# Annual Report 2022

## Meander Valley Financial Services Limited

Community Bank
Deloraine & Districts

ABN 27 111 858 078

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# Chair's report

Our partnership with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited continues to grow. Bendigo Bank has retained the title of the most trusted bank in Australia as it continues to build on its reputation as the country's better big bank.

Our performance over the past few years has been promising especially considering the impact that COVID-19 has had on the world. Whilst our opposition are reducing opening hours, we continue to offer exceptional service headed by our new Branch Manager, Katie Blandford.

This year saw some change in our staff with the departure of Kim Walters, Will Bryan and Rob Greatbatch. Their contribution to our branch over many years has been significant.

We welcomed Katie Blandford, Cassie Hazeldine and Kelsie Taylor to the team and I sincerely thank them and Susan, Judy and Oli for the exceptional and professional service they provide as the day to day faces of our business.

Thank you also to the wider Bendigo Bank state network team who have supported our branch team and board.

Community Bank Deloraine and Districts continues to reinvest into the Meander Valley with $2.3 million returned to the community since our opening in 2005. This has occurred through grants, sponsorships, donations, dividends and scholarships.

We look forward to seeing the projects supported through the 2021 Community Grant Round be developed. The recipients for this year include Deloraine Primary School Association, Hagley Farm School Association, Bracknell Primary School Association, Mole Creek Progress Association, Parkham Community Hall, Westbury RSL, Chudleigh Agricultural and Horticultural Society Inc., Westbury Preservation Association, Mole Creek Caving Club, Meander Liffey Resource Management Group and Mole Creek District Community Shed.

From big projects to small, we are proud to have been able to support so many community organisations and members.

After 4 years in the Chair role, Laura Richardson stepped down in November 2021 but remains a director on the Board. We thank her for her leadership during this time which has seen significant growth in the branch. She has overseen the refit of the branch and guided the branch and Board through the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am pleased to advise of the following appointments to the Board of Meander Valley Financial Services:

- We welcomed new director, Kris Eade, who brings varied experience and significant community knowledge and connections to the Board;
- Kim Rootes has taken over the role of Company Secretary;
- Vice Chairs are Graham Dent and Andrew Johnston
- And I was honoured to be appointed Chairman

With a changing banking environment and economy, the need for the services that the Community Bank provides and the support it delivers back to the community is the reason the community bank model is so successful.

I thank our branch staff, the Board, our shareholders and our customers for their continued support.

M. Norton

Melinda Norton
Chair

# Manager's report

2022 has been a year full of change for everyone and we are no exception. Change, it seems, is our only constant, yet after the completion of seventeen years in business we are proud to report that we continue to grow with the below results only confirming the ongoing support we receive from the Deloraine & Districts community. This success enables our Community Bank company to return profits back into the community for the benefit of all.

It is worth noting a very important milestone was achieved during the past year, with in excess of $2.3 million having now been returned to the local community by way of sponsorships, donations, grants and dividends.

All of this would not have been possible without a wonderful team of staff and, as such, we would like to acknowledge and thank the following current staff for their efforts: Susan Drake, Oli Bissett-Proudfoot and Judy Hawkes for their commitment and on-going support. In line with the theme of change, staffing is front of mind. We would like to also acknowledge previous valued members of our team Kim Walters, Will Bryan, Rob Greatbatch and Katie Tangney. We sincerely thank them for their contribution to Community Bank Deloraine & Districts and wish them much success into the future.

I would like to make a special mention of Kim Walters, previous Assistant Branch Manager. Kim was our longest serving staff member and was highly valued and respected by both the team and our customers. Her level of banking knowledge, community connections, coaching and positive impact were invaluable and will forever leave a footprint in the growth and success of Community Bank Deloraine & Districts.

With big shoes to fill, we have had the pleasure or welcoming some new team members, Cassie Hazeldine and Kelsie Taylor, alongside myself as the new Branch Manager.

I am very proud to lead a team of such an amazing people who truly care about our community and come to work every day knowing that they can make a difference. We have a continuous focus on our development, our community and the success of our business and, as a team, this will ensure that we continue to grow for the benefit of all.

Our point of difference is that we are here, we are local and we do our job so that we can give back to those who support us, our community. This is accompanied by many years of banking knowledge and experience and our specialists are ready to support you whenever you need.

We do this with the continuous support from our board of directors. It is an honour to work with such a passionate group of people who give freely of their own time, doing a thankless job for the benefit of the community and voluntarily use their expert knowledge and skills to continue to develop such a successful business. To our Bendigo Bank Team lead by Martyn Neville, Regional Manager Tasmania, and Jon Pedler, Risk and Compliance Manager - thank you for your continued support throughout the year. It truly is a pleasure to work with you. It is your contribution to the success of Community Bank Deloraine & Districts, which ensures that the value of our partnership with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited is maximised.

Finally, we wish to thank all of our customers and shareholders for their support and we trust that our personal service and commitment to the community will ensure the continued future success of Community Bank Deloraine and Districts.

Katie Blandford
Branch Manager

# Director’s report

**Meander Valley Financial Services Limited**
**Directors' report**
**30 June 2022**

The directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the company for the year ended 30 June 2022.

**Directors**
The following persons were directors of the company during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

| | |
|---|---|
| Name: | Melinda Kaye Norton |
| Title: | Chair |
| Experience and expertise: | Electorate Officer. Melinda is the Secretary of MVFSL and Treasurer of Weegena Hall Committee . She has a background in administration, customer services, hospitality and is a volunteer fire fighter. |
| Special responsibilities: | Chair (assumed role 25 November 2021), Company Secretary (ceased role on 25 November) and Governance Committee |
| Name: | Laura Jane Richardson |
| Title: | Non-executive director |
| Experience and expertise: | Former Chair and Company Secretary of Meander Valley Financial Services, with a broad experience in governance matters. Former adviser with the Tasmanian Government, and currently an Executive Officer working in the Tasmanian agriculture sector. Member of a number of local committees and organisations and recognised as the Meander Valley Citizen of the Year on 2022. |
| Special responsibilities: | Marketing committee, former Chair (ceased role 25 November 2021) |
| Name: | Graham Stephen Dent |
| Title: | Non-executive director |
| Experience and expertise: | Business operator for 55 years included retail, processing and agriculture. Past board member of a registered company. Member of Rotary for 40 years, Meander Valley Enterprise Centre for 5 years, T.F.S.A Cereal & Seeds for 40 years and Tasmania Fire Service for 45 years. |
| Special responsibilities: | Vice Chair |
| Name: | Anne Margaret Harvey |
| Title: | Non-executive director |
| Experience and expertise: | Teacher. Current Dairy Farmer/Agistment Business. Diploma of Teaching and Bachelor of Education. Current life member of Deloraine Community band. Life member of Deloraine Primary School Association. |
| Special responsibilities: | Business Development Committee |
| Name: | Barry Gordon Pearn |
| Title: | Non-executive director |
| Experience and expertise: | Semi Retired/IT Consultant. Barry has completed a Bachelor of Business (Accounting), Graduate Diploma of Applied Computing and a Masters of Computing. He has worked in a number of industries such as earthmoving and land clearing, managing onsite contracting at Woodchip Mill, earthmoving and farm drainage, civil contract administration, IT consulting. He is also a member of the Rotary club of Westbury, Whitemore fire brigade and was a civil contractor federation member as a councillor and treasurer. |
| Special responsibilities: | Treasurer |
| Name: | Andrew Raymond Johnston |
| Title: | Non-executive director |
| Experience and expertise: | Primary Producer. Primary Producer managing a mixed farming enterprise at Exton, Member and Past President of the Rotary Club of Deloraine. Past Director of Wool Producers Australia, and Chairman of the Wool Council for Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association. |
| Special responsibilities: | Nil |

| | |
|---|---|
| Name: | Carmen Elizabeth Cresswell |
| Title: | Non-executive director |
| Experience and expertise: | Farmer. Studied at the University of Tasmania before returning to work on the family farm. Owner of a white suffolk sheep stud. Current vice-president of the Deloraine Show Society. Secretarial and administrative experience through past involvement with local sporting groups. |
| Special responsibilities: | Nil |

| | |
|---|---|
| Name: | Kim Maree Anne Rootes |
| Title: | Non-executive director |
| Experience and expertise: | School Business Manager. Worked for Tasmania Temptations from 1983-1994. |
| Special responsibilities: | Company Secretary |

| | |
|---|---|
| Name: | Kristopher Kenneth Eade |
| Title: | Non-executive Director (appointed 25 November 2021) |
| Experience and expertise: | Current director of Facilities at St Patrick's College, previously Team Leader Facilities at Meander Valley Council. |
| Special responsibilities: | Nil |

| | |
|---|---|
| Name: | David Frank Cameron |
| Title: | Non-executive director (resigned 31 July 2022) |
| Experience and expertise: | Farmer and Butcher, Rotary, Football, Badminton. |
| Special responsibilities: | Nil |

No directors have material interest in contracts or proposed contracts with the company.

**Company secretary**
There have been two company secretaries holding the position during the financial year:

- Kim Maree Anne Rootes was appointed company secretary on 25 November 2021.
- Melinda Kaye Norton was appointed as company secretary on 1 July 2017 and ceased on 25 November 2021.

**Principal activity**
The principal activity of the company during the financial year was facilitating Community Bank services under management rights of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited (Bendigo Bank).

There have been no significant changes in the nature of this activity during the financial year.

**Review of operations**
The profit for the company after providing for income tax amounted to $46,206 (30 June 2021: $32,465).

Operations have continued to perform in line with expectations.

**Dividends**
During the financial year, the following dividends were provided for and paid. The dividends have been provided for in the financial statements.

| | 2022<br>$ |
|---|---|
| Fully franked dividend of 6.5 cents per share (2021: 6.5 cents) | 42,250 |

**Significant changes in the state of affairs**
There were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the company during the financial year.

**Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year**
Since the end of the year, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) has increased the cash rate by 1.5 basis points moving from 0.85% at 30 June 2022 to 2.35% as at the date of signing these accounts. The increase in the cash rate has a direct impact on the revenue received by the company on its products (deposits and loans) offered to its customers. The company has noted a material increase in the revenue streams for the first couple of months July – August 2022.

No other matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2022 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company's operations, the results of those operations, or the company's state of affairs in future financial years.

**Likely developments**
The company will continue its policy of facilitating banking services to the community.

**Environmental regulation**
The company is not subject to any significant environmental regulation under Australian Commonwealth or State law.

**Meetings of directors**
The number of directors' meetings attended by each of the directors' of the company during the financial year were:

| | Board | |
|---|---|---|
| | Eligible | Attended |
| Laura Jane Richardson | 11 | 10 |
| Graham Stephen Dent | 11 | 11 |
| Melinda Kaye Norton | 11 | 11 |
| Anne Margaret Harvey | 11 | 9 |
| Barry Gordon Pearn | 11 | 11 |
| Andrew Raymond Johnston | 11 | 10 |
| Carmen Elizabeth Cresswell | 11 | 9 |
| Kim Maree Anne Rootes | 11 | 10 |
| Kristopher Kenneth Eade | 10 | 8 |
| David Frank Cameron | 11 | 7 |

**Directors' benefits**
No director has received or become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the company, controlled entity or related body corporate with a director, a firm which a director is a member or an entity in which a director has a substantial financial interest except as disclosed in note 24 to the financial statements. This statement excludes a benefit included in the aggregate amount of emoluments received or due and receivable by directors shown in the company's accounts, or the fixed salary of a full-time employee of the company, controlled entity or related body corporate.

**Directors' interests**
The interest in company shareholdings for each director are:

| | Balance at the start of the year | Changes | Balance at the end of the year |
|---|---|---|---|
| Laura Jane Richardson | 751 | - | 751 |
| Graham Stephen Dent | 28,000 | - | 28,000 |
| Melinda Kaye Norton | 500 | - | 500 |
| Anne Margaret Harvey | 1,000 | - | 1,000 |
| Barry Gordon Pearn | - | - | - |
| Andrew Raymond Johnston | 500 | - | 500 |
| Carmen Elizabeth Cresswell | 1,000 | - | 1,000 |
| Kim Maree Anne Rootes | - | - | - |
| Kristopher Kenneth Eade | - | - | - |
| David Frank Cameron | 2,000 | - | 2,000 |

# Director’s report (continued)

**Indemnity and insurance of directors and officers**
The company has indemnified all directors and the manager in respect of liabilities to other persons (other than the company or related body corporate) that may arise from their position as directors or manager of the company except where the liability arises out of conduct involving the lack of good faith.

Disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium is prohibited by the confidentiality clause of the contract of insurance.

**Proceedings on behalf of the company**
No person has applied to the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001* for leave to bring proceedings on behalf of the company, or to intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or part of those proceedings.

No proceedings have been brought or intervened in on behalf of the company with leave of the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

**Indemnity and insurance of auditor**
The company has not, during or since the end of the financial year, indemnified or agreed to indemnify the auditor of the company or any related entity against a liability incurred by the auditor.

During the financial year, the company has not paid a premium in respect of a contract to insure the auditor of the company or any related entity.

**Non-audit services**
The company may decide to employ the auditor on assignments additional to their statutory duties where the auditor's expertise and experience with the company are important. Details of the amounts paid or payable to the auditor (Andrew Frewin Stewart) for audit and non-audit services provided during the year are set out in note 26 to the accounts.

The Board has considered the non-audit services provided during the year by the auditor and is satisfied that the provision of the non-audit services is compatible with, and did not compromise, the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* for the following reasons:

- all non-audit services have been reviewed by the Board to ensure they do not impact on the impartiality, integrity and objectivity of the auditor
- none of the services undermine the general principles relating to auditor independence as set out in *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*, as they did not involve reviewing or auditing the auditor's own work, acting in a management or decision making capacity for the company, acting as an advocate for the company or jointly sharing risks and rewards.

**Auditor's independence declaration**
A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out immediately after this directors' report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of directors, pursuant to section 298(2)(a) of the *Corporations Act 2001.*

On behalf of the directors

M. Nal

Melinda Kaye Norton
Secretary

30 September 2022

# Auditor's independence declaration

Andrew Frewin Stewart
61 Bull Street Bendigo VIC 3550

afs@afsbendigo.com.au
03 5443 0344

## Independent auditor's independence declaration under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* to the Directors of Meander Valley Financial Services Limited

As lead auditor for the audit of Meander Valley Financial Services Limited for the year ended 30 June 2022, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

**Andrew Frewin Stewart**
61 Bull Street, Bendigo, Vic, 3550
Dated: 30 September 2022

**Joshua Griffin**
**Lead Auditor**

# Financial statements

## Meander Valley Financial Services Limited
## Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income
## For the year ended 30 June 2022

| | Note | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Revenue from contracts with customers | 6 | 1,028,776 | 889,921 |
| Other revenue | 7 | 16,919 | 19,306 |
| Finance revenue | | 632 | 1,367 |
| Employee benefits expense | 8 | (430,622) | (510,430) |
| Advertising and marketing costs | | (2,083) | (15,334) |
| Occupancy and associated costs | | (24,557) | (33,381) |
| System costs | | (18,908) | (28,088) |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense | 8 | (62,726) | (58,833) |
| Finance costs | 8 | (8,721) | (6,116) |
| General administration expenses | | (113,510) | (137,965) |
| **Profit before community contributions and income tax expense** | | 385,200 | 120,447 |
| Charitable donations and sponsorships expense | | (319,816) | (80,192) |
| **Profit before income tax expense** | | 65,384 | 40,255 |
| Income tax expense | 9 | (19,178) | (7,790) |
| **Profit after income tax expense for the year** | 20 | 46,206 | 32,465 |
| Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax | | - | - |
| **Total comprehensive income for the year** | | 46,206 | 32,465 |
| | | **Cents** | **Cents** |
| Basic earnings per share | 28 | 7.11 | 4.99 |
| Diluted earnings per share | 28 | 7.11 | 4.99 |

*The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

| | Note | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Assets** | | | |
| **Current assets** | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 10 | 317,201 | 205,399 |
| Trade and other receivables | 11 | 81,837 | 46,972 |
| Current tax assets | 9 | - | 18,993 |
| Total current assets | | 399,038 | 271,364 |
| **Non-current assets** | | | |
| Investment properties | 14 | 35,168 | 32,045 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 12 | 191,423 | 196,028 |
| Right-of-use assets | 13 | 187,341 | 215,198 |
| Intangibles | 15 | 38,913 | 51,885 |
| Total non-current assets | | 452,845 | 495,156 |
| **Total assets** | | 851,883 | 766,520 |
| **Liabilities** | | | |
| **Current liabilities** | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 16 | 191,382 | 84,420 |
| Lease liabilities | 17 | 24,980 | 23,852 |
| Current tax liabilities | 9 | 12,876 | - |
| Total current liabilities | | 229,238 | 108,272 |
| **Non-current liabilities** | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 16 | 31,642 | 47,462 |
| Lease liabilities | 17 | 204,639 | 227,125 |
| Deferred tax liabilities | 9 | 16,844 | 18,240 |
| Provisions | 18 | 4,133 | 3,990 |
| Total non-current liabilities | | 257,258 | 296,817 |
| **Total liabilities** | | 486,496 | 405,089 |
| **Net assets** | | 365,387 | 361,431 |
| **Equity** | | | |
| Issued capital | 19 | 618,894 | 618,894 |
| Accumulated losses | 20 | (253,507) | (257,463) |
| **Total equity** | | 365,387 | 361,431 |

*The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

| | Note | Issued capital $ | Accumulated losses $ | Total equity $ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Balance at 1 July 2020** | | 618,894 | (247,678) | 371,216 |
| Profit after income tax expense | | - | 32,465 | 32,465 |
| Other comprehensive income, net of tax | | - | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income | | - | 32,465 | 32,465 |
| *Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:* | | | | |
| Dividends provided for | 22 | - | (42,250) | (42,250) |
| **Balance at 30 June 2021** | | 618,894 | (257,463) | 361,431 |

| | Note | Issued capital $ | Accumulated losses $ | Total equity $ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Balance at 1 July 2021** | | 618,894 | (257,463) | 361,431 |
| Profit after income tax expense | | - | 46,206 | 46,206 |
| Other comprehensive income, net of tax | | - | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income | | - | 46,206 | 46,206 |
| *Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:* | | | | |
| Dividends provided for | 22 | - | (42,250) | (42,250) |
| **Balance at 30 June 2022** | | 618,894 | (253,507) | 365,387 |

*The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

| | Note | 2022 $ | 2021 $ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Cash flows from operating activities** | | | |
| Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST) | | 1,131,303 | 1,000,882 |
| Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST) | | (919,141) | (1,034,799) |
| | | 212,162 | (33,917) |
| Interest received | | 632 | 1,367 |
| Income taxes refunded/(paid) | | 5,993 | (21,206) |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities | 27 | 218,787 | (53,756) |
| **Cash flows from investing activities** | | | |
| Payments for property, plant and equipment | | (17,674) | (102,411) |
| Payments for intangibles | | (14,383) | (14,383) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | | (32,057) | (116,794) |
| **Cash flows from financing activities** | | | |
| Dividends paid | 22 | (42,250) | (42,250) |
| Repayment of lease liabilities | 17 | (32,678) | (32,278) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | | (74,928) | (74,528) |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | | 111,802 | (245,078) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year | | 205,399 | 450,477 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year | 10 | 317,201 | 205,399 |

*The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

# Notes to the financial statements

**Note 1. Reporting entity**

The financial statements cover Meander Valley Financial Services Limited (the company) as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the company's functional and presentation currency.

The company is an unlisted public company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is 49 Emu Bay Road, Deloraine TAS 7304

A description of the nature of the company's operations and its principal activity is included in the directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue, in accordance with a resolution of directors, on 30 September 2022. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

**Note 2. Basis of preparation and statement of compliance**

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. The financial statements comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual and historical cost basis.

**Note 3. Significant accounting policies**

The company has consistently applied the following accounting policies to all periods presented in these financial statements.

**Changes in accounting policies, standards and interpretations**
There are a number of amendments to accounting standards issued by the AASB that became mandatorily effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2021, and are therefore relevant for the current financial year. The amendments did not have any impact on the amounts recognised in prior periods and are not expected to significantly affect the current or future periods.

**Current and non-current classification**
Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when, it is expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the company's normal operating cycle, it is held primarily for the purpose of trading, it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when, it is either expected to be settled in the company's normal operating cycle, it is held primarily for the purpose of trading, it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are always classified as non-current.

**Impairment**
*Non-derivative financial assets*
Expected credit losses (ECL) are the probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of a financial instrument. A credit loss is the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due and all cash flows expected to be received. At each reporting date, the entity recognises the movement in the ECL (if any) as an impairment gain or loss in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

**Note 3. Significant accounting policies (continued)**

The company's trade receivables are limited to the monthly profit share distribution from Bendigo Bank, which is received 10 business days post month end. Due to the reliance on Bendigo Bank the company has reviewed credit ratings provided by Standard & Poors, Moody's and Fitch Ratings to determine the level of credit exposure to the company. The company also performed a historical assessment of receivables from Bendigo Bank and found no instances of default. As a result no ECL has been made in relation to trade receivables as at 30 June 2022.

*Non-financial assets*
At each reporting date, the company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life to determine whether there is any indication 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 any impairment loss.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) 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 in profit or loss immediately.

**Goods and Services Tax (GST)**
Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except when the amount of GST incurred on a sale or purchase of assets or services is not payable to or recoverable from the taxation authority. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the revenue or expense item.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as part of operating cash flows.

**Note 4. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting judgements and estimates will seldom equal the related actual results. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

*Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic*
Judgement has been exercised in considering the impacts that the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had, or may have, on the company based on known information. This consideration extends to the nature of the products and services offered, customers, supply chain, staffing and geographic regions in which the company operates. There does not currently appear to be either any significant impact upon the financial statements or any significant uncertainties with respect to events or conditions which may impact the company unfavourably as at the reporting date or subsequently as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

*Estimation of useful lives of assets*
The company determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

**Note 4. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions (continued)**

*Impairment of non-financial assets other than goodwill and other indefinite life intangible assets*
The company assesses impairment of non-financial assets other than goodwill and other indefinite life intangible assets at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the company and to the particular asset that may lead to impairment. If an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. This involves fair value less costs of disposal or value-in-use calculations, which incorporate a number of key estimates and assumptions.

*Recovery of deferred tax assets*
Deferred tax assets are recognised for deductible temporary differences only if the company considers it is probable that future taxable amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences and losses.

*Lease term*
The lease term is a significant component in the measurement of both the right-of-use asset and lease liability. Judgement is exercised in determining whether there is reasonable certainty that an option to extend the lease will be exercised, or an option to terminate the lease will not be exercised, when ascertaining the periods to be included in the lease term. In determining the lease term, all facts and circumstances that create an economical incentive to exercise an extension option, or not to exercise a termination option, are considered at the lease commencement date. Factors considered may include the importance of the asset to the company's operations, comparison of terms and conditions to prevailing market rates, incurrence of significant penalties, existence of significant leasehold improvements and the costs and disruption to replace the asset. The company reassesses whether it is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, or not exercise a termination option, if there is a significant event or significant change in circumstances.

*Incremental borrowing rate*
Where the interest rate implicit in a lease cannot be readily determined, an incremental borrowing rate is estimated to discount future lease payments to measure the present value of the lease liability at the lease commencement date. Such a rate is based on what the company estimates it would have to pay a third party to borrow the funds necessary to obtain an asset of a similar value to the right-of-use asset, with similar terms, security and economic environment.

*Sublease classification*
Judgement is required to determine the classification of the sublease as either an operating or a finance sublease.

*Lease make good provision*
A provision has been made for the present value of anticipated costs for future restoration of leased premises. The provision includes future cost estimates associated with closure of the premises. The calculation of this provision requires assumptions such as application of closure dates and cost estimates. The provision recognised for each site is periodically reviewed and updated based on the facts and circumstances available at the time. Changes to the estimated future costs for sites are recognised in the statement of financial position by adjusting the asset and the provision. Reductions in the provision that exceed the carrying amount of the asset will be recognised in profit or loss.

**Note 5. Economic dependency**

The company has entered into a franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank that governs the management of the Community Bank. The company is economically dependent on the ongoing receipt of income under the franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank. The directors have no reason to believe a new franchise arrangement under mutually acceptable terms will not be forthcoming following expiry.

The company operates as a franchise of Bendigo Bank, using the name “Bendigo Bank” and the logo and system of operations of Bendigo Bank. The company manages the Community Bank on behalf of Bendigo Bank, however all transactions with customers conducted through the Community Bank are effectively conducted between the customers and Bendigo Bank.

All deposits are made with Bendigo Bank, and all personal and investment products are products of Bendigo Bank, with the company facilitating the provision of those products. All loans, leases or hire purchase transactions, issues of new credit or debit cards, temporary or bridging finance and any other transaction that involves creating a new debt, or increasing or changing the terms of an existing debt owed to Bendigo Bank, must be approved by Bendigo Bank. All credit transactions are made with Bendigo Bank, and all credit products are products of Bendigo Bank.

The company promotes and sells the products and services, but is not a party to the transaction.

**Note 5. Economic dependency (continued)**

The credit risk (i.e. the risk that a customer will not make repayments) is for the relevant Bendigo Bank entity to bear as long as the company has complied with the appropriate procedures and relevant obligations and has not exercised a discretion in granting or extending credit.

Bendigo Bank provides significant assistance in establishing and maintaining the Community Bank franchise operations. It also continues to provide ongoing management and operational support and other assistance and guidance in relation to all aspects of the franchise operation, including advice and assistance in relation to:

- the design, layout and fit out of the Community Bank premises
- training for the branch manager and other employees in banking, management systems and interface protocol
- methods and procedures for the sale of products and provision of services
- security and cash logistic controls
- calculation of company revenue and payment of many operating and administrative expenses
- the formulation and implementation of advertising and promotional programs
- sales techniques and proper customer relations
- providing payroll services.

**Note 6. Revenue from contracts with customers**

| | **2022**<br>**$** | **2021**<br>**$** |
|---|---|---|
| Margin income | 760,752 | 653,327 |
| Fee income | 86,493 | 79,322 |
| Commission income | 181,531 | 157,272 |
| Revenue from contracts with customers | 1,028,776 | 889,921 |

The company has entered into a franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank. The company delivers banking and financial services of Bendigo Bank to its community. The franchise agreement provides for a share of interest, fee, and commission revenue earned by the company. Interest margin share is based on a funds transfer pricing methodology which recognises that income is derived from deposits held, and that loans granted incur a funding cost. Fees are based on the company's current fee schedule and commissions are based on the agreements in place. All margin revenue is recorded as non-interest income when the company's right to receive the payment is established.

The company acts as an agent under the franchise agreement and revenue arises from the rendering of services through its franchise agreement.

Revenue is recognised on an accruals basis, at the fair value of consideration specified in the franchise agreement. Under *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (AASB 15), revenue recognition for the company's revenue stream is as follows:

| Revenue stream | Includes | Performance obligation | Timing of recognition |
|---|---|---|---|
| Franchise agreement profit share | Margin, commission, and fee income | When the company satisfies its obligation to arrange for the services to be provided to the customer by the supplier (Bendigo Bank as franchisor). | On completion of the provision of the relevant service. Revenue is accrued monthly and paid within 10 business days after the end of each month. |

All revenue is stated net of the amount of GST. There was no revenue from contracts with customers recognised over time during the financial year.

*Revenue calculation*
The franchise agreement provides that three forms of revenue may be earned by the company which are margin, commission and fee income. Bendigo Bank decides the form of revenue the company earns on different types of products and services. The revenue earned by the company is dependent on the business that it generates. It may also be affected by other factors, such as economic and local conditions, for example, interest rates.

**Note 6. Revenue from contracts with customers (continued)**

*Margin*
Margin is arrived at through the following calculation:

| | |
|---|---|
| | Interest paid by customers on loans less interest paid to customers on deposits |
| **plus:** | any deposit returns i.e. interest return applied by Bendigo Bank for a deposit |
| **minus:** | any costs of funds i.e. interest applied by Bendigo Bank to fund a loan. |

The company is entitled to a share of the margin earned by Bendigo Bank. If this reflects a loss, the company incurs a share of that loss.

*Commission*
Commission revenue is in the form of commission generated for products and services sold. This commission is recognised at a point in time which reflects when the company has fulfilled its performance obligation.

The company receives trailing commission for products and services sold. Ongoing trailing commission payments are recognised on receipt as there is insufficient detail readily available to estimate the most likely amount of income without a high probability of significant reversal in a subsequent reporting period. The receipt of ongoing trailing commission income is outside the control of the company, and is a significant judgement area.

*Fee income*
Fee income is a share of what is commonly referred to as 'bank fees and charges' charged to customers by Bendigo Bank Group entities including fees for loan applications and account transactions.

*Core banking products*
Bendigo Bank has identified some products and services as 'core banking products'. It may change the products and services which are identified as core banking products by giving the company at least 30 days notice. Core banking products currently include Bendigo Bank branded home loans, term deposits and at call deposits.

*Ability to change financial return*
Under the franchise agreement, Bendigo Bank may change the form and amount of financial return the company receives. The reasons it may make a change include changes in industry or economic conditions or changes in the way Bendigo Bank earns revenue.

The change may be to the method of calculation of margin, the amount of margin, commission and fee income or a change of a margin to a commission or vice versa. This may affect the amount of revenue the company receives on a particular product or service.

Bendigo Bank must not reduce the margin and commission the company receives on core banking products and services to less than 50% (on an aggregate basis) of Bendigo Bank’s margin at that time. For other products and services, there is no restriction on the change Bendigo Bank may make.

**Note 7. Other revenue**

| | **2022 $** | **2021 $** |
|---|---|---|
| Cash flow boost | - | 10,000 |
| Rental income | 16,919 | 2,156 |
| Other income | - | 7,150 |
| Other revenue | 16,919 | 19,306 |

The company's activities include the generation of income from sources other than the core products under the franchise agreement. Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the company and can be reliably measured.

**Note 7. Other revenue (continued)**

| Revenue stream | Revenue recognition policy |
| --- | --- |
| Cash flow boost | Cash flow boost income is recognised when the right to the payment is established (e.g. monthly or quarterly in the activity statement). |
| Rental income | Rental income from right-of-use assets subleased, is accounted for on a straight-line basis over the lease term. If not received at balance date, revenue is reflected on the balance sheet as a receivable and carried at its recoverable amount. |
| Other income | All other revenues that did not contain contracts with customers are recognised as goods and services are provided. |

All revenue is stated net of the amount of GST.

*Cash flow boost*
In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, *Boosting Cash Flow for Employers (Coronavirus Economic Response Package) Act 2020* (CFB Act) was enacted. The purpose was to provide temporary cash flow to small and medium sized businesses that employ staff and have been affected by the economic downturn associated with COVID-19.

The amounts received are in relation to amounts withheld as withholding tax reported in the activity statement. This essentially subsidises the company's obligation to remit withholding tax to the Australian Taxation Office. For reporting purposes, the amounts subsidised are recognised as revenue.

The amounts are not assessable for tax purposes and there is no obligation to repay the amounts.

**Note 8. Expenses**

**Depreciation and amortisation expense**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Depreciation of non-current assets* | | |
| Leasehold improvements | 17,145 | 12,647 |
| Plant and equipment | 5,134 | 4,477 |
| | 22,279 | 17,124 |
| *Depreciation of right-of-use assets* | | |
| Leased land and buildings | 27,475 | 28,738 |
| *Amortisation of intangible assets* | | |
| Franchise fee | 2,162 | 2,162 |
| Franchise renewal process fee | 10,810 | 10,809 |
| | 12,972 | 12,971 |
| | 62,726 | 58,833 |

**Finance costs**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Lease interest expense | 8,577 | 5,918 |
| Unwinding of make-good provision | 144 | 198 |
| | 8,721 | 6,116 |

Finance costs are recognised as expenses when incurred using the effective interest rate.

**Note 8. Expenses (continued)**

**Employee benefits expense**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Wages and salaries | 307,706 | 396,443 |
| Superannuation contributions | 33,491 | 39,238 |
| Expenses related to long service leave | 4,825 | 4,779 |
| Other expenses | 84,600 | 69,970 |
| | 430,622 | 510,430 |

*Accounting policy for employee benefits*
Bendigo Bank seconds employees to work for the company. Bendigo Bank charges the cost of these employees through the monthly profit share arrangement. The company recognises these expenses when recording the monthly invoice. No annual leave or long service leave liabilities are recognised for the company as these are Bendigo Bank employees.

**Leases recognition exemption**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Expenses relating to low-value leases | 7,844 | 13,541 |
| Expenses relating to short-term leases | 1,635 | 1,909 |
| | 9,479 | 15,450 |

The company pays for the right to use information technology equipment. The underlying assets have been assessed as low value and exempted from recognition under AASB 16 accounting. Expenses relating to low-value exempt leases are included in system costs expenses.

The company pays for the right to use a self-storage unit. The lease agreement is expired and continues on existing terms on a month-by-month basis with no significant penalty for termination. As such the lease has been assessed as short term and exempted from recognition under AASB 16 accounting. Expenses relating to short term exempt leases are included in occupancy and associated costs expenses.

**Note 9. Income tax**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| *Income tax expense* | | |
| Current tax | 17,974 | - |
| Movement in deferred tax | (1,396) | 15,003 |
| Under/over adjustment | 2,600 | - |
| Reduction in company tax rate | - | (730) |
| Recoupment of prior year tax losses | - | (6,483) |
| Aggregate income tax expense | 19,178 | 7,790 |
| *Prima facie income tax reconciliation* | | |
| Profit before income tax expense | 65,384 | 40,255 |
| Tax at the statutory tax rate of 25% (2021: 26%) | 16,346 | 10,466 |
| Tax effect of: | | |
| Non-deductible expenses | 232 | 655 |
| Reduction in company tax rate | - | (730) |
| Other assessable income | - | (2,601) |
| | 16,578 | 7,790 |
| Under/over adjustment | 2,600 | - |
| Income tax expense | 19,178 | 7,790 |

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| *Deferred tax liabilities/(assets)* | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 20,849 | 21,300 |
| Right-of-use assets | 55,628 | 61,811 |
| Lease liabilities | (57,405) | (62,744) |
| Employee benefits | (29) | (29) |
| Provision for lease make good | (1,033) | (998) |
| Accrued expenses | (1,166) | (1,100) |
| Deferred tax liability | 16,844 | 18,240 |

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Income tax refund due | - | 18,993 |

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Provision for income tax | 12,876 | - |

*Accounting policy for income tax*
The income tax expense or benefit for the period is the tax payable on that period's taxable income based on the applicable income tax rate for each jurisdiction, adjusted by the changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities attributable to temporary differences, unused tax losses and the adjustment recognised for prior periods, where applicable.

**Note 9. Income tax (continued)**

*Accounting policy for current tax*
Current tax assets and liabilities are measured at amounts expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities. It is calculated using tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

*Accounting policy for deferred tax*
Deferred tax is recognised in respect of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for all deductible temporary differences, carried-forward tax losses, and unused tax credits to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which they can be used.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be utilised.

Deferred tax is measured at the rates that are expected to be applied to temporary differences when they reverse, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date, and reflects uncertainty related to income taxes, if any.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax and when the balances relate to taxes levied by the same taxation authority and the entity intends to settle its tax assets and liabilities on a net basis.

**Note 10. Cash and cash equivalents**

| | **2022**<br>**$** | **2021**<br>**$** |
|---|---|---|
| Cash at bank and on hand | 65,277 | 47,910 |
| Term deposits | 251,924 | 157,489 |
| | 317,201 | 205,399 |

*Accounting policy for cash and cash equivalents*
For the purposes of the Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and deposits held with banks.

**Note 11. Trade and other receivables**

| | **2022**<br>**$** | **2021**<br>**$** |
|---|---|---|
| Trade receivables | 58,695 | 39,067 |
| Other receivables and accruals | 15,212 | - |
| Prepayments | 7,930 | 7,905 |
| | 23,142 | 7,905 |
| | 81,837 | 46,972 |

*Accounting policy for trade and other receivables*
Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

**Note 12. Property, plant and equipment**

| | 2022 $ | 2021 $ |
|---|---|---|
| Leasehold improvements - at cost | 271,670 | 255,709 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation | (120,102) | (102,957) |
| | 151,568 | 152,752 |
| Plant and equipment - at cost | 122,927 | 121,214 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation | (83,072) | (77,938) |
| | 39,855 | 43,276 |
| | 191,423 | 196,028 |

Reconciliations of the written down values at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

| | Leasehold improvements $ | Plant and equipment $ | Total $ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Balance at 1 July 2020 | 100,363 | 14,127 | 114,490 |
| Additions | 68,785 | 33,626 | 102,411 |
| Disposals | (3,749) | - | (3,749) |
| Depreciation | (12,647) | (4,477) | (17,124) |
| Balance at 30 June 2021 | 152,752 | 43,276 | 196,028 |
| Additions | 15,961 | 1,713 | 17,674 |
| Depreciation | (17,145) | (5,134) | (22,279) |
| Balance at 30 June 2022 | 151,568 | 39,855 | 191,423 |

*Accounting policy for property, plant and equipment*
Items of property, plant and equipment are measured at cost or fair value as applicable, less accumulated depreciation. Any gain or loss on disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised in profit or loss.

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value and straight-line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment over their expected useful lives as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Leasehold improvements | over the lease term |
| Plant and equipment | 2 to 10 years |

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the assets.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the company. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

*Changes in estimates*
During the financial year, the company assessed estimates used for property, plant and equipment including useful lives, residual values, and depreciation methods. There were no changes in estimates for the current reporting period.

**Note 13. Right-of-use assets**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Land and buildings - right-of-use | 276,939 | 274,520 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation | (89,598) | (59,322) |
| | 187,341 | 215,198 |

Reconciliations of the written down values at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

| | Land and buildings<br>$ | Total<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Balance at 1 July 2020 | 91,211 | 91,211 |
| Remeasurement adjustments | 152,725 | 152,725 |
| Depreciation expense | (28,738) | (28,738) |
| Balance at 30 June 2021 | 215,198 | 215,198 |
| Remeasurement adjustments | (382) | (382) |
| Depreciation expense | (27,475) | (27,475) |
| Balance at 30 June 2022 | 187,341 | 187,341 |

*Accounting policy for right-of-use assets*
A right-of-use asset is recognised at the commencement date of a lease. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located, less any lease incentives received.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the asset, whichever is the shorter. Right-of-use assets are subject to impairment or adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities.

Refer to note 17 for more information on lease arrangements.

**Note 14. Investment properties**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Investment property - at cost | 37,046 | 36,723 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation | (1,878) | (4,678) |
| | 35,168 | 32,045 |

*Reconciliation*
Reconciliation of the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Opening amount | 32,045 | 51,301 |
| Remeasurement adjustments | 21,933 | (14,578) |
| Depreciation expense | (18,810) | (4,678) |
| Closing amount | 35,168 | 32,045 |

**Note 14. Investment properties (continued)**

*Accounting policy for investment properties - sublease*
The company subleases some of its property. The company initially measures the head lease in accordance with the accounting polices in note 17 'Lease liabilities' and note 13 'Right-of-use assets' before separately identifying the sublease portion under *AASB 140: Investment property*. The investment property is initially measured at cost under *AASB 16: leases* and subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation under *AASB 140: investment properties*. The separately identifiable portion is calculated based on the sublease term and size of subleased area as a percentage of the head lease term and area.

*Accounting policy for subleases*
When the company acts as a lessor, it determines at lease inception whether each lease is a finance or operating lease.

To classify each lease, the company makes an overall assessment of whether the lease transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the underlying asset. If this is the case, then the lease is a finance lease; if not, then it is an operating lease. As part of this assessment, the company considers certain indicators such as whether the lease is for the major part of the economic life of the asset. Given the term of the sublease is less than the head lease term, the sublease does not meet the definition of a finance sublease and as such is an operating lease.

During the sublease term the company recognises sublease income in other revenue when earned. Depreciation on the right-of-use asset and interest on the lease liability is recognised under the head lease. The company recognise the sublease portion of the right-of-use asset within investment property.

**Note 15. Intangibles**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Franchise fee | 93,722 | 93,722 |
| Less: Accumulated amortisation | (87,237) | (85,075) |
| | 6,485 | 8,647 |
| Franchise renewal fee | 168,613 | 168,613 |
| Less: Accumulated amortisation | (136,185) | (125,375) |
| | 32,428 | 43,238 |
| | 38,913 | 51,885 |

Reconciliations of the written down values at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

| | Franchise fee<br>$ | Franchise renewal fee<br>$ | Total<br>$ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Balance at 1 July 2020 | 10,809 | 54,047 | 64,856 |
| Amortisation expense | (2,162) | (10,809) | (12,971) |
| Balance at 30 June 2021 | 8,647 | 43,238 | 51,885 |
| Amortisation expense | (2,162) | (10,810) | (12,972) |
| Balance at 30 June 2022 | 6,485 | 32,428 | 38,913 |

*Accounting policy for intangible assets*
Intangible assets of the company relate to the franchise fees paid to Bendigo Bank which conveys the right to operate the Community Bank franchise.

**Note 15. Intangibles (continued)**

Intangible assets are measured on initial recognition at cost. Subsequent expenditure is capitalised only when it increases the future economic benefits embodied in the specific asset to which it relates.

The franchise fees paid by the company are amortised over their useful life and assessed for impairment whenever impairment indicators are present.

The estimated useful life and amortisation method for the current and comparative periods are as follows:

| Asset class | Method | Useful life | Expiry/renewal date |
|---|---|---|---|
| Franchise fee | Straight-line | Over the franchise term (5 years) | July 2025 |
| Franchise renewal process fee | Straight-line | Over the franchise term (5 years) | July 2025 |

Amortisation methods, useful life, and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

*Change in estimates*
During the financial year, the company assessed estimates used for intangible assets including useful lives, residual values, and amortisation methods. There were no changes in estimates for the current reporting period.

**Note 16. Trade and other payables**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| *Current liabilities* | | |
| Trade payables | 175,961 | 45,948 |
| Other payables and accruals | 15,421 | 38,472 |
| | 191,382 | 84,420 |
| *Non-current liabilities* | | |
| Other payables and accruals | 31,642 | 47,462 |

*Accounting policy for trade and other payables*
These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the company prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Where the company is liable to settle the amount within 12 months of the reporting date, the liability is classified as current. All other obligations are classified as non-current.

**Note 17. Lease liabilities**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| *Current liabilities* | | |
| Land and buildings lease liabilities | 32,706 | 32,352 |
| Unexpired interest | (7,726) | (8,500) |
| | 24,980 | 23,852 |
| *Non-current liabilities* | | |
| Land and buildings lease liabilities | 231,667 | 261,501 |
| Unexpired interest | (27,028) | (34,376) |
| | 204,639 | 227,125 |

**Note 17. Lease liabilities (continued)**

*Reconciliation of lease liabilities*

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Opening balance | 250,977 | 143,259 |
| Remeasurement adjustments | 2,743 | 134,078 |
| Lease interest expense | 8,577 | 5,918 |
| Lease payments - total cash outflow | (32,678) | (32,278) |
| | 229,619 | 250,977 |

*Maturity analysis*

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Not later than 12 months | 32,706 | 32,352 |
| Between 12 months and 5 years | 130,824 | 129,402 |
| Greater than 5 years | 100,843 | 132,099 |
| | 264,373 | 293,853 |

*Accounting policy for lease liabilities*
Lease liabilities were measured at amounts equal to the present value of enforceable future payments of the term reasonably expected to be exercised, discounted at the appropriate incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise fixed or variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate and lease payments in a renewal option if the company is reasonably certain to exercise that option. For leases of property the company has elected to separate lease and non-lease components when calculating the lease liability.

The company has applied judgement in estimating the remaining lease term including the effects of any extension options reasonably expected to be exercised, applying hindsight where appropriate.

The lease liability is remeasured when there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in an index or rate, if the company changes its assessment of whether it will exercise an extension option or if there is a revised in-substance fixed lease payment.

The company assesses at the lease commencement date whether it is reasonably certain to exercise extension options. The company reassesses whether it is reasonably certain to exercise the options if there is a significant event or significant change in circumstances within its control.

Where the company is a lessee for the premises to conduct its business, extension options are included in the lease term except when the company is reasonably certain not to exercise the extension option. This is due to the significant disruption of relocating premises and the loss on disposal of leasehold improvements fitted out in the demised leased premises.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to nil.

The company's lease portfolio includes:

| | |
|---|---|
| Deloraine branch | The lease agreement commenced in July 2019. A 5 year renewal option was exercised in July 2020. The company has 1 x 5 year renewal options available which for AASB 16: Leases purposes they are reasonably certain to exercise. As such, the lease term end date used in the calculation of the lease liability is July 2030. The discount rate used in calculations is 3.54%. |

**Note 18. Provisions**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Lease make good | 4,133 | 3,990 |

*Lease make good*
In accordance with the branch lease agreement, the company must restore the leased premises to the original condition before the expiry of the lease term. The company has estimated the provision to be $5,500 for the Deloraine Branch lease, based on experience and consideration of the expected future costs to remove all fittings and the ATM as well as cost to remedy any damages caused during the removal process. The lease is due to expire on 31 July 2030 at which time it is expected the face-value costs to restore the premises will fall due.

*Accounting policy for provisions*
Provisions are recognised when the company has a present (legal or constructive) obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable the company will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. If the time value of money is material, provisions are discounted using a current pre-tax rate specific to the liability. The increase in the provision resulting from the passage of time is recognised as a finance cost.

**Note 19. Issued capital**

| | 2022<br>Shares | 2021<br>Shares | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ordinary shares - fully paid | 650,000 | 650,000 | 650,000 | 650,000 |
| Less: Equity raising costs | - | - | (31,106) | (31,106) |
| | 650,000 | 650,000 | 618,894 | 618,894 |

*Accounting policy for issued capital*
Ordinary shares are recognised at the fair value of the consideration received by the company being $1 per share. Any transaction costs arising on the issue of ordinary shares are recognised directly in equity as a reduction of the share proceeds received.

***Rights attached to issued capital***

*Ordinary shares*
Voting rights
Subject to some limited exceptions, each member has the right to vote at a general meeting.

On a show of hands or a poll, each member attending the meeting (whether they are attending the meeting in person or by attorney, corporate representative or proxy) has one vote, regardless of the number of shares held. However, where a person attends a meeting in person and is entitled to vote in more than one capacity (for example, the person is a member and has also been appointed as proxy for another member) that person may only exercise one vote on a show of hands. On a poll, that person may exercise one vote as a member and one vote for each other member that person represents as duly appointed attorney, corporate representative or proxy.

The purpose of giving each member only one vote, regardless of the number of shares held, is to reflect the nature of the company as a community based company, by providing that all members of the community who have contributed to the establishment and ongoing operation of the Community Bank branch have the same ability to influence the operation of the company.

**Note 19. Issued capital (continued)**

Dividends
Generally, dividends are payable to members in proportion to the amount of the share capital paid up on the shares held by them, subject to any special rights and restrictions for the time being attaching to shares. The franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank contains a limit on the level of profits or funds that may be distributed to shareholders. There is also a restriction on the payment of dividends to certain shareholders if they have a prohibited shareholding interest (see below).

Transfer
Generally, ordinary shares are freely transferable. However, the directors have a discretion to refuse to register a transfer of shares.

Subject to the foregoing, shareholders may transfer shares by a proper transfer effected in accordance with the company's constitution and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

*Prohibited shareholding interest*
A person must not have a prohibited shareholding interest in the company.

In summary, a person has a prohibited shareholding interest if any of the following applies:

- They control or own 10% or more of the shares in the company (the "10% limit").
- In the opinion of the Board they do not have a close connection to the community or communities in which the company predominantly carries on business (the "close connection test").
- Where the person is a shareholder, after the transfer of shares in the company to that person the number of shareholders in the company is (or would be) lower than the base number (the "base number test"). The base number is 316. As at the date of this report, the company had 338 shareholders (2021: 340 shareholders).

As with voting rights, the purpose of this prohibited shareholding provision is to reflect the community-based nature of the company.

Where a person has a prohibited shareholding interest, the voting and dividend rights attaching to the shares in which the person (and his or her associates) have a prohibited shareholding interest, are suspended.

The Board has the power to request information from a person who has (or is suspected by the board of having) a legal or beneficial interest in any shares in the company or any voting power in the company, for the purpose of determining whether a person has a prohibited shareholding interest. If the board becomes aware that a member has a prohibited shareholding interest, it must serve a notice requiring the member (or the member's associate) to dispose of the number of shares the Board considers necessary to remedy the breach. If a person fails to comply with such a notice within a specified period (that must be between three and six months), the Board is authorised to sell the specified shares on behalf of that person. The holder will be entitled to the consideration from the sale of the shares, less any expenses incurred by the Board in selling or otherwise dealing with those shares.

In the constitution, members acknowledge and recognise that the exercise of the powers given to the Board may cause considerable disadvantage to individual members, but that such a result may be necessary to enforce the prohibition.

**Note 20. Accumulated losses**

| | **2022** **$** | **2021** **$** |
|---|---|---|
| Accumulated losses at the beginning of the financial year | (257,463) | (247,678) |
| Profit after income tax expense for the year | 46,206 | 32,465 |
| Dividends paid (note 22) | (42,250) | (42,250) |
| Accumulated losses at the end of the financial year | (253,507) | (257,463) |

**Note 21. Capital management**

The Board's policy is to maintain a strong capital base so as to sustain future development of the company. The Board monitor the return on capital and the level of distributions to shareholders. Capital is represented by total equity as recorded in the statement of financial position.

In accordance with the franchise agreement, in any 12 month period the funds distributed to shareholders shall not exceed the distribution limit.

The distribution limit is the greater of:
- 20% of the profit or funds of the company otherwise available for distribution to shareholders in that 12 month period; and
- subject to the availability of distributable profits, the relevant rate of return multiplied by the average level of share capital of the company over that 12 month period where the relevant rate of return is equal to the weighted average interest rate on 90 day bank bills over that 12 month period plus 5%.

The board is managing the growth of the business in line with this requirement. There are no other externally imposed capital requirements, although the nature of the company is such that amounts will be paid in the form of charitable donations and sponsorship. Charitable donations and sponsorship paid for the financial year can be seen in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive Income.

There were no changes in the company's approach to capital management during the year.

**Note 22. Dividends**

The following dividends were provided for and paid to shareholders during the financial year as presented in the Statement of changes in equity and Statement of cash flows.

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Fully franked dividend of 6.5 cents per share (2021: 6.5 cents) | 42,250 | 42,250 |

**Franking credits**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Franking account balance at the beginning of the financial year | 19,425 | 14,932 |
| Franking credits (debits) arising from income taxes paid (refunded) | (5,993) | 19,338 |
| Franking debits from the payment of franked distributions | (14,083) | (14,845) |
| | (651) | 19,425 |
| *Franking transactions that will arise subsequent to the financial year end:* | | |
| Balance at the end of the financial year | (651) | 19,425 |
| Franking credits (debits) that will arise from payment (refund) of income tax | 12,876 | (13,691) |
| Franking credits available for future reporting periods | 12,225 | 5,734 |

The ability to utilise franking credits is dependent upon the company's ability to declare dividends. The tax rate at which future dividends will be franked is 25%.

*Accounting policy for dividends*
Dividends are recognised in the financial year they are declared.

**Note 23. Financial instruments**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| **Financial assets** | | |
| Trade and other receivables | 73,907 | 39,067 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 317,201 | 205,399 |
| | 391,108 | 244,466 |
| | | |
| **Financial liabilities** | | |
| Trade and other payables | 223,024 | 131,882 |
| Lease liabilities | 229,619 | 250,977 |
| | 452,643 | 382,859 |

*Accounting policy for financial instruments*
A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. The company's financial instruments include trade debtors and creditors, cash and cash equivalents and lease liabilities.

Trade receivables are initially recognised at the transaction price when they originated. All other financial assets and financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value plus, transaction costs (where applicable) when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. These assets and liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expires or the rights are transferred to another party whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and rewards associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled, or expire. Any gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the company currently has a legally enforceable right to set off the amounts and intends either to settle them on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

***Financial risk management***
The company has exposure to credit, liquidity and market risk arising from financial instruments. The company's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the company. The company does not use derivative instruments. Risk management is carried out directly by the Board.

***Market risk***
Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices - e.g. foreign exchange rates, interest rates, and equity prices - will affect the company's income or the value of its holdings in financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimising the return. The company has no exposure to any transactions denominated in a currency other than Australian dollars.

***Price risk***
The company is not exposed to equity securities price risk as it does not hold investments for sale or at fair value. The company is not exposed to commodity price risk.

***Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk***
Interest-bearing assets and liabilities are held with Bendigo Bank and subject to movements in market interest.

The company held cash and cash equivalents of $317,201 at 30 June 2022 (2021: $205,399). The cash and cash equivalents are held with Bendigo Bank, which are rated BBB+ on Standard & Poor's credit ratings.

***Credit risk***
Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the company if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations, and arises principally from the company's receivables from customers.

**Note 23. Financial instruments (continued)**

The company's franchise agreement limits the company's credit exposure to one financial institution, being Bendigo Bank. The company monitors credit worthiness through review of credit ratings of the bank.

***Liquidity risk***
Liquidity risk is the risk that the company will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. The company's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they are due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the company's reputation.

*Exposure to liquidity risk*
The following are the remaining contractual maturities of financial liabilities. The contractual cash flow amounts are gross and undiscounted and therefore may differ from their carrying amount in the statement of financial position.

| **2022** | 1 year or less $ | Between 1 and 5 years $ | Over 5 years $ | Remaining contractual maturities $ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Non-derivatives** | | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 191,382 | 31,642 | - | 223,024 |
| Lease liabilities | 32,706 | 130,824 | 100,843 | 264,373 |
| Total non-derivatives | 224,088 | 162,466 | 100,843 | 487,397 |

| **2021** | 1 year or less $ | Between 1 and 5 years $ | Over 5 years $ | Remaining contractual maturities $ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Non-derivatives** | | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 84,420 | 47,462 | - | 131,882 |
| Lease liabilities | 32,352 | 129,402 | 132,099 | 293,853 |
| Total non-derivatives | 116,772 | 176,864 | 132,099 | 425,735 |

**Note 24. Key management personnel disclosures**

The following persons were directors of Meander Valley Financial Services Limited during the financial year:

Laura Jane Richardson
Graham Stephen Dent
Melinda Kaye Norton
Anne Margaret Harvey
Barry Gordon Pearn
Andrew Raymond Johnston
Carmen Elizabeth Cresswell
Kim Maree Anne Rootes
Kristopher Kenneth Eade
David Frank Cameron

Key management personnel compensation comprised the following.

| | **2022 $** | **2021 $** |
|---|---|---|
| Short-term employee benefits | 12,000 | 6,000 |

Compensation of the company's key management personnel includes salaries.

**Note 25. Related party transactions**

The following transactions occurred with related parties:

| | 2022 $ | 2021 $ |
|---|---|---|
| Laura Richardson provided marketing and promotional services. The total benefit received was: | - | 6,000 |

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

**Note 26. Remuneration of auditors**

During the financial year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by Andrew Frewin Stewart, the auditor of the company:

| | 2022 $ | 2021 $ |
|---|---|---|
| *Audit services* | | |
| Audit or review of the financial statements | 5,200 | 5,000 |
| *Other services* | | |
| General advisory services | 2,090 | 3,185 |
| Share registry services | 4,453 | 3,928 |
| | 6,543 | 7,113 |
| | 11,743 | 12,113 |

**Note 27. Reconciliation of profit after income tax to net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities**

| | 2022 $ | 2021 $ |
|---|---|---|
| Profit after income tax expense for the year | 46,206 | 32,465 |
| Adjustments for: | | |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 62,727 | 58,833 |
| Net loss on disposal of non-current assets | - | 3,749 |
| Lease liabilities interest | 8,577 | 5,918 |
| Change in operating assets and liabilities: | | |
| Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables | (34,865) | 734 |
| Decrease in income tax refund due | 13,691 | - |
| Increase in deferred tax assets | - | (18,993) |
| Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables | 110,828 | (139,776) |
| Increase in provision for income tax | 12,876 | - |
| Increase/(decrease) in deferred tax liabilities | (1,396) | 5,578 |
| Decrease in employee benefits | - | (2,461) |
| Increase in other provisions | 143 | 197 |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities | 218,787 | (53,756) |

**Note 28. Earnings per share**

| | 2022<br>$ | 2021<br>$ |
|---|---|---|
| Profit after income tax | 46,206 | 32,465 |
| | **Number** | **Number** |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating basic earnings per share | 650,000 | 650,000 |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating diluted earnings per share | 650,000 | 650,000 |
| | **Cents** | **Cents** |
| Basic earnings per share | 7.11 | 4.99 |
| Diluted earnings per share | 7.11 | 4.99 |

*Accounting policy for earnings per share*
Basic and diluted earnings per share is calculated by dividing the profit attributable to the owners of Meander Valley Financial Services Limited, excluding any costs of servicing equity other than ordinary shares, by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the financial year.

**Note 29. Commitments**

The company has no commitments contracted for which would be provided for in future reporting periods.

**Note 30. Contingencies**

There were no contingent liabilities or contingent assets at the date of this report to affect the financial statements.

**Note 31. Events after the reporting period**

Since the end of the year, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) has increased the cash rate by 1.5 basis points moving from 0.85% at 30 June 2022 to 2.35% as at the date of signing these accounts. The increase in the cash rate has a direct impact on the revenue received by the company on its products (deposits and loans) offered to its customers. The company has noted a material increase in the revenue streams for the first couple of months July – August 2022.

No other matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2022 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company's operations, the results of those operations, or the company's state of affairs in future financial years.

# Director’s declaration

In the directors' opinion:

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the *Corporations Act 2001*, the Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board as described in the notes to the financial statements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors made pursuant to section 295(5)(a) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

On behalf of the directors

M. Nal

Melinda Kaye Norton
Secretary

30 September 2022

# Independent auditor’s report

Andrew Frewin Stewart
61 Bull Street Bendigo VIC 3550

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03 5443 0344

## Independent auditor’s report to the Directors of Meander Valley Financial Services Limited

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Meander Valley Financial Services Limited’s (the company), which comprises:

- Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022
- Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income
- Statement of changes in equity
- Statement of cash flows
- Notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies
- The directors' declaration of the company.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Meander Valley Financial Services Limited, is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

i. giving a true and fair view of the company’s financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report.

We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## Other Information

The company usually prepares an annual report that will include the financial statements, directors’ report and declaration and our independence declaration and audit report (the financial report). The annual report may also include “other information” on the entity’s operations and financial results and financial position as set out in the financial report, typically in a Chairman’s report and Manager’s report, and reports covering governance and shareholder matters.

The directors are responsible for the other information. The annual report is expected to be made available to us after the date of this auditor's report.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information identified above when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If we identify that a material inconsistency appears to exist when we read the annual report (or become aware that the other information appears to be materially misstated), we will discuss the matter with the directors and where we believe that a material misstatement of the other information exists, we will request management to correct the other information.

## Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that it gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the company’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 company or cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## Auditor’s responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is 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 the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatement can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

# Independent auditor's report (continued)

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, 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 Company'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 Company's ability to continue as a going concern. 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 report 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 Company to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors 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.

**Andrew Frewin Stewart**
61 Bull Street, Bendigo, Vic, 3550
Dated: 30 September 2022

**Joshua Griffin**
**Lead Auditor**

# Notes

# Notes (continued)

# Notes (continued)

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communitybankdeloraineanddistricts

This Annual Report has been printed on 100% Recycled Paper

Bendigo Bank