight role.

The Board Oversight Committee submits a written report to the Board of Directors on their assessment of whether the Board of Directors has operated in accordance with the Credit Union Act 1997, as amended, and any regulation or direction of the Registrar or Central Bank. The Board Oversight Committee has access, at all times, to the books and documents of the Credit Union, to enable it to carry out its functions under the Act and members of the Board Oversight Committee have the right to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and all meetings of Committees of the Credit Union. The Board Oversight Committee ensures that at least one of its members attends every meeting of the Board of Directors. The Board Oversight Committee may notify the Central Bank of any concern it has, that the Board of Directors has not complied with any of the requirements and the Board Oversight Committee shall report to the Members at the Annual General Meeting and, if it thinks fit, at a Special General Meeting, on whether the Board of Directors has operated in accordance with Credit Union Act 1997, as amended, and any regulation or direction of the registrar or Central Bank.

For the year ended 30 September 2024, the Board Oversight Committee wish to report that no matters have come to their attention that indicates that the Directors have not complied with Part IV or IV(a) Credit Union Act 1997, as amended, and any regulation or direction of the Registrar or Central Bank. We extend our thanks to the Board of Directors, C.E.O., Management and Staff for their courtesy, assistance and co-operation during the year

Mary me Geltrick Member of the Board Oversight Committee Member of the Board Oversight Committee

Date: 4/12/24

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT to the Members of Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd for the financial year ended 30 September 2024 which comprise the Revenue Account, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Changes in Equity, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council and the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the assets, liabilities, and financial position of the Credit Union as at 30 September 2024 and of its surplus for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described below in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Credit Union in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Credit Union's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended)

- In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:
- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion proper accounting records have been kept by the Credit Union.
- Properly audited and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Respective responsibilities

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities as set out on page 4, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT to the Members of Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd

In preparing the financial statements, the directors' are responsible for assessing the Credit Union's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Credit Union or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Further details relating to our work as auditor is set out in the Scope of Responsibilities Statement contained in the appendix of this report, which is to be read as an integral part of our report.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our report is made solely to the Credit Union's members, as a body, in accordance with section 120 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Credit Union's members those matters 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 Credit Union and the Credit Union's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DHKN Limited

DHKN LIMITED Registered Auditors Galway Financial Services Centre Moneenageisha Road Galway

04/12/2024 Date:

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd APPENDIX TO THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are
 appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Credi
 Union's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Credit Union's ability to continue as going concerns. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Credit Union to cease to continue as going concerns.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and
 whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair
 presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd REVENUE ACCOUNT

for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

	2024	2023
Notes	€	€
	750 445	644 406
		641,406 216,264
5	275,118	210,204
	1.034.233	857,670
7	3,929	5,658
	1,038,162	863,328
8	253,384	235,893
	283,907	278,285
	35,733	28,201
12.4	52,083	55,282
		(
	625 107	597.661
	413,055	265,667
	V • 2	-
	413 055	265,667
	4 5 7 8	Notes € 4 759,115 5 275,118 7 3,929 1,038,162 8 253,384 283,907 35,733

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on __and signed on its behalf by;

Manager

Date

Paulie Brenvan 04/12/24

Chairperson

The notes on pages 13 to 27 form part of the financial statements

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 30 September 2024

		2024	2023
	Notes	€	€
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	10	2,090,331	862,560
Property, plant and equipment	11	362,315	396,068
Loans to members	12	10,703,114	9,019,226
Provision for bad debts	12	(613,793)	(532,493)
Prepayments	13	89,341	69,009
Accrued income	13	101,856	108,569
Deposits and investments	14	11,604,533	13,003,557
T-1-1-1-1-		04 007 007	00.000.400
Total Assets		24,337,697	22,926,496
Liabilities			
Members' shares	15	19,524,075	18,506,294
Trade Creditors and Other Accruals	16	106,865	122,100
Total Liabilities		19,630,940	18,628,394
Net Assets		4,706,757	4,298,102
Members' Resources	47	0 500 070	0 407 000
Regulatory reserve	17	2,562,276	2,407,282
Distribution reserve	17 17	100,217	100,217
Operational risk reserve	17	105,186	105,186
Other reserves		1,939,078	1,685,417
Total Members' Resources		4,706,757	4,298,102

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf by:

Manager

Chairperson

Date

Paulie Brenne. 04/12/24

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Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

Regulatory Distribution Operational reserve reserve risk	E E E	At 1 October 2022 Surplus allocation in financial year	At 30 September 2023 2,407,282 100,217 105,186	At 1 October 2023 Surplus allocation in financial year Distribution from reserves 154,994 - 105,186	At 30 September 2024 205,186 100,217 105,186
Un	erve reserve € €	186 27,751 · 47,931	186 75,682	186 75,682 - 42,863	186 118,545
	ŧ	1,579,160 30,575	1,609,735	1,609,735 373,655 (197,857)	1,785,533
General Community reserve fund	÷	1.3		- 39,400 (4,400)	35,000
Total	÷	4,032,435 265,667	4,298,102	4,298,102 413,055 (4,400)	4,706,757

The Regulatory Reserve of the Credit Union as a % of the total assets as at 30th September 2024 was 10.53% which is in excess of the Credit Union's Regulatory Reserve requirement of 10%.

The General reserve relates to the accumulated, realised and unallocated reserves of the credit union.

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Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

٩	lotes	2024 €	2023 €
Opening cash and cash equivalents		862,560	.3,919,601
Cash flows from operating activities Loans repaid Loans granted Loan interest income Investment income Other revenue received Bad debts recovered Operating expenses Distribution from reserves Movement in other assets Movement in other liabilities Net cash used in operating activities		3,253,934 (4,951,571) 761,190 275,118 3,929 42,966 (537,291) (4,400) (15,694) (15,235) (1,187,054)	3,073,283 (5,387,516) 639,597 216,264 5,658 45,999 (514,178) (82,322) (4,300) (2,007,515)
Cash flows from investing activities Purchase of property, plant and equipment Net cash flow from other investing activities Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities		(1,980) 1,399,024 1,397,044	(701) (2,569,944) (2,570,645)
Cash flows from financing activities Members' shares received Members' shares withdrawn Net cash generated from financing activities		12,006,610 (10,988,829) 1,017,781	11,144,007 (9,622,888) 1,521,119
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	10	1,227,771 2,090,331	(3,057,041) 862,560

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf by:

Manager

Chairperson

Raulie Blenna 04/12/24

Date

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for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

1. LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd is established under the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). The Credit Union is registered with the Registrar of Credit Unions and is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. The principal place of business is The Rock, Ballymote, Co.Sligo.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following principal accounting policies have been applied;

Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Irish accounting standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102) and Irish statute comprising of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

Currency

The financial statements are prepared in Euro (\in), which is the functional currency of the Credit Union. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest Euro.

Going concern

After reviewing the Credit Union's projections, the directors have reasonable expectation that the Credit Union has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Credit Union therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Credit Union and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received. The following criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

(i) Interest on members' loans

The Credit Union Act 1997 (as amended) requires that Interest on Members' Loans is recognised when payment is received (i.e. on a cash basis). This is not in accordance with accounting practice generally, but is consistent with normal practice for Irish credit unions. FRS 102 and accounting practice generally would require that interest be recognised using the effective interest method accrued on a daily basis. Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited accounts for interest on members' loans using the effective interest method and is accrued on a daily basis. Interest on members' loans is included in the financial statements in the period in which it is earned.

(ii) Investment income

Investment income is recognised when received or irrevocably receivable. Investments are recognised at cost less any permanent diminution in capital value but ignoring any increase in capital value or encashment value until realised in the form of cash or cash equivalents.

Dividend and loan interest rebate

Dividends are made from current year's surplus or the dividend reserves set aside for that purpose. The Board's proposed distribution to members each year is based on the dividend and loan interest rebate policy of the Credit Union.

The rate of dividend and loan interest rebate recommended by the Board will reflect:

- the risk profile of the Credit Union, particularly in its loan and investment portfolios;
- the Board's desire to maintain a stable rather than a volatile rate of dividend each year; and
- members' legitimate dividend and loan interest rebate expectations;

all dominated by prudence and the need to sustain the long-term welfare of the Credit Union.

For this reason the Board will seek to build up its reserves to absorb unexpected shocks and still remain above minimum regulatory requirements. The Credit Union accounts for dividends and rebates of loan interest when members ratify such payments at the Annual General Meeting.

Taxation

The Credit Union is not subject to income tax or corporation tax on its activities as a credit union.

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

continued

Investments

Investment income is recognised on an accrual basis.

Fixed-term deposits

Term deposits and fixed interest investment bonds with fixed maturity dates are valued at the lower of cost or encashment value and interest is recognised in the income statement when it is received or irrevocably receivable

Bank bonds

With profit bonds with capital guaranteed are valued at cost. Declared bonuses are recognised in the income statement when irrevocably receivable or earlier if the bond becomes realisable in the form of cash or cash equivalents in a secondary market. Terminal bonuses are recognised in the income statement when the Credit Union becomes irrevocably entitled to receive them.

Commodities and other bonds

Income is recognised once it is "locked in" and irrevocably receivable. The capital value of the bond is tested annually for impairment and impairment losses are taken to the income statement. Impairment gains which reverse a previous impairment loss are taken to the income statement with any gains in excess of the cost of the product ignored until the bond matures.

Held at amortised cost

Investments designated on initial recognition as held at amortised cost are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment. This means that the investment is measured at the amount paid for the investment, minus any repayments of the principal; plus or minus the cumulative amortisation using the effective interest method of any difference between the amount at initial recognition and the maturity amount, minus, in the case of a financial asset, any reduction for impairment or uncollectability.

Central Bank deposits

Credit Unions are obliged to maintain certain deposits with the Central Bank. These deposits are technically assets of the credit union but to which the Credit Union has restricted access. The funds on deposit with the Central Bank attract nominal interest and will not ordinarily be returned to the credit union while it is a going concern. The amounts are stated at the amount deposited plus accrued income and are not subject to impairment reviews.

Investments at fair value

Investments held for trading and investment in stock market shares (i.e. non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary shares or preference shares) are included in this category. Financial assets at fair value are classified as held for trading if they are acquired for sale in the short term. They are valued at fair value (market value) at the year end date and all gains and losses are taken to the revenue account. The fair value of quoted investments is determined by reference to bid prices at the close of business on the balance sheet date. Where there is no active market these assets will be carried at cost less impairment.

Property, plant and equipment and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Land and buildings freehold	50 years Straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	8 years Straight line
Computer equipment	5 years Straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the Revenue account.

Impairment of tangible fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Credit Union reviews the carrying value of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Credit Union estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects

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current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in the Revenue account.

Recognised impairment losses are reversed if, and only if, the reasons for the impairment loss have ceased to apply. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the Revenue account.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. Therefore, an investment normally qualifies as a cash equivalent only when it has a short maturity of, say, three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Financial instruments

The Credit Union has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments. Financial instruments are recognised when the Credit Union becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when, and only when, there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. Financial assets and liabilities are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets are initially measured at the transaction price, including transaction costs, and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Basic financial instruments include the following:

Loans to members

Loans to members are financial assets with fixed or determinable payments. Loans are recognised when cash is advanced to members and measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Other Receivables

Other receivables such as prepayments are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

De-recognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the Credit Union transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

In the case of loans to members, loans are derecognised, when the right to receive cash flows from the loans have expired, usually when all amounts outstanding have been repaid by the member. The Credit Union does not transfer loans to third parties.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the expected cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate.

In the case of impairment of loans to members, the loans are assessed collectively in groups that share similar credit risk characteristics except for individually significant loans which are assessed on a loan by loan basis for impairment.

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

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Any impairment losses are recognised in the Revenue account.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in the Revenue account.

Investments held at amortised cost

Investments held at amortised cost are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment. This means that the investment is measured at the amount paid for the investment, minus any repayments of the principal; plus or minus the cumulative amortisation using the effective interest method of any difference between the amount at initial recognition and the maturity amount; minus, in the case of a financial asset, any reduction for impairment or un-collectability. This effectively spreads out the return on such investments over time, but does take account immediately of any impairment in the value of the investment.

Other Financial Instruments

Other financial assets are initially measured at fair value and are subsequently carried at fair value with changes to fair value recognised in the income & expenditure annually.

Bad debt provision

Bad debts written off and bad debts recovered are included in the Income Statement. Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited assesses, at each balance sheet date, if there is objective evidence that any of its loans to members are impaired. The loans are assessed collectively in groups that share similar credit risk characteristics. Individually significant loans are assessed on a loan by loan basis.

Bad debts in the Credit Union are recognised when there is a reasonable doubt that the full amount of principle will not be collected, or the financial capacity of the borrower has deteriorated such that the recovery of the whole, or part of an outstanding loan advanced is in doubt. In all cases where it is impractical to estimate the recoverable amount, the carrying amount is reduced to zero.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities are initially recognised at the transaction price, including transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Members' shares

Members shares are redeemable and are therefore classified as financial liabilities.

Other payables

Other payables are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Other payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

De-recognition of financial liability

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligations of the Credit Union specified in the contract are discharged, cancelled or expire.

Holiday pay

A liability is recognised to the extent of any unused holiday pay entitlement which is accrued at the Balance Sheet date and carried forward to future periods. This is measured at the undiscounted salary cost of the future holiday entitlement so accrued at the Balance Sheet date.

Pensions

The Credit Union operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Credit Union. Annual contributions payable to the Credit Union's pension scheme are charged to the Revenue Account in the period to which they relate.

Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited also participates in an industry-wide pension scheme for employees (The Irish League of Credit Unions Republic of Ireland Pension Scheme). This is a funded defined benefit scheme with assets managed by the Scheme's trustees. The ILCU is the principal employer of the Scheme, and Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited is a participating employer.

The scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit Scheme and there is insufficient information for Ballymote and

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for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

District Credit Union Limited to separately identify its share of the Scheme's underlying assets and liabilities. Consequently, the Scheme is currently accounted for as a defined contribution plan.

If an agreement is entered into with the Scheme that determines how Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited will fund a past service deficit, Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited shall recognise a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement (to the extent that they relate to the deficit).

Distribution

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd's policy is to pay a reasonable rate of dividend and loan interest rebate subject to covering operating expenses and meeting reserve requirements as set out in the Credit Union's Reserve Management Policy.

Reserves

Regulatory reserve

The Credit Union is required to maintain and establish a minimum Regulatory reserve of at least 10% of the assets of the Credit Union in accordance with Credit Union Act 1997 (Regulatory Requirements) Regulations 2016.

Operational risk reserve

The Credit Union has established an Operational Risk reserve under Section 45(5)(a) of the Credit Union Act (as amended) which is separate, distinct and in addition to the reserves the Credit Union is required to hold in its Regulatory reserve. The Credit Union has adopted the 'Basic Indicator Approach' as proposed under Basel II capital adequacy rules in calculating the minimum amounts to be held in this reserve.

Dividend reserve

Distribution reserves are the accumulated surpluses to date that have not been declared as dividends or loan interest rebate returnable to members or set aside to the Regulatory or Operational Risk reserves.

Non-Distributable Investment Income reserve

Investment income that has been recognised in the financial statements but will not be received within 12 months of the Balance Sheet date is classified as "non-distributable" and is not distributable as a dividend in accordance with Section 31 of the Credit Union Act 1997 (Regulatory Requirements) Regulations 2016. A reclassification between non-distributable and distributable is made as investments come to within 12 months of maturity date.

General Reserve

General reserves were established to maintain and develop the business model of the Credit Union.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENT AND ESTIMATES 3.

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain accounting estimates. It also requires the Directors to exercise judgement in applying the credit union's accounting policies. The areas requiring a higher degree of judgement, or complexity, and areas where assumptions or estimates are most significant to the financial statements are disclosed below:

Impairment losses on loans to members

The Credit Union's accounting policy for impairment of financial assets is set out in accounting policies. The estimation of loan losses is inherently uncertain and depends upon many factors, including loan loss trends, credit risk characteristics in loan classes, local and international economic climates, conditions in various sectors of the economy to which the Credit Union is exposed, and, other external factors such as legal and regulatory requirements. Credit risk is identified, assessed and measured through the use of rating and scoring tools with emphasis on weeks in arrears and other observable credit risk metrics. The ratings influence the management of individual loans. The credit rating triggers the impairment assessment and if relevant the raising of specific provisions on individual loans where there is doubt about their recoverability. Loan loss provisioning is monitored by the Credit Union, and the Credit Union assesses and approves its provisions and provision adequacy on a quarterly basis. Key assumptions underpinning the Credit Union's estimates of collective provisions for loans with similar credit risk characteristics, and, Incurred But Not Reported provisions ("IBNR") are based on the historical experiences of the Credit Union's allied to the Credit Union's judgement of relevant conditions in the wider technological, market, economic or legal environment in which the Credit Union operates. If a loan is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount of the loan and the present value of the expected cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate taking account of pledged shares and other security as appropriate. Assumptions are back tested with the benefit of experience. After a

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for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

period of time, when it is concluded that there is no real prospect of recovery of loans/part of loans which have been subjected to a specific provision, the Credit Union writes off that amount of the loan deemed irrecoverable against the specific provision held against the loan.

Depreciation of Property, plant & equipment

The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated useful economic lives of each type of asset and estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these asset useful economic lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of perspective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset useful lives can have an impact on depreciation and amortisation charges for the period. Details of the useful economic lives is included in the accounting policies.

Pensions

Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited participates in an industry-wide pension scheme for employees (The Irish League of Credit Unions Republic of Ireland Pension Scheme). This is a funded scheme of the defined benefit type, with assets invested in separate trustee administered funds. Judgement is required to assess whether Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited has sufficient information to enable it to account for the plan as a defined benefit plan. An assessment has been performed of the information currently available and Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited has determined that there is currently insufficient information available to provide an appropriate allocation of pension assets and liabilities due to the following:

- Scheme assets are not segregated or tracked by contributing employers. There is insufficient information to appropriately allocate the assets to individual employers as contributions paid are pooled in a single fund and none of the contributing employers have separately segregated asset pools.

- Orphan members are those members (including pensioners) who previously contributed to the scheme where their employer has paid an exit cost and as a result has no further liability to the scheme. A pension liability continues to exist for these individual members. There is uncertainty around where the obligation rests in respect of orphan members currently and into the future.

- The Funding Plan calculations are based on each employer's share of liabilities at a point in time. This does not infer that each employer is contributing towards its liabilities. The determination of the contribution rate is a point in time assessment and is not updated subsequently for changes in the employers' liability that may occur in the future. Subsequently, as the profile of the scheme continues to change, there will continue to be a natural cross subsidisation.

INTEREST ON MEMBERS' LOANS 4.

5.

	2024 €	2023 €
Closing accrued interest receivable Loan interest received in financial year Opening accrued Ioan interest receivable	20,126 761,190 (22,201)	22,201 639,597 (20,392)
	759,115	641,406
OTHER INTEREST INCOME AND SIMILAR INCOME	2024 €	2023 €
Investment income received Investment income receivable within 12 months	193,388 81,730	129,896 86,368
	275,118	216,264

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

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6. INTEREST PAYABLE AND DIVIDENDS

At the financial year-end the directors have allocated the amount of €100,217 to the Distribution Reserve which may be returned to the members by way of dividend and a loan interest rebate by way of resolution by a majority of the members at the annual general meeting. No dividend distribution has been proposed in respect of the current or previous financial years.

7. OTHER REVENUE

	2024 €	2023 €
Entrance fees Miscellaneous income	165 3,764	164 5,494
	3,929	5,658

8. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

The average monthly number of employees during the financial year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Key management personnel	2	2
Other staff	7	7
	9	9
The staff costs comprise:	2024	2023
	€	€
Wages and salaries	214,324	197,976
Social security costs	22,933	20,733
Pension costs	16,127	17,184
	253,384	235,893

9. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows;

	2024 €	2023 €
Remuneration (including employer PRSI) Pension	87,060 7,840	75,759 6,828
Total key management personnel compensation	94,900	82,587

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for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS 10.

Cash and cash equivalents comprise of cash on hand and deposits and investments with a maturity of less than or equal to three months. 2024 2023

	€	€
Cash and bank balances Cash equivalents	1,956,230 134,101	618,854 243,706
	2,090,331	862,560

Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. Therefore, an investment normally qualifies as and that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. Therefore, an investment normally qualities as a cash equivalent only when it has a short maturity of, say, three months or less from the date of acquisition. Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. Therefore, an investment normally qualifies as a cash equivalent only when it has a short maturity of, say, three months or less from the date of acquisition.

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT 11.

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	Land and buildings	Fixtures, fittings and	Computer equipment	Total
	freehold €	equipment €	€	€
Cost			0.5.400	540 540
At 1 October 2023	379,482	68,958	95,108	543,548
Additions		839	1,141	1,980
At 30 September 2024	379,482	69,797	96,249	545,528
Depreciation				
At 1 October 2023	41,932	47,794	57,754	147,480
Charge for the financial year	7,590	6,046	22,097	35,733
At 30 September 2024	49,522	53,840	79,851	183,213
Net book value				
At 30 September 2024	329,960	15,957	16,398	362,315
At 30 September 2023	337,550	21,164	37,354	396,068

continued

for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

LOANS TO MEMBERS - FINANCIAL ASSETS LOANS TO MEMBERS 12. 12.1

12.1	LOANS TO MEMBERS				
				2024 €	2023 €
	As at 1 October			9,019,226	6,729,965
	Advanced during the financial year			4,951,571	5,387,516
	Repaid during the financial year			(3,253,934)	(3,073,283)
	Loans written off			(13,749)	(24,972)
	Gross loans to members		12.2	10,703,114	9,019,226
	Impairment allowances				
	The provision for bad debts is analysed as follows;				
	Individual loans			(178,832)	(217,467)
	Grouped loans			(434,961)	(315,026)
	Loan provision		12.3	(613,793)	(532,493)
	As at 30 September		12.2	10,089,321	8,486,733
1 2 .2	CREDIT RISK DISCLOSURES				
		2024	2024	2023	2023
		€	%	€	%
	Gross loans not impaired			020212121212121210	
	Not past due	9,894,663	92.45	8,329,654	92.35
	Gross loans individually impaired				
	Not past due	321,838	3.01	272,299	3.02
	Up to 9 weeks past due	227,894	2.13	146,434	1,62
	Between 10 and 18 weeks past due	67,525	0.63	48,599	0.54
	Between 19 and 26 weeks past due	41,261	0.38	17,099	0.19
	Between 27 and 39 weeks past due	39,988	0.37	48,554	0.54
	Between 40 and 52 weeks past due	23,263	0.22	40,462	0.45
	53 or more weeks past due	86,682	0.81	116,125	1.29
	Total	808,451	7.55	689,572	7.65
	Total gross loans	10,703,114	100.00	9,019,226	100.00
	Impairment allowance			2	
	Individually significant loans	(178,832)		(217,467)	
	Collectively assessed loans	(434,961)		(315,026)	
	Total carrying value	10,089,321		8,486,733	
12.3	LOAN PROVISION ACCOUNT FOR IMPAIRMENT	LOSSES			
				2024 €	2023 €
	As at 1 October			532,493	456,184

As at 1 October	532,493	456,184
Allowance for loan losses made during the financial year Allowances reversed during the financial year	(13,749) 95,049	(24,972) 101,281
Increase in loan provision during the financial year	81,300	76,309
As at 30 September	613,793	532,493

continued

for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

NET RECOVERIES OR LOSSES RECOGNISED FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 12.4 2024 2023 € € (45,999) (42,966) Bad debts recovered 81,300 76,309 Reduction 38,334 30,310 13,749 24,972 Loans written off Net (recoveries)/losses on loans to members recognised for the financial year 55,282 52,083 ANALYSIS OF GROSS LOANS OUTSTANDING 12.5 2023 2023 2024 2024 Number Number € of loans € of loans 305,450 302,485 162 179 Less than one year 282 1,320,696 Greater than 1 year and less than 3 years 1,340,883 260 2,071,507 Greater than 3 years and less than 5 years 188 1,781,234 203 342 7,242,311 249 5,324,538 Greater than 5 years and less than 10 years 33,236 Greater than 10 years and less than 25 years 1 913 9,019,226 953 10,703,114 RECEIVABLES, PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME 13. 2023 2024 € € 69,009 89,341 Prepayments 101,856 108,569 Accrued income 191,197 177,578 DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS 14. 2024 2023 € € 4,430,370 5,881,862 Fixed-term deposits 7,087,856 7,044,993 Bank bonds 86,307 76,702 Central Bank minimum deposits 11,604,533 13,003,557 **MEMBERS' SHARES - FINANCIAL LIABILITIES** 15. 2024 2023 € € 16,985,175 As at 1 October 18,506,294 Received during the financial year 12,006,610 11,144,007 (10, 988, 829)(9,622,888)Repaid during the financial year 19,524,075 18,506,294 As at 30 September

Members' shares are repayable on demand except for shares attached to loans. The breakdown of the shares between attached and unattached is as below;

continued

for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

		2024 €	2023 €
	Unattached shares Attached shares	18,313,643 1,210,432	17,375,874 1,130,420
	Total	19,524,075	18,506,294
•	OTHER PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS	2024 €	2023 €
	Other payables	106,865	122,100

17. CREDIT UNION RESERVES

16.

	Regulatory reserve	Distribution reserve	Operational risk reserve	Other reserves	Total
	€	€	€	€	€
At 1 October 2023	2,407,282	100,217	105,186	1,685,417	4,298,102
Surplus allocation in financial year Other movement in reserves	154,994	10 10	-	413,055 (159,394)	413,055 (4,400)
At 30 September 2024	2,562,276	100,217	105,186	1,939,078	4,706,757

The Regulatory Reserve of the Credit Union as a % of the total assets as at 30th September 2024 was 10.53% (30th September 2023: 10.50%) which is in excess of the Credit Union's Regulatory Reserve requirement of 10%.

The Operational Risk Reserve of the Credit Union as a % of the total assets as at 30th September 2024 was .43% (30th September 2023: .46%)

The General reserve relates to the accumulated, realised and unallocated reserves of the credit union.

Regulatory reserve

The Credit Union is required to maintain and establish a minimum Regulatory reserve of at least 10% of the assets of the Credit Union in accordance with Credit Union Act 1997 (Regulatory Requirements) Regulations 2016.

Following the commencement of Section 13 of the 2012 Act, the requirement for Credit Unions to transfer 10% of their annual surplus to their Statutory Reserve (now known as the Regulatory Reserve) each financial year has been removed. Notwithstanding this the Board of Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd has transferred €154,994 of its current financial year surplus to its regulatory reserve.

Distribution reserve

Distribution reserves are the accumulated surpluses to date that have not been declared as dividends or loan interest rebate returnable to members or set aside to the Regulatory or Operational Risk reserves.

Operational risk reserve

The Credit Union has established an Operational Risk reserve under Section 45(5)(a) of the Credit Union Act (as amended) which is separate, distinct and in addition to the reserves the Credit Union is required to hold in its Regulatory reserve. The Credit Union has adopted the 'Basic Indicator Approach' as proposed under Basel II capital adequacy rules in calculating the minimum amounts to be held in this reserve. At the balance sheet date, the Operational Risk Reserve amounted to 0.43% (2023: 0.46%) of total assets.

Other reserves

Other reserves are comprised of the Credit Union's General reserve.

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

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18. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Credit Union is a provider of personal and business loans and also provides savings products to its members. The Credit Union invests excess funds with a view to ensuring that the return from members' loans and investments is adequate to meet the overheads of the Credit Union and provide a reasonable return to members on shares. The Credit Union has a risk register in place to help the directors manage the various risks arising from its activities to include the issuing of loans to members and investing the excess funds of the Credit Union.

The main financial risks arising from the Credit Union's activities are credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. The Board reviews and agrees policies for managing each of these risks, which are summarised below.

Credit Risk:

Credit risk is the risk that a borrower will default on their contractual obligations relating to repayments to the credit union, resulting in financial loss to the Credit Union. In order to manage this risk the Board approves the Credit Union's credit policy, and all changes to it. All loan applications are assessed with reference to the credit policy in force at the time. Subsequently loans are regularly reviewed for any factors that may indicate that the likelihood of repayment has changed.

The Credit Union's investments are also exposed to credit risk and the Credit Union mitigates the risk by only placing investments with financial institutions where the counterparties have strong credit ratings and using investment products authorised by the Central Bank.

Liquidity Risk:

The Credit Union's policy is to maintain sufficient funds in liquid form at all times to ensure that it can meet its liabilities as they fall due. The Credit Union adheres on an ongoing basis to the minimum liquidity ratio and minimum short term liquidity ratio as set out in the Credit Union Act 1997 (Regulatory Requirements) Regulations 2016 and the Credit Union Act 1997 (Regulatory Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations 2018.

Market Risk:

Market risk is generally comprised of interest rate risk, currency risk and other price risk. The Credit Union conducts all its transactions in Euro and does not deal in derivatives or commodity markets. Therefore, the Credit Union is not exposed to any form of currency risk or other price risk.

Interest Rate Risk:

The Credit Union's main interest rate risk arises from differences between the interest rate exposures on the receivables and payables that form an integral part of a Credit Union's operations. The Credit Union considers rates of interest receivable on investments and members' loans when deciding on the dividend rate payable on shares and on any loan interest rebate.

18.1 INTEREST RATE RISK DISCLOSURE

The interest rate applicable to loans to members range from 6% to 12%. The dividend on shares is determined on the basis of income less administrative expenses and, as can be seen above, a consistent margin is maintained between interest receivable and dividend. As a result, the surplus for the year is not particularly sensitive to interest rate risk and no sensitivity analysis is presented below;

	2024	Average interest rate	2023	Average interest rate
	€	%	€	%
Financial assets Gross loans to members	10,703,114	8.34	9,019,226	8.56
Financial liabilities Members' shares	19,524,075	<u> </u>	18,506,294	-

18.2 LIQUIDITY RISK DISCLOSURE

All of the financial liabilities of the Credit Union are repayable on demand except for some members' shares attached to loans.

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 30 Sentember 2024

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for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

19. PENSION SCHEME

Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited participates in an industry-wide pension scheme for employees (The Irish League of Credit Unions Republic of Ireland Pension Scheme). This is a funded defined benefit scheme with assets managed by the Scheme's trustees.

On 31 March 2022, the defined benefit scheme ceased to accrual and although staff retained all the benefits that they had earned in the Scheme to that date, Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited and the employees ceased making regular contributions to the Scheme and ceased earning any additional benefits from the Scheme.

At the date of closure of the Scheme, there was a past service deficit which was allocated to each individual credit union based on the total benefits earned by staff in each credit union. Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited's allocation of that past service deficit is \in 65,590. This total cost was included in the profit and loss account for the year ended 30 September 2022 and this deficit amount was paid to the trustees prior to 30 September 2022.

As this is a pooled pension scheme, Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited remains liable to cover the cost of their share of any future increase in the total cost of providing the pension benefits to credit union employees who were part of the Scheme. Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited could exit the Scheme and therefore never have to make a potential additional payment requirement however exiting the Scheme may incur a substantial additional cost.

If credit unions exit the Scheme, they are required to pay to the trustees the exit amount which the trustees determine is required to fund benefits in respect of their active, deferred and pensioner members on a "no risk" basis. The exiting credit union thereby settles any liability they have to contribute to the Scheme in the future without increasing the risk for remaining credit unions.

The Scheme is a multi-employer scheme and there is pooling of the assets, and the sharing of risks associated with the liabilities for all participating employers. Judgement is required to assess whether Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited has sufficient information to provide an appropriate allocation of pension assets and liabilities. An assessment has been performed of the information available and Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited has determined that there is currently insufficient information available. Consequently, Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited continues to account for the plan as a defined contribution plan.

An actuarial review of the Scheme is normally carried out every three years by the Scheme's independent, professionally qualified actuary. The actuarial review considers the past and future service liabilities of the Scheme. The last completed triennial actuarial review was carried out with an effective date of 1 March 2023, using the Attained Age valuation method.

The assets and liabilities of the Scheme and the key assumptions are included in the table below at the respective dates of the latest triennial valuation date and the Funding Plan:

	1 March 2023 €'m	31 March 2022 €'m
Assets	296.2	283.4
Liabilities	328.5	377.1
Deficit	32.3	93.7

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

continued

19. PENSION SCHEME

Assumptions used	1 March 2023	31 March 2022
Interest rate curve	Euribor interest rate swap rates (Single Equivalent Rate 2.57% per annum)	N/A
Investment return in the period pre- retirement – Exited*	Interest rate curve less 0.50% p.a.	3.35%
Investment return while in receipt of pension - Exited*	Interest rate curve less 0.50% p.a.	0.25%
Investment return in the period pre- retirement – not Exited	Interest rate curve plus 1.40% p.a.	3.35%
Investment return while in receipt of pension – not Exited	Interest rate curve plus 0.00% p.a.	0.25%
Annual indexation of accrued pensions up to retirement	Euro HICPx inflation swap rates (Single Equivalent Rate 2.73% per annum)	2.05%
Annual increases to pension in payment	3%/0%	3%/0%
Life expectancy** 65 year old male lives to age	88.6	87
65 year old female lives to age	91.4	89
Amount of pension exchanged for tax-free cash at retirement	0%	0%
*Exited refers to members whose sponsoring participating employer		
** 31 March 2022: Based on 58% of ILT15 (M to annuity rates post retirement of: Males: 0.3 1 March 2023: Based on 90% of PNMA00 (M improvement post retirement of 175% per ani	10%, Females: 0.25% (improven lales), 90% of PNFA00 (Female:	nents from 2014).

The 1 March 2023 funding valuation was signed on 29 November 2023. Under the Scheme's governing documentation, the Trustees determine the contribution payable by the participating employers, having consulted the Actuary and the Principal Employer. Noting that contributions valued at \leq 32.5m are due from participating employers and the ongoing funding level of 100.1% after allowing for these contributions, the Trustees have determined not to seek further contributions from participating employers at this time.

Ballymote and District Credit Union Limited's liability in the Balance Sheet in respect of the Funding Plan based on outstanding contributions payable under the Funding Plan is set out in the table below:

	30 September 2024 €'m	30 September 2023 €'m
Retirement Benefit Liability	Nil	Nit

continued

for the financial year ended 30 September 2024

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the financial year, a number of related parties of the Credit Union (i.e. directors, board oversight committee members, the management team of the Credit Union and their family members or any business in which the directors or management team had a significant shareholding), operated share and loan accounts with the Credit Union.

All loans advanced to related parties are approved in accordance with Section 36(4) Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). The following transactions and balances existed with members who were related parties at 30th September 2024-

Loans outstanding to related parties amounts to 0.81% of total loans outstanding at the balance sheet date.

	No. of Ioans	2024 €
Total shares outstanding to Related Parties at the financial year end	51	231,982
Total loans outstanding to Related Parties at the financial year end	6	86,767
Loans issued to Related Parties during the financial year end		40,000

21. INSURANCE AGAINST FRAUD

The Credit Union has insurance against fraud in the amount of €1,300,000 (2023: €1,300,000) in compliance with Section 47 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

22. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The Credit Union had no material capital commitments at the financial year-ended 30 September 2024.

23. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the Credit Union since the financial year-end.

24. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved, and authorised for issue, by the Board of Directors on

Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd

SCHEDULES TO THE REVENUE ACCOUNT for the financial year ended 2024

Schedule 1 - Interest on Loans	2024	2023
	€	€
Interest on Loans		C40 005
Interest on members' loans	738,989	619,205
Interest on members' loans receivable	20,126	22,201
	759,115	641,406
Schedule 2 - Investment Income	2024	2023
	E	€
Investment Income	-	-
Investment income received	193,388	129,896
Investment income receivable within 12 months	81,730	86,368
	275,118	216,264
Schedule 3 - Other Revenue	2024	2023
	2024	2025
	· · ·	C
Other Revenue	165	164
Entrance fees	3,764	5,494
Miscellaneous income		
	3,929	5,658

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Ballymote and District Credit Union Ltd

SCHEDULES TO THE REVENUE ACCOUNT for the financial year ended 2024

Schedule 4 - Other Management Expenses

	2024	2023
	€	€
Other Management Expenses		
Training and education	3,983	3,320
Rent and rates payable	3,919	5,882
General insurance	14,823	13,841
Share and loan insurance	77,598	63,789
Light, heat and cleaning	6,854	12,057
Repairs and renewals	2,251	2,444
Computer and equipment maintenance	44,059	43,652
Printing and stationery	2,110	2,185
Promotion and advertising	4,387	5,343
Telephone and postage	1,610	1,550
AGM and convention expenses	4,787	4,959
Legal and professional fees	32,776	30,701
Audit fees	12,500	12,500
Bank charges	7,731	7,367
Miscellaneous expenses	4,746	7,194
Payment service costs	24,241	15,511
Affiliation fees	6,757	6,275
Regulatory levies	28,775	39,715
	283,907	278,285
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Ballymote & District Credit Union

Board Oversight Committee Report to AGM 2024

The Credit Union Acts 1997(as amended) requires the appointment of a Board Oversight Committee to assess whether the board of directors has operated in accordance with Part IV, Part IV (a) and any regulations made for the purposes of Part IV or Part IV (a) of the Credit Union Acts 1997 to 2018 and any other matter prescribed by the Central Bank in respect of which they are to have regard in relation to the board. The BOC are not involved in the everyday operations of the credit union.

The BOC works on behalf of the members of the credit union to ensure the members' interests are looked after and, as such, are independent and separate from the Board of Directors. We are obliged to meet the Board four times throughout the year to review the BOD in areas such as the Board meetings, strategy, and decision-making processes. In this regard we:

- Reviewed the minutes of all Board meetings as well as all committee reports.
- Monitored the ongoing review of the credit unions policies and procedures.
- Attended each Board meeting and presented a report to the Board.
- Attended relevant training during the year.

The Board Oversight Committee is satisfied and pleased to report that the actions and decisions of the Board of Directors of Ballymote & District Credit Union are compliant with current legislation and regulation.

The BOC would like to acknowledge and thank the Board, Manager and staff for their commitment and dedication to Ballymote and District Credit Union over the past year.

Mary McGettrick

Hubert Killoran

Caroline Queenan

Ballymote & District Credit Union Ballymote & District Credit Union Credit Committee report to AGM - 18th Dec 2024

The Credit Committee is appointed annually by the board of directors to ensure that loans are approved and issued in accordance with our Credit Unions Lending Policy, Processes & Procedures. The committee meets on a monthly basis and also reports monthly to the board. The committee operates in a governance role and is non-operational.

When evaluating loan applications, we are always conscious of the fact that we are lending our members' savings. Therefore, the credit union focuses on growing our loan book in a prudent manner using a robust lending/underwriting process. All loan applications are individually assessed by trained loan officers and while every effort is made to approve each application, the process must ensure that there is no undue risk to the individual borrower or to the credit union membership as a whole.

Your Credit Union was first choice for member's personal borrowing in 2024, with €4.95m in loans issued to members. Much of this money makes its way back into the local economy being spent in the homes and businesses of the community we serve.

We always welcome the opportunity to offer loans to our present members and future members. We encourage all members to consider Ballymote & District Credit Union when borrowing. One of the unique benefits of borrowing from your credit union is the Loan Protection Insurance at no extra cost to you the borrower. Should a member with an outstanding loan balance die, the balance is repaid in full, subject to terms and conditions and certain cover limits which apply. If you are an eligible member, this means that you can borrow from your credit union in the full confidence that your dependents will not be obliged to repay the outstanding loan balance in the event of your death.

Thank you to all our borrowing members. Your loyalty is appreciated.

Padraic Rogers

Síle Feehily

Derek Tighe

Credit Control Committee Report to AGM 2024

Once again, the credit control committee, wish to thank the new and existing members of Ballymote and District Credit Union for their continued support in 2024.

The committee comprises three volunteers and our primary role is to protect the funds of all members. This is done by monitoring the effectiveness of credit control in accordance with our Credit Control Policy, Central Bank guidance and regulation. We provide this service to members in a democratic way, carried out with integrity, confidentiality, and a sense of social responsibility, by monitoring arrears, bad debt provisions and recovery.

We consult with the manager and the credit control officer on bad debt provisions, debt recuperation and monitoring of account arrears. The Pearls A1 Ratio goal for our Credit Union is 5% and we are delighted to report that BDCU has remained under this ratio on average throughout 2023 with the end of year ratio standing at 2.42%. We are accountable to the Board of Directors, and we report to them monthly. Our duties also include ensuring the Credit Union is fully compliant with all policies, statutory requirements and legislation as set down by the Central Bank.

As a committee we are aware, especially in these uncertain economic times since the invasion of Ukraine and the jump in inflation and interest rates, some members may be experiencing financial difficulties, hence we encourage anyone in this position to contact the Credit Union. The staff are experienced and trained to engage with members and to find a solution based on the individuals' circumstances. All members are treated respectfully and in the strictest of confidence.

The credit control committee wants to thank the members for their continued support to BDCU, the volunteers on the Board and the Board Oversight Committee for their commitment and support throughout 2024 and finally we want to commend the Credit Control Team, the management team and the credit union staff for the consistent hard-work and assistance in making BDCU a credit union we should all be proud to be members of.

Michael Doddy, Fiona Dunleavy and Peter Lyons

Credit Control Committee

18/12/2024

Membership Committee Report – AGM 2024

The Membership Committee comprises three members of the Board of Directors. Their role is to check all applications for membership of the Credit Union, which are then presented for approval at the monthly meeting of the Board. Each new member application is examined to ensure that the applicant is either living or working within our "common bond", that their documentation is in order and complies with all Credit Union policies and legislation.

Under the Criminal Justice Act an applicant who wishes to become a member of credit union must provide originals of the following:

- Proof of identity: i.e. Current driving licence, Passport,
- Verification of Address (their permanent place of residence): Current Utility Bill, Bank Statement, Government Correspondence, Household bill.

The application includes documentation on GDPR and Privacy notice, Deposit Guarantee Scheme (DGS), Marketing Consent, Common Reporting Standard (CRS), Anti Money Laundering (AML) and Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs). We will also seek proof of PPS number.

For the year ended 30 September 2024, there was a growth in active members of 4%. 187 new members joined, leaving a figure of 4,851 at year end.

Currently there is a membership fee of ≤ 1.50 . We propose reducing this to ≤ 1 to bring it in line with legislation and in line with most other Credit Unions. The maximum entrance fee for Credit Unions used to be £1.27 (converting to ≤ 1.50) and has now been changed in the standard rule book to ≤ 1.27 maximum limit. A ≤ 1 will bring us in line with this limit.

We are also looking to bring the minimum share balance required for membership status and voting at the AGM, from ≤ 0.35 to ≤ 10 . It has been at ≤ 0.35 (£5 Irish pounds) since the changeover from the punt to the euro in January 2002. ≤ 10 better reflects the change in the value of money over this period and will help to reduce our AGM postage costs.

Regarding Children's Accounts, up to age 11, the parent or guardian has effective control over the account and is a joint beneficial owner of the account. Upon reaching the age of 11, the child has full autonomy over the account.

All new members in the 2023 / 2024 year were found to comply with our common bond requirements and were passed at board level.

Keith Henry Pauline Brennan Agnes Perry

Nomination Committee Report

AGM 18.12.2024

Under the provisions of the Credit Union Act 1997 (as amended), the Nomination Committee has primary responsibility for ensuring that members with the necessary skills and experience are available to fill vacancies that arise on the Board of Directors and the Board Oversight Committee. The Committee is responsible for accepting nominations, carrying out due diligence under the Fitness & Probity Regime and making proposals of suitable candidates for election.

A credit union member can develop both personally and professionally by volunteering. We require many different skills sets to help with the running of the Credit Union. Volunteers are always welcome, both for governance roles on the board or board oversight or operational roles in the credit union office.

Caroline Queenan is stepping down this year and we thank her for her valuable service to the Credit Union.

Anne Culkin is seeking election to the board. Two board members, Derek Tighe and Peter Lyons are retiring by rotation, and both are eligible for re-election.

Caroline Queenan is retiring from the board oversight committee and Keith Henry is seeking election to the board oversight committee.

It is proving to be quite difficult to find volunteers to put themselves forward for vacant positions on the board. If anyone would like to volunteer, please contact the Credit Union by phone, email or call in for more details.

The Nomination Committee

- Keith Henry
- Pauline Brennan
- Fiona Dunleavy

Rule Amendments

There has been one amendment to the Standard Rules arising from Irish League of Credit Unions AGM 2023 that requires AGM approval. This is set out below.

<u>"Rule 30 (1)(a)</u>

That this Annual General Meeting amends Rule 30 of the Standard Rules for Credit Unions (Republic of Ireland) by the deletion of the following Rule 30 (1)(a)

(1) (a) Provided a share dividend has been declared in accordance with the Act, the directors may recommend to the annual general meeting for approval a refund to the members on record as of the end of each financial year who have been borrowers during such year of a percentage of interest which such borrowers have paid during such year, and such rate of refund shall apply to all such member borrowers. Where a credit union operates a system whereby different rates of interest are charged for different classes of loans, the board of directors may recommend a different rate of refund applicable to each class of loan. Such refunds shall apply to all member borrowers in each class of loan.

And by the insertion of the following Rule 30 (1)(a) to read:

(1) (a) The directors may recommend to the annual general meeting for approval a refund to the members on record as of the end of each financial year who have been borrowers during such year of a percentage of interest which such borrowers have paid during such year, and such rate of refund shall apply to all such member borrowers. Where a credit union operates a system whereby different rates of interest are charged for different classes of loans, the board of directors may recommend a different rate of refund applicable to each class of loan. Such refunds shall apply to all member borrowers in each class of loan."

Any Other Business

Motions

- 1. Motion to change the membership fee from €1.50 to €1
- 2. Motion to increase the minimum membership share balance from €6.35 to €10



BALLYMOTE & DISTRICT CREDIT UNION LIMITED

The Rock, Ballymote, Co. Sligo Tel: 071 9189022 / 9189022 Email: info@ballymotecreditunion.ie Web: www.ballymotecreditunion.ie

REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

OFFICE HOURS OF BALLYMOTE & DISTRICT CREDIT UNION

Monday - Closed Tues & Wed - 10.00am to 1.30pm Thursday - 10.00am to 5.00pm Friday - 10.00am to 4.00pm Saturday - 10.00am to 1.00pm WE ARE OPEN THROUGH LUNCH

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING in the Coach House Hotel, Ballymote

on Tuesday 18th December 2024 at 6pm