

Belper Community Hall

Trustees' Annual Report - For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name: Belper Community Hall

Charity Number: 1078761

Principal Address: Belper Community Hall

Rear of The Hollies

105 Bridge Street

BELPER

DE56 1BA

Trustees who served during the year:

- *Ann-Marie McMillan* - (Chair)
- *Andrew Pakes* - (Treasurer)
- *Jacqueline Louise Davis* - (Secretary)
- *Allan Calladine* - (Trustee)
- *Audrey Holden* - (Trustee)
- *Steven Platt* - (Trustee)
- *Katy Blair* - (Trustee)

Independent Examiner: *Adam Girling : Girlings & Co. 11 High Street, Ruddington, Nottinghamshire. NG11 6DT*

Bankers: HSBC Business Banking Registered Office: 1 Centenary Square, Birmingham, B1 1HQ

Bookkeeper : Bethan Hardy - Bee's Bookkeeping Solutions - 12 Weaver Grove, Mickle Trafford, Chester, CH2 4DW

Chair's Introduction

It is my pleasure to present the Trustees' Annual Report for Belper Community Hall for the year ended 31 March 2025.

This has been another positive and productive year for the Hall. We have continued to provide a welcoming, affordable and inclusive space for a wide range of community activities serving residents of all ages. From early years groups and uniformed organisations to health and wellbeing sessions, social activities and NHS programme delivery, the Hall remains a valued and well-used community asset.

We were particularly pleased to see continued growth in hall hire bookings, including children's parties and community events, helping to strengthen the Hall's financial sustainability. Fundraising ceilidhs, tea dances and a Live & Local theatre production further enhanced both income and community engagement.

During the year, we made important progress in strengthening the Hall's long-term resilience. A publicly accessible defibrillator was installed and registered, with associated community training delivered. Planning permission was secured for energy efficiency improvements and accessibility enhancements, which will support the Hall's sustainability for years to come. Work also continued on the development of the community garden and progression of discussions regarding the adjacent woodland.

The Trustees remain mindful of rising operational costs and the importance of maintaining appropriate reserves. I am pleased to report that the Hall remains financially stable, with a modest surplus achieved during the year.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank our volunteers, user groups, partners and supporters. Their commitment ensures that Belper Community Hall continues to thrive as a centre for community life.

Ann-Marie McMillan
Chair

2. Structure, Governance and Management

Belper Community Hall is a registered charity constituted under a governing document dated *22nd September 1999*.

The charity is administered by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for the strategic direction and overall management of the charity. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the governing document.

The Trustees meet regularly to review operations, financial performance, risk management and compliance with legal and regulatory obligations.

The day-to-day running of the Hall is supported by volunteers. The charity does not employ staff; both *the Cleaner and Bookkeeper are self employed*.

New Trustees receive induction information including the governing document, recent accounts, and Charity Commission guidance.

3. Objectives and Activities

Charitable Objects

The charity's object is to provide and maintain a village/community hall for the use of the inhabitants of Belper and the surrounding area, without distinction of age, gender, race, political, religious or other opinions, including use for meetings, workshops and classes, and for other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for those inhabitants.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

The Trustees consider that the Hall's facilities and activities provide clear public benefit by:

- Promoting social inclusion and community cohesion
- Supporting physical and mental wellbeing through exercise and recreational activities
- Providing affordable space for community groups
- Reducing social isolation, particularly for families with young children and older residents.

4. Achievements and Performance

During the year ended 31 March 2025, the Hall continued to operate as an active community facility serving a wide range of local residents.

Regular Activities

The Hall hosted a variety of regular weekly and monthly activities, including:

- Early years and toddler groups, baby yoga and massage classes. Baby First Aid
- Uniformed Groups : Rainbows commenced weekly session February 2025
- Health and wellbeing sessions such as Keep Fit, Pilates, Tai Chi and Stroke Club
- Dance and movement classes including Clog Dancing and Line Dancing
- Martial arts sessions - Karate and Tai Quondo
- Recreational activities such as Carpet Bowls and Tea Dances - Social Dance Practice
- Healthier You: NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme (Thrive) - Team Meetings and Training for Belper Primary Care Network / Riversdale Surger.

These activities contributed to consistent occupancy levels and regular community engagement throughout the year.

Community Events

In addition to regular bookings, the Hall supported and hosted a number of special and seasonal events, including:

- Community tea dances and contemporary dance workshops
- Three Fundraising Ceilidhs January , June and November and a Live and Local festive Family Theatre production of Polaris the Snow Bear in December.
- Seasonal celebration activities Blossom Day and Apple Day October for Transition Belper CIC
- January Seedswap Information for Earthed Up CIC

These events generated income to support the Hall's sustainability while strengthening community engagement.

Use of Facilities

The Hall continues to be hired by local organisations, instructors and community groups for workshops, meetings, classes and social activities. The Trustees are encouraged by the continued level of use and community reliance on the facility Also for family celebrations and children's parties. Also local Model Railway Enthusiasts day.

5. Financial Review

The Trustees are responsible for the financial management of the charity and for ensuring that sufficient reserves are maintained to meet operational needs.

For the financial year ended 31 March 2025, Belper Community Hall maintained a stable financial position. Income is generated primarily from hall hire, regular user groups, private party bookings and community events. Total income for the year was £26,622, representing a 2.85% decrease compared to the previous year, primarily due to reduced grant income.

Expenditure totalled £21,703 and covered the principal running costs of the Hall, including utilities, insurance, cleaning, repairs and general maintenance, and administration. During the year, cost pressures were experienced in cleaning and maintenance; however, increased hall hire bookings helped to offset these additional expenses.

The Hall recorded a surplus of £4,919 for the year. Reserves at 31 March 2025 stood at £37,146. This balance included remaining COVID-related grant funding received in prior periods and retained for planned capital works. During the subsequent financial year (2025–2026), these funds were applied towards the replacement of windows and doors and refurbishment of the kitchen facilities. As a result of this planned expenditure, reserves are expected to reduce to approximately £7,000 in the current financial year.

The financial statements have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

6. Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's reserves requirement based on an assessment of essential operating expenditure over the past three financial years.

Essential expenditure has been identified as including:

- Heat and light
- Insurance
- Rent
- Licences
- Water
- Cleaning
- Independent examination fees
- Bank charges

Based on a three-year average, essential annual expenditure is approximately £13,460. The Trustees have therefore determined that a minimum reserve of approximately £7,000 is required to cover six months of essential running costs.

Following completion of planned capital works during 2025–2026, reserves are projected to reduce to approximately £7,000, which aligns with the Trustees' assessed minimum reserve requirement.

The Trustees will continue to monitor income and expenditure carefully and aim to rebuild reserves above the minimum level where possible in order to strengthen the charity's long-term resilience.

7. Risk Management

The Trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have implemented systems and procedures to mitigate those risks.

Key risks identified include:

- Rising utility and maintenance costs - The Trustees have greater control since the installation of Remote Nest Thermostat in (October 2023) - Also Signing up with Utility Aid Energy Broker for Charities better priced Utility Contracts Gas Starts January 2024 and Electric October 2024 with <https://www.sseenergysolutions.co.uk/business-energy> .
- Dependence on volunteer support. BCH are Members of Amber Valley CVS and Rural Action Derby.
- Fluctuations in booking income - Creation of new and improved Website with clear booking system and calendar of events <https://belpercommunityhall.com/> Since Launch of website September 2024 -Also implementation of a Children's Party Package Bookings have increased for general and Children's Party Bookings.

The Trustees monitor financial performance regularly and review operational and compliance matters at Trustee meetings.

Appropriate insurance cover is in place with www.alliedwestminster.com
<https://www.villageguard.com>

8. Hall improvements

- Belper Community Hall received a generous donation of a defibrillator through Fire Brigade contact of Trustee Katy Blair fundraising from Tea Dances and Ceiligh Paid for the defibrillator casing and installation - The defibrillator went live on The Circuit January 2025. This was followed up by defibrillator training in February 2025 by the newly launched Belper District Community First Responders (CFRs), and First Aid at Work Training Course Planned for April 2025 facilitated by Mini First Aid .
- September 2024 Planning Permission Approval from Amber Valley Borough Council (Office Code: AVA/2024/0460) of UPVC Windows and Doors, Solar Panels and creation of a raised seating area with ramp and double doors. Plans created by local architect Richard Keighley DKMY Architects.

9. Woodland and Community Garden

- Work is progressing on Belper Community Hall Garden with Earthed Up CIC creating raised beds - edible hedges and fruit trees. Garden Design by Belper based Eco Garden Designer Sara Green. We received £1,696.00 October on top of previous payment of £1,116.74 received in February 2024 total £2812.74 From Coop Community Fund.
- June 2024 Derbyshire County Council Updating Heads of Terms for The Woodland adjacent to Belper Community Hall ¾ Acre - Belper Community Hall has Niki Gutherie from Edwards Clegg Solicitors advocating on behalf of Belper Community Hall Trustees through the process of securing 25 Year Lease and Land registry of Belper Community Hall and woodland.

10. Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees intend to:

- Maintain and increase community usage of the Hall where there is capacity.
- Continue hosting inclusive community events
- Monitor and manage maintenance requirements
- Explore opportunities for funding and improvements for
- Strengthen Trustee recruitment and succession planning
- Replace tired and inefficient single glazed wooden windows and doors with UPVC - (Utilising remaining COVID Funding)
- Replace old Kitchen with modern to lead for increased bookings appealing for marketing of hall as a Dry wedding venue. (Utilising Remaining COVID Funding)

9. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

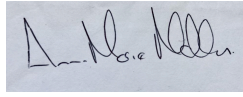
The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources for that period.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records and for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on: **23/02/2025**

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

Name: Ann-Marie McMillan

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann-Marie McMillan', written on a light blue background.

Position: Chairperson

BELPER COMMUNITY HALL
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Year ended 31 March 2025

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	£	2025 £	£	£	2024 £	£
Income						
Facility Hire	23,051			18,623		
Events	1,875			3,675		
		24,926			22,298	
None Operating Income						
Grants	1,696			4,991		
Donations				113		
		1,696			5,104	
TOTAL INCOME			<u>26,622</u>			<u>27,402</u>
Expenditure						
Cleaning	5,157			4,269		
Heat and Light	1,508			3,644		
Repairs and Maintenance	5,087			4,325		
Grounds Maintenance	1,988			2,710		
Insurances	587			575		
Rent Paid	1,632			631		
Water	644			479		
Office Administration and Software	364			-		
Equipment	580			-		
Licences	255			239		
Phone and Internet Charges	710			465		
Bank Charges	84			176		
Marketing	809			1,904		
Auditor Fees	230			80		
Sundry Expenses	2,070			597		
		21,703			20,092	
Net Surplus/Deficit			<u>4,919</u>			<u>7,310</u>

BELPER COMMUNITY HALL
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Year ended 31 March 2025

BALANCE SHEET

	NOTES	2025	
	£	£	£
Current Assets			
Bank and Cash in Hand	37,296		
		<u>37,296</u>	
Liabilities : Amounts falling due within one year			
Accruals	150		
	<u>150</u>		
		<u>150</u>	
Net Current Assets			37,146
TOTAL NET ASSETS			<u>37,146</u>
Capital			
Previous Balance		32,227	
Surplus(Deficit) for the Year		4,919	
Balance for the Year		<u>37,146</u>	

**BELPER COMMUNITY HALL
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Year ended 31 March 2025**

Independent Examiners Report

We report on the accounts for the charity Belper Community Hall (Charity Number 1078761) for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to;

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act); and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1). Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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


Name : ADAM GIRLING

Date: 29-1-2026

Girlings & Co.

Chartered Certified Accountants
11 High Street
Ruddington
Nottingham
NG11 6DT

BELPER COMMUNITY HALL
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Year ended 31 March 2025

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