



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2024-25



www.barnstondale.org



**"BARNSTONDALE IS A SPECIAL PLACE
WHERE CHILDREN EXPERIENCE THE
GREAT OUTDOORS TOGETHER,
INCLUSIVELY. THEY PLAY FREELY,
EXPLORE SAFELY, AND GROW IN
CONFIDENCE. THE STAFF GO ABOVE AND
BEYOND TO MAKE IT FEEL LIKE A HOME
FROM HOME, AND THE MEMORIES WE'VE
MADE HERE WILL STAY WITH US
FOREVER."**

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

It is with great pride that I introduce this year's Impact Report, our most ambitious and reflective to date.

At Barnstondale, we believe childhood should be free, fearless, and full of opportunity. Our purpose is to create experiences where disadvantage is removed, and children can simply be children, playing, learning, and growing in the great outdoors. Through our inclusive residential stays and accessible activities, we help young people discover confidence, build resilience, and unlock potential that lasts far beyond their time with us.

Our mission is simple: to change lives through the safe provision of fun, challenging, and adventurous outdoor experiences. **Our vision is a world where no child is held back by circumstance.** And this year, we've brought new clarity and energy to our work through a fresh set of core values: INSPIRE: Inclusive, Nurturing, Safe, Passionate, Inspirational, Respectful and Educational. These values now underpin everything we do; from the way we plan activities to how we welcome every child who comes through our gates.

Much of our team is local to Merseyside and brings with them lived experience of poverty, disability, or disadvantage. Many of them also attended Barnstondale themselves as children, through their school, youth group, or local community group. That connection makes our purpose personal. We're not just delivering a service, we understand, from the inside out, why Barnstondale matters.

In June 2025, a parliamentary debate led by Tim Farron MP brought national attention to the transformational value of outdoor education. Scotland and Northern Ireland already recognise this through curriculum policy and government funding, yet England lags behind. At Barnstondale, we step into that gap. Through our bursary scheme, funded by surplus income and the generosity of supporters who truly understand the value of what we do, we ensure that cost is never a barrier. This financial assistance allows thousands of children, many of whom face poverty, disability, or disadvantage, to access the life-changing experiences outdoor learning can provide.

The evidence is clear: outdoor learning builds wellbeing, character, and academic success. Over the past year, against a backdrop of rising costs and stretched school budgets, demand for our bursary support has continued to grow.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and funders, we've been able to open Barnstondale's doors to more disadvantaged and disabled children than ever before. Together, we've made significant strides in breaking down financial barriers, but the need is rising, and the challenge is far from over. Ensuring that no child is left out is a moving target, and one we remain firmly committed to.

To everyone who has supported us, whether through time, funding, or simply spreading the word - thank you. You've helped preserve precious childhood experiences and opened up new futures for thousands of children. We look ahead with determination and hope, knowing that every adventure starts with someone believing it's possible.

Jon Muspratt,
Chief Executive



VISION, MISSION & PURPOSE



Core Values: INSPIRE

Inclusive: Ensuring accessibility for all and creating a welcoming environment.

Nurturing: Supporting wellbeing and personal growth.

Safe: Prioritising physical and emotional safety for all.

Positive: Encouraging confidence, resilience, and a can-do attitude.

Innovative: Inspiring new ways to learn, grow, and overcome challenges.

Respectful: Valuing diversity, teamwork, and collaboration.

Educational: Providing meaningful learning experiences that make a lasting impact.

Vision

To inspire and unlock the potential of everyone at Barnstondale.

Mission

Our mission is simple, through the safe provision of accessible, fun, challenging and adventurous experiences, we aim to change lives by developing life skills, confidence and self-esteem in all.

Purpose

To create an experience where disadvantage is removed and children can be children, giving them the opportunity to explore, learn, grow, and feel inspired by the outdoors. We will achieve this by:

- Providing opportunities to promote inclusion, create accessibility and build resilience and confidence through the provision of outdoor education.
- Removing financial disadvantage by part funding children's places on activity days and residential stays, to ensure every child can benefit from learning outdoors and no child is left behind.
- Removing accessibility barriers to outdoor activities and facilities for children with additional needs.

DID YOU KNOW?

For every £1 invested in outdoor learning society get's

£4.32

back.

1 in 3

Children never have lessons outside of the classroom.

18%

13% of children under 16 never visit the natural environment, in the most deprived areas this rises to 18%.

45%

Nearly half (45%) of parents have been unable to afford trips and outings outside of school for their children, with this figure rising to 57% among working-class communities.

25%

Only 25% of disabled children regularly participate in physical education; one-third get less than 30 minutes of activity per day.



At Barnstondale, we believe every child deserves the chance to thrive through outdoor education. Being outdoors not only improves physical health but also supports mental wellbeing, builds confidence, resilience, and self-worth, and nurtures social and emotional skills. Our activity days and residential experiences foster engagement, perseverance, teamwork, leadership, and problem-solving, while strengthening connections with nature and boosting attendance, achievement, and lifelong learning. By creating access and inclusive experiences for all children, we help develop motivation, self-reliance, and a sense of societal responsibility empowering young people to grow, learn, and succeed both in school and in life.

Research shows that outdoor learning helps build and develop:

Perseverance **SOCIETAL**
RESILIENCE **BENEFIT** **Wellbeing**
Engagement **Teamwork**
Attendance **Connection with Nature**
Confidence **Self-reliance**
Problem-Solving **Attainment** **Achievement**
Improved Behaviour **MENTAL**
Communication **Leadership** **HEALTH**
SELF WORTH **Motivation**

2024-25 HIGHLIGHTS



1,709

part funded places for disadvantaged children.

1,500

children had an additional need or disability.

387

local children reached with our barnstondale in a box programme.

Barnstondale Bursary Scheme

At Barnstondale, we believe every child should have the opportunity to enjoy outdoor adventures, regardless of background or ability.

That's why our Bursary Scheme continues to play such a vital role. Across Cheshire and Merseyside, around one in five children live in low-income households, and the number of children with special educational needs is steadily rising. Without support, many would simply miss out on experiences that can shape confidence, resilience, and lifelong friendships.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, in 2024-25 we were able to support 1,709 disadvantaged children who would otherwise have missed this opportunity. For many, their visit to Barnstondale was their first chance to experience the outdoors in a safe, inclusive environment — helping to improve wellbeing, broaden horizons, and raise aspirations.

Extending Disability Provision

The number of children with complex needs visiting Barnstondale each year is increasing.

Many families face barriers to accessing inclusive opportunities, but our facilities and bursary support mean more children with disabilities can now take part in enriching experiences. In 2024-25, we welcomed hundreds of children with additional needs through both funded and non-funded visits — a number that continues to grow each year.

Barnstondale in a Box (BIAB)

In partnership with Family Toolbox and Koala Northwest, we extended our reach beyond our centre through Barnstondale in a Box (BIAB).

This six-week outreach programme allowed us to take outdoor learning directly into schools, who had a high percentage of pupils with additional needs or low attendance. Across nine schools on the Wirral, we worked with 387 children, of whom 260 had additional learning needs or disabilities. Sessions combined hands-on activities with teamwork and problem-solving, directly supporting the curriculum while building confidence. Early outcomes showed clear improvements in engagement and school attainment, particularly for children with SEND.

2024-25 HIGHLIGHTS



Children's Charity of the Year
2024.



Magical Christmas Fundraiser



Looking ahead to sustain our future.

A moment of recognition: Children's Charity of the Year

In November 2024, Barnstondale was honoured to be named Children's Charity of the Year at the Wirral Life Awards, a moment that marked not just a win, but a celebration of everything we stand for.

For over a century, Barnstondale has opened its doors to children of all abilities and backgrounds, creating a place where children can play safely and freely amongst nature, a place where children can be children. This award recognised the heart of our work, helping thousands of young people every year to grow in confidence, connect with nature, and feel a true sense of belonging. The evening was a proud moment for our dedicated team and a strong reminder of the impact we've made, and the difference we're still working to make for every child who comes to Barnstondale.

Barnstondale's Magical Christmas Fundraiser

In December 2024, Barnstondale's Magical Christmas event returned for its third year, raising £18,000 across five events and welcoming over 1,000 visitors.

The festive experience included sensory activities, crafts, games, and a visit to Santa, all designed to raise funds for the Bursary Scheme. The funds raised will help part-fund places for up to 200 disadvantaged children in 2025-26, ensuring they can access outdoor education and life-changing experiences alongside their peers.

New Opportunities, New Heights: Taking Fundraising Further

We're excited to announce that Barnstondale has secured a Silver Bond charity ballot place in the London Marathon from 2026 to 2029! This gives us two runner spots each year, helping raise vital funds through passionate supporters going the distance for our cause.

We're also proud to have been recognised by MP Matthew Patrick for our impact in the region, receiving a share of a generous donation from Omaze – how Omazing! Both milestones highlight our growing mission to support disadvantaged and disabled children with life-changing outdoor experiences.

THE CHAIR'S STATEMENT



It is a privilege to look back on a remarkable year for Barnstondale. More than 5,000 children joined us in 2024–25, over half from disadvantaged backgrounds, with 1,709 supported through our bursary scheme. Thanks to the generosity of donors, every £90 raised opened the door for a child to take part in a residential stay, experiences that build resilience, confidence, and friendships that last far beyond their visit.

This year we were proud to be named Children's Charity of the Year 2024, a recognition of our team's dedication and the incredible support of our community. Our Magical Christmas fundraiser raised £18,000, new London Marathon charity ballot places promise exciting opportunities ahead, and growing recognition from partners and supporters shows Barnstondale's role has never been more valued.

Yet demand continues to rise, and around 1,500 children could not be supported last year. That unmet need drives our determination to reach our ambitious fundraising targets and extend bursary support to ensure we fund 50% of the costs to those most in need.

The challenges of the cost-of-living crisis and reduced school budgets make our mission more vital than ever, but we look to the future with optimism. Our 10-year strategy sets out bold plans: to secure Barnstondale's long-term home, expand SEND provision, and grow our impact so that no child is left behind.

Every pound we raise is reinvested back into the mission, ensuring maximum impact for the children we serve. With your continued support, Barnstondale will remain a place where children can explore, play, and discover their own "I can" moments, and where every £90 truly changes a life.

Mark Woodger
Charity Chair of Trustees



OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

Helping more people..

On average

6000

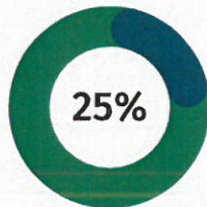
children and young people visit
Barnstondale every year.

..gain equal access

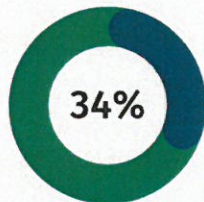
More than



of the children and young
people who visited
Barnstondale in 2024-25
were disadvantaged.



of visitors had
an additional
need or
disability in
2024-25.



of visitors
were
supported by
our Bursary
Scheme in
2024-25.

..to Outdoor Education.

A vital experience for children's development in their early years.

WHICH FEEDBACK FOUND RESULTED IN:



100%
of our visitors became
more
PHYSICALLY ACTIVE



97%
of our visitors learnt
**RESILIENCE AND
CONFIDENCE**



100%
of our visitors agree
**CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOURS
WERE POSITIVELY INFLUENCED**



91%
of our visitors left
feeling
**INSPIRED BY THE
OUTDOORS**



80%
of our visitors experienced their
**FIRST TRIP AWAY WITH
FRIENDS**

OUR BURSARY SCHEME



Think back to your childhood.

Which are your fondest memories? Was it a school residential trip? Perhaps running around with friends, completing tasks in unpredictable weather, or playing outside until the streetlights came on? These simple, joyful moments of childhood freedom and adventure are the foundation for creativity, confidence, and lifelong memories. Unfortunately, for many children today, these experiences are out of reach due to social financial hardship.

Many children across Merseyside grow up in poverty, with little or no access to structured sport or outdoor challenges. Physical inactivity, low confidence, and poor mental wellbeing are common, particularly since COVID. Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) face additional barriers, as mainstream sports facilities often lack adaptations or trained staff.

Outdoor Education offers an accessible, inclusive and transformative activity that develops resilience, problem-solving, and perseverance. Yet for disadvantaged children, cost and access remain prohibitive. Without targeted support, those who would benefit most from its confidence-building and wellbeing impacts risk being excluded.

Barnstondale's bursary scheme can address this gap by providing safe, fully inclusive, subsidised sessions for young people who would otherwise miss out. With specialist instructors, adapted equipment, and bursary support, we can ensure no child is left behind.

The Challenge

Since 2021, our Bursary Scheme has helped 4,790 children overcome financial and social barriers to take part in life-changing residential experiences. In 2024-25 alone, we supported 1,709 children.

But demand is rising fast:

- **69% of our visitors come from Merseyside, where 1 in 3 children live in poverty.**
- **Schools and families face stretched budgets and the cost-of-living crisis.**
- **Children with SEND have fewer opportunities due to the lasting effects of COVID-19.**
- **Local access to safe green spaces is shrinking due to crime and anti-social behaviour.**

For many children, a trip to Barnstondale isn't just a holiday, it's a rare chance to build confidence, independence, and social skills that can change their futures.

The Solution.

We fund up to 50% of a child's place (£90 for a 3-day residential with activities, accommodation and meals). In 2024-25, 36% of visiting children were supported by our bursary scheme. Sadly, 1,500 children who had booked did not attend.

Closing the funding gap so no child is left behind.

We need to raise £90 per child to cover bursary costs. Our goal is to support every child who applies, and with donor support, we believe we can make this happen.



"If you're the only one not going on a trip, it really hurts. Everyone else is making memories while you're left behind." — Child Participant

"For the first time ever, we were able to take the whole class away. Many of these students had never been on a school trip before. This experience changed their confidence and created a sense of belonging." — Teacher

"Barnstondale was the best! I didn't want to go home." — Young Visitor

IN THEIR WORDS

“What started as a nervous first trip turned into a day filled with personal accomplishments and new friendships.”



Overcoming Challenges at Barnstondale!

D recently had his first visit to Barnstondale Activity Centre, his first offsite activity with the group! Nervous but excited, D was especially anxious about trying the climbing wall, as he'd never climbed before. From the moment he arrived, the Barnstondale team made sure he felt comfortable and supported. With gentle encouragement from staff and peers, D faced his fears and successfully climbed the wall, eventually reaching the top!

What began as a nervous adventure ended in personal triumph and new friendships. Thanks to your support, Barnstondale continues to offer life-changing opportunities for people like D. The entire group had a blast and can't wait to return!

- Disability Positive

Disability and Regional Health Gaps

Across the UK, children and young people with disabilities are growing up under increasing pressure from intersecting inequalities rising poverty, deprivation and health challenges all compounding their everyday struggles. In the Liverpool City Region, where child poverty rates sit well above the national average and disability prevalence is among the highest in the country, families often face fragmented support, long waits for services, and significant financial strain. These barriers too often translate into developmental delays, poorer health outcomes, and educational setbacks, especially in our most deprived communities. Local charities step in as vital lifelines, yet demand consistently outstrips supply, leaving many families without the support they urgently need. That is why our role as an inclusive, accessible facility for young people up to the age of 25 with complex disabilities and needs is so important and why we are proud to provide a space that tackles these inequalities head-on, offering opportunity, support and belonging where it is needed most.

Regional Statistics for Insight



Children in the North suffer from worse health outcomes overall, including lower life expectancy, higher infant mortality, and more economic inactivity linked to ill health. Liverpool local authorities, which include Wirral, are among the worst-performing when it comes to disability-linked deprivation.



Liverpool City Region Combined Authority registers 23.8% of people living with a disability among the highest rates nationally.



32.3% of children live in relative low-income families (vs. 20.1% England average), and 20.8% in absolute poverty (vs. 15.9%).

SUPPORTING TRANSITIONS THROUGH RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCES

“Their goal is to return to school knowing ten new names of new friends in their year group and all pupils confirmed that they achieved this and more!”

For the past four years, our Year 7 cohort has visited Barnstondale as the final milestone in their Year 6 to Year 7 Transition Programme. This residential plays a vital role in building independence, resilience, social awareness, and friendships at a critical stage in our pupils' educational journey. Every year, pupils return with a sense of achievement, each tasked with learning the names of at least ten new peers, a goal all pupils achieved again this year!

Barnstondale provides a safe, welcoming environment where our students feel at ease.

The staff are consistently kind, accommodating, and responsive to our changing needs. Their flexibility and excellent communication make planning seamless and the visit highly effective. It's now a much-anticipated tradition, with growing participation driven by positive word-of-mouth from older students. This year, a third of our Year 7 pupils were eligible for Pupil Premium, and many faced financial barriers to attending. Thanks to Barnstondale's bursary scheme, we were able to offer subsidised places and flexible payment plans tailored to individual circumstances.

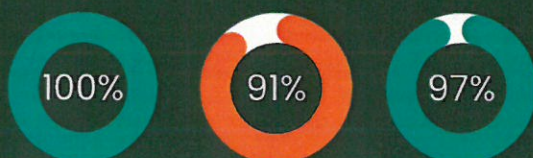


For many of these pupils, it was their first opportunity to attend a residential trip.



Confidence, Resilience and New Friendships

Feedback in 2024-25 indicated that, 100% of pupils said it was easier to make new friends, 91% felt happier about moving class or school, and staff said residential improved relationships and raised aspirations; 79% of staff felt they supported transition.



As a result we witnessed shy, uncertain pupils grow in confidence and develop new skills outside the classroom. For those from financially challenged backgrounds, the experience was not just enjoyable, it was transformative. We are deeply grateful to Barnstondale and all those who support the bursary scheme. Your generosity ensures that no child is left behind from this life-enriching experience. We've already booked next year's visit and hope to continue working together to provide this opportunity for all of our pupils.

- CTK Southport.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-35



Unlocking Potential • Expanding Horizons • Leading with Purpose

Following a recent strategic review of the charity, we have taken the opportunity to formalise our long-term direction of travel. This strategy is grounded in a deep understanding of community need, educational priorities, and the evolving landscape of outdoor learning, and it reflects our commitment to meeting those needs while continuing to deliver life-changing experiences for generations to come.

Having come through the COVID-19 pandemic in a strong position, Barnstondale now stands on firm foundations. We have emerged not only resilient, but more relevant than ever. With rising demand, increasing inclusion challenges, and a national conversation about wellbeing, equity, and access to nature, we are confidently looking ahead, shaping a future where every child, regardless of background or ability, has the chance to grow through adventure.

Why this plan matters.

We believe that every child should access nature, adventure, and growth, regardless of background, ability, or postcode.

This 10-year strategy sets out how Barnstondale will:

- Secure a permanent, inclusive home.
- Grow capacity to meet rising need.
- Shape regional and national dialogue on outdoor education.
- Embed resilience across our people, partnerships, and place

Our Vision for 2035.

By 2035, Barnstondale will:

- Secure our future home, through ownership, long-term lease, or relocation to a sustainable, inclusive base.
- Support 6,000 children annually, with at least 30% on bursaries and a strong commitment to SEND inclusion.
- Open a second site, delivering outdoor activities and tented accommodation for 50 young people, focused on secondary pupils and complex needs.
- Be recognised as a leader in curriculum linked outdoor learning, and a trusted partner to schools, health, care, and communities.
- Strengthen financial resilience, growing unrestricted income and reserves to reduce reliance on short-term grants.



“It felt like I was flying, like a Superhero!” - Oli

Oli uses a wheelchair due to a rare form of cerebral palsy, but that didn't stop him from taking on the challenge. With a supportive harness, a determined spirit, and plenty of encouragement, he climbed all the way to the top, his smile growing with every step. Afterwards, Oli told us, “It felt like I was flying. Like a superhero.”

Oli had never joined his friends in climbing before, but he felt immensely proud of his courage, his willingness to try something new, and his trust that we could support him. We're so grateful Oli let us be part of his superhero story — Go Oli! You inspire us all.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025–35

Our 6 Priorities for 2035.



A. Secure & Expand Our Footprint

- Secure long-term site, explore new land (15–20 acres).
- Develop second site for secondary/SEND.



C. Deepen Educational Relevance

- Deliver curriculum-linked programmes with MATs.
- Expand Barnstondale in a Box and CPD for educators.



E. Grow Influence & Voice

- Share impact nationally.
- Advocate for funded outdoor education.



B. Build Capacity

- Grow staff and volunteers.
- Invest in training, wellbeing, and apprenticeships.



D. Champion Inclusion & Wellbeing

- Co-design facilities for SEND and trauma-informed use.
- Partner with health and care for resilience-focused breaks.



F. Strengthen for Future Generations

- Increase unrestricted income and reserves.
- Evolve governance for scale and sustainability.

Making It Happen.

This vision is bold, but it's grounded in Barnstondale's legacy and built on:

- A proven, inclusive delivery model
- Loyal supporters and community relationships
- Strong leadership and a values-led team

We'll need:

- Vision-aligned funders and land partners
- A strategic board and stakeholder group
- Ongoing listening to those we serve

Our Promise.

For the next 10 years, Barnstondale will be a space where growth is possible, not just for children, but for the systems around them. We won't just respond to change.

We'll help lead it.



“I think I like it, it is special, very good”
– Owen

Owen has cerebral palsy and uses a communication pad to share his thoughts but his face said it all before the words even came. As he felt the sensation of being harnessed up the climbing wall with the support of a trusted team, his expressions lit up with joy, telling us how much he was enjoying the moment long before he could communicate it. It was an emotional experience for everyone watching. Owen had never put a harness on before or felt the sensation of climbing. Afterwards, using his communication pad, Owen told us: “I think I like it. It is special. Very good.” Owen, thank you for letting us be part of something so special. You inspire us with your bravery and spirit.

A THANKS TO OUR DONORS

“Without donor support, inclusive outdoor learning experiences simply wouldn't be accessible for everyone.”

Thank you to Our Donors.

In 2024–25, more than 5,000 children and young people enjoyed transformative residential experiences at Barnstondale. 55% were disadvantaged, and thanks to our bursary scheme, 34% received financial support to make their visit possible.

Behind these numbers are real children many facing the weight of family financial struggles, the impact of the cost-of-living crisis, and fewer opportunities for free outdoor play than ever before. For them, your support has meant the difference between missing out and discovering their own “I Can!” moments.

The Impact of Your Generosity.

With your help, we provided part-funded residential places for 1,709 disadvantaged children. These children explored woodlands, conquered outdoor challenges, and built confidence that will stay with them for life. Many had never travelled beyond their own neighbourhoods before, others had never built a tent or a fire.

Every £90 raised supports another child. In 2024–25, almost 1,500 children applied, setting a fundraising target of £135,000. While we didn't quite reach that, your generosity brought us closer, helping us make residential affordable for as many children as possible. The closer we get to 50% supported, the more doors we open for young people who need it most.

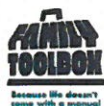
Looking Ahead.

As a charity that reinvests every pound back into delivering opportunities for children, we rely on donors like you to remove financial barriers and create opportunities for children to grow in confidence, independence, and resilience. The need is as urgent as ever, but with your continued support, together we can ensure no child is left behind.

From everyone at Barnstondale, thank you for changing lives.



Trust and Foundations



Pilkington Charities' Fund

P. H. HOLT
FOUNDATION

SKELTON
— CHARITY —



Bathgate
Charitable Trust

OWIRRAL

THE ELIZABETH L RATHBONE CHARITABLE TRUST



TESCO In partnership with



Charles Brotherton Trust

Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust



campion
SOLICITORS

Price Parry
Charitable Trust

Wirral Together Fund



medicash
FOUNDATION



TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



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Overview of the charity's purpose, activities, and achievements.

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Details of the charity's legal framework, organisational structure, and management processes.

3 Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

Outline of trustees' duties in preparing and approving the financial statements.

4 Financial Summary

Summary of income, expenditure, and financial performance for the year.

4 Reserves Policy

Explanation of the charity's reserves position and policy.

5 Key Management Personnel

Information on key staff roles and remuneration.

6 Risk

Summary of key risks and management strategies.

7 Financial Statement

Detailed financial statements and accompanying notes.

INTRODUCTION



The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for The Barnstondale Centre for the year ended 31st March 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were Dr. Mark Woodger (Chair), Vicki Shaw, Peter Davison, John Elliott, Jonathan Brennan, Dr. Michael Fallon, Caroline Halewood, Mark Edgar, Daniel Griffiths (resigned 30th April 2024), and Jac Jenkins (resigned 31st March 2025).

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Barnstondale Centre is a charitable company limited by guarantee (company no. 4201418), registered as a charity on 12th July 2001 (charity no. 1087502). The charity was set up to acquire and take over the undertaking of the Charity known as the Barnstondale Centre (Established by a Trust Deed, dated 3rd October 1989, made between Margaret Shirley Thurman (1) and the said Margaret Shirley Thurman, Graham Barrie Marsh, Lloyd Charles Piper and Nigel Willis Kenwright (2)) (Former registered charity no. 702523).

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which contains the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed in accordance with its Articles of Association.

The Directors are referred to as Members. In the event of the company being wound up, the Members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10. The principal objective of the charity is to offer an expanding range of fun, challenging and memorable experiences to all, developing confidence, self-esteem, and life skills. It aims to do this through the use of an inclusive residential experience and the safe provision of adventurous activities delivered by dedicated, qualified staff.

All directors of the company are also trustees of the charity, and there are no other trustees. All the Trustees named on the Legal and Administrative Information page served throughout the year, except as declared. The board has the power to appoint additional trustees as it considers fit to do so.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission, including public benefit guidance.



TRUSTEES, RECRUITMENT AND INDUCTION

The Trustees are from a variety of relevant professional, business and charitable backgrounds, with a number having experience in the education and youth services fields. The composition of the Trustees' Board, and their experience and skills, are regularly reviewed to ensure the number and balance of trustees remains appropriate.

The Board has not recruited any new members this last year.

New Trustees are invited to provide a CV and meet the CEO and the Chair of Trustees. Those without background knowledge of Barnstondale Centre are given a tour and invited to attend a board meeting before they commit themselves. If appropriate, the Board formally vote in new members following this process. The aim is to have a varied and diverse Trustee Board with a mix of skills that match Barnstondale's needs.

After being elected, a new trustee is provided with the main documents which set out the operational framework of the charity, including the Memorandum and Articles, Previous Board Meeting Minutes, Business Plan and Financial Statements. Many trustees make frequent visits to Barnstondale Centre giving rise to an easy and informal relationship with the CEO, the rest of the staff and other trustees.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

The Board meets quarterly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. If required, sub-committees and working groups are formed to oversee specific projects for a set period.

Staff

The day-to-day running of the Barnstondale Centre lies with the CEO and, through him, the management team. The Trustees are grateful to all members of staff for their continued support during another challenging but successful year. Barnstondale seeks to be an employer of choice and reviews on an annual basis the level of remuneration and other benefits awarded to staff.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

The Barnstondale Centre's approach to paying senior staff is to appropriately reward staff for the work they do. It recognised the need to ensure value for money for the charity, balanced with the need to recruit and retain staff. The Board of Trustees is responsible for defining the policy and deciding on the salaries of the CEO and Senior Managers and all salaries are reviewed on an annual basis.

Volunteers

The Trustees recognise the extremely valuable contribution made by volunteers and wish to place on record their thanks for their commitment. Volunteering at Barnstondale covers many areas of work including activity delivery, event support, domestic duties, grounds and building maintenance and much more. It is hard to quantify the monetary value of this voluntary support, but the value is recognised and appreciated by staff and visitors alike.

STATEMENT FOR TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITY

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Barnstondale Centre for the purposes of Company Law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounts Standards and Applicable Law). Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the situation of the charitable company and the income and of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements, on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor

Alexander Myerson & Co. Ltd. are deemed to be appointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

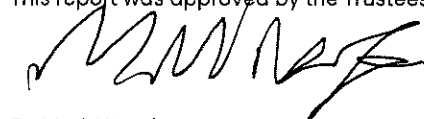
Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- So far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- Each Trustee has taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

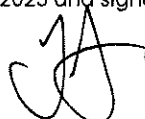
Approval

By approving the Trustees Annual Report, the Trustees are also approving the strategic report in their capacity as company directors.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 5 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Dr. Mark Woodger
Chair of Trustees



Jon Muspratt
CEO

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Statement of Financial Activities reports an overall surplus of £53,697 for the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024: £62,028). This is made up of a surplus from unrestricted funds of £56,966 (2024: £35,557) and a restricted fund deficit of £3,269 (2024: surplus £26,471). Added to funds brought forward of £1,035,262, this gives total funds carried forward of £1,088,959, of which £503,525 is represented by fixed assets.

We are pleased to report this surplus in a year where rising costs and a competitive fundraising environment have continued to present challenges. Our income from unrestricted funds increased by 10% to £818,239 (2024: £741,279), reflecting strong demand for our services and the commitment of our supporters. Restricted income, which totaled £58,542 (2024: £87,197), remained an important part of our delivery, enabling us to continue offering bursaries and free places worth £60,275 (2024: £56,830) to children and young people in need.

Bank and cash balances in unrestricted funds at year-end stood at £727,031 (2024: £579,813). These reserves are held strategically to secure a permanent home for Barnstondale while also supporting our aspiration to acquire a second site. Within this total, £50,000 is allocated to a Building Maintenance Fund and £120,000 to Draw Down Costs. Free reserves of £294,242 (2024: £190,085) equate to 3–6 months of operating expenditure, in line with our policy. Together, these reserves provide both resilience and ambition, ensuring stability for today's operations while laying the foundations for growth in line with our 10-year strategy.

GOING CONCERN

The Trustees have assessed the charity's financial health and confirm that it remains a going concern. Over the past 12 months, the charity has delivered a net surplus, continuing the year-on-year growth trend established since the COVID-19 pandemic. This reflects careful financial management, consistent demand for services, and the continued generosity of supporters.

While wider economic pressures in the UK remain, impacting schools, families, and the charity sector, Barnstondale is well positioned to respond. The organisation continues to operate a successful bursary scheme, ensuring children from disadvantaged backgrounds can access residential and outdoor learning experiences, and the Trustees remain committed to reinvesting every pound back into the mission.

Looking ahead, the charity's 10-year strategy sets out clear ambitions: to secure a sustainable long-term home, expand provision for children and young people with SEND, and explore opportunities for growth, including potential land acquisition and the development of a second site. Strengthening reserves and building unrestricted funds are therefore priorities to ensure Barnstondale has both stability and the capacity to act on future opportunities.

Based on current forecasts and risk assessments, the Trustees are confident that Barnstondale will continue to meet its obligations, deliver life-changing experiences for children and young people, and achieve its strategic ambitions over the foreseeable future.

RESERVES POLICY

As a matter of policy, the Trustees review the level and purpose of reserves each year, considering unrestricted funds held in the form of investments, cash, and cash equivalents that are not restricted or designated. In doing so, the Board considers the Charity's exposure to major risks and uncertainties, including their potential impact on income streams, expenditure commitments, and the long-term sustainability of the organisation.

The principal short-term financial risk remains a decline in site user fees, which could be affected by broader economic pressures on schools and families, as well as changes in funding priorities or unforeseen events. In response, the Trustees have agreed that unrestricted reserves should be maintained at a minimum of three months' core expenditure (currently assessed at £180,000). This level of reserve provides a safeguard that would allow the charity to continue operating its essential services in the event of a significant and sudden reduction in income, while Trustees and management work to secure new funding sources.

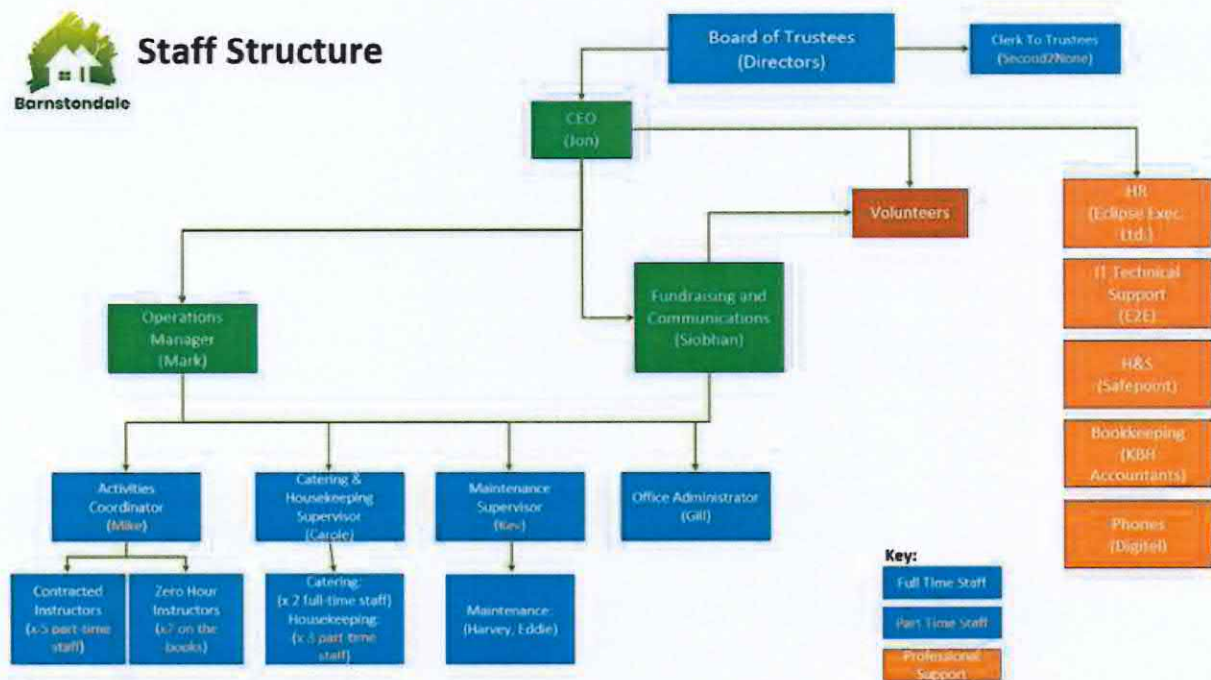
Barnstondale's strategic priorities remain clear. The organisation is preparing for future capital development and potential land acquisition opportunities in line with its 10-year strategy, which aims to secure a sustainable home, expand SEND provision, and grow capacity to meet rising demand. Strengthening reserves is therefore not only prudent but essential to ensure Barnstondale is ready to act when opportunities for investment and growth arise.

The Trustees believe that maintaining reserves at this level, and building them further where possible, will protect the charity against risk, support future ambitions, and ensure Barnstondale continues to deliver life-changing opportunities for children and young people. In doing so, the charity remains true to its mission: giving every visitor the opportunity to explore, learn, grow, and feel inspired by the outdoors.

KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL



Staff Structure



RISK

The Charity's trustees have considered the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and review those risks, and the established systems and procedures to manage those risks, through the oversight of a risk register at each board meeting. This register is directly linked to the operational program to ensure that risks, which cannot be removed, are mitigated through the operation of the Charity's staff. There are three stages of this 'defence and assurance system': staff checks, trustee oversight and the annual interrogation of appointed auditors and external assessors.

RISK

**OPERATIONAL SAFETY FAILURE OR
ACCIDENT RISK**

**CHILD PROTECTION OR SAFEGUARDING
FAILURE**

**SCHOOL'S FUNDING BEING
CUT/STRETCHED SO MUCH THAT
AFFORDABILITY OF EXTERNAL SCHOOL
TRIPS IS NOT POSSIBLE**

LOSS OF SIGNIFICANT INCOME

**INABILITY TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN
PEOPLE WITH THE REQUIRED SKILLS
AND EXPERTISE**

**IT SYSTEM FAILURE OR CYBER
SECURITY RISK**

**LOSS OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
RESULTING IN LOSS OF SITE CAPACITY
AND INCOME**

MITIGATION

Managed by the Operations Manager through detailed scrutiny, review and reporting and audited through a third-party accreditor at Learning Outside of The Classroom (LOtC) – an accreditation, endorsed by the Department for Education.

Centre-wide staff induction and on-going training and briefings by qualified members of staff.

All staff Enhanced DBS checks and restricted and controlled site access.

Safeguarding and Whistle-Blowing policies.

Annually review prices against local and national competitors to remain competitive and affordable.

Include money in the budget for the Bursary Scheme to financially support and part-fund visits to Barnstondale for those most in need.

We are diversifying our income generation opportunities as much as possible, focusing particularly on new fundraising events, strengthening the support from individual and corporate donors as well as building a stronger narrative for trusts and statutory grants.

Established a staff welfare and benefits package to support staff and promote positive mental health and work-life balance.

Conduct annual Training Needs Analysis which leads to whole staff training and individual learning plans.

Establish and review staff succession plan.

Managed in partnership with key third party partners and suppliers.

Robust site and facilities management.

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Barnstondale Centre (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

17/01/2017

17/01/2017

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees, who are also the directors of the Charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity'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 Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Enquiries of management and those charged with governance were held in order to identify any laws and regulations that could be expected to have a material impact on the financial statements. Throughout the audit, the team were updated with the outcomes of these enquiries including consideration as to where and how fraud may occur in the charity.

The audit procedures undertaken to address any potential risk in relating to irregularities (which include fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations) included: enquiries of management and those charged with governance on how the charity complies with relevant laws, regulations and any cases actual or potential litigation or claims; examination of appropriate legal correspondence; review of trustee minutes; testing of journal entries for appropriateness; and analytical procedures on account balances to identify variances against expectation which may show indications of fraud.

No instances of material non-compliance were identified, although the prospect of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is inherently difficult. This is due to; difficulty in detecting irregularities; limits imposed by the effectiveness of the entity's controls; and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed. Irregularities as a result of fraud are inherently more difficult to detect than those that resulting from error. Despite the audit has being planned and performed in accordance with ISAs (UK), there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements may not be detected.

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE


INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at:
<https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Paul Burns BSc BFP FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Alexander Myerson & Co Limited


12/12/25

Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Alexander House
61 Rodney Street
Liverpool
L1 9ER

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Total 2025	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
Notes		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	33,822	58,542	92,364	2,989	87,197	90,186
Charitable activities	4	745,994	-	745,994	702,599	-	702,599
Other trading activities	5	13,787	-	13,787	24,318	-	24,318
Other income	6	24,636	-	24,636	11,373	-	11,373
Total income		818,239	58,542	876,781	741,279	87,197	828,476
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	7	11,857	-	11,857	12,926	-	12,926
Charitable activities	8	749,416	61,811	811,227	692,796	60,726	753,522
Total expenditure		761,273	61,811	823,084	705,722	60,726	766,448
Net income/(expenditure)		56,966	- 3,269	53,697	35,557	26,471	62,028
Transfers between funds							
		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	10	56,966	- 3,269	53,697	35,557	26,471	62,028
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		965,641	69,621	1,035,262	930,084	43,150	973,234
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		1,022,607	66,352	1,088,959	965,641	69,621	1,035,262

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		2025	2024
	Notes	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	503,525	552,697
Investments	15	173,580	170,000
		<u>677,105</u>	<u>722,697</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	16	109,793	63,105
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>762,191</u>	<u>612,294</u>
		871,984	675,399
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(433,156)</u>	<u>(329,508)</u>
Net current assets		<u>438,828</u>	<u>345,891</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		1,115,933	1,068,588
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	<u>(26,974)</u>	<u>(33,326)</u>
Net assets		<u><u>1,088,959</u></u>	<u><u>1,035,262</u></u>
The funds of the Charity			
Restricted income funds	24	66,352	69,621
Unrestricted funds		<u>1,022,607</u>	<u>965,641</u>
		<u><u>1,088,959</u></u>	<u><u>1,035,262</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 5 December 2025



Dr. Mark Woodger
Trustee

Company registration number 4201418 (England and Wales)

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		2025		2024	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	27		174,970		104,402
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(15,142)		(22,270)	
Proceeds from disposal of tangible fixed assets		-		6,500	
Purchase of investments		<u>(3,580)</u>		<u>(170,000)</u>	
Net cash used in investing activities			(18,722)		(186,220)
Financing activities					
Repayment of bank loans		<u>(6,351)</u>		<u>(6,304)</u>	
Net cash used in financing activities			<u>(6,351)</u>		<u>(6,304)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			149,897		(88,122)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			<u>612,294</u>		<u>700,416</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u><u>762,191</u></u>		<u><u>612,294</u></u>

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Barnstondale Centre is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Storeton Lane, Barnston, Wirral, Merseyside, CH61 1BX.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be reliably measured. In accordance with the Charity SORP (FRS102), the value of volunteers' time is not measured.

On receipt donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Deposits received for accommodation and outdoor pursuits are treated as deferred income and released to income at the time of the visit.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Charitable activities expenditure comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and also costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

These represent costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold land and buildings	Straight line between 10 years and 24 years
Activity equipment	25% on cost
Plant, equipment and IT	10% 25% and 33.3% on cost
Computers	25% on cost
Motor vehicles	25% on cost

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

Tangible fixed assets costing less than £500 are written off to repairs and renewals.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1	Accounting policies	(Continued)
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1.10	Basic financial assets	
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Financial assets classified as other financial assets are stated at fair value with any gains or losses arising on remeasurement recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss includes any dividend or interest earned on the financial asset.

1.11	Other financial assets	
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Financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity dates that the Charity has the positive intent and ability to hold to maturity are classified as held to maturity investments.

Held to maturity investments are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less any impairment, with revenue recognised on an effective yield basis.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a debt instrument and of allocating the interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the debt instrument to the net carrying amount on initial recognition.

1.12	Impairment of financial assets	
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Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through income and expenditure, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected.

If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

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

1.14	Basic financial liabilities	
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Basic financial liabilities, including creditors are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.15 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.16 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and gifts	33,822	47,971	81,792	2,989	51,197	54,186
Grants	-	10,572	10,572	-	36,000	36,000
	<u>33,822</u>	<u>58,542</u>	<u>92,364</u>	<u>2,989</u>	<u>87,197</u>	<u>90,186</u>
Grants receivable for core activities						
LCVS	-	-	-	-	3,000	3,000
Wirral Borough Council	-	2,002	2,002	-	31,000	31,000
Angela Crockett	-	3,125	3,125	-	-	-
Duchy of Lancashire	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benevolent Fund	-	1,945	1,945	-	-	-
Wooden Spoon	-	3,400	3,400	-	-	-
Other	-	100	100	-	2,000	2,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>10,572</u>	<u>10,572</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>36,000</u>

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

4 Charitable activities

	Accommodation and sports hire	Outdoor activities	Total
	2025	2025	2025
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	468,667	-	468,667
Sports hall	4,600	-	4,600
Outdoor pursuits	-	272,727	272,727
	<u>473,267</u>	<u>272,727</u>	<u>745,994</u>
Analysis by fund			
Unrestricted funds - general	<u>473,267</u>	<u>272,727</u>	<u>745,994</u>
	<u>473,267</u>	<u>272,727</u>	<u>745,994</u>

	Accommodation and sports hire	Outdoor activities	Total
	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£
Charitable activities	448,825	-	448,825
Sports hall	5,450	-	5,450
Outdoor pursuits	-	248,324	248,324
	<u>454,275</u>	<u>248,324</u>	<u>702,599</u>
Analysis by fund			
Unrestricted funds - general	<u>454,275</u>	<u>248,324</u>	<u>702,599</u>
	<u>454,275</u>	<u>248,324</u>	<u>702,599</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2025	2024
	£	£
Fundraising events	<u>13,787</u>	<u>24,318</u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2025	2024
	£	£
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	6,499
Bank interest	24,636	4,874
	<u>24,636</u>	<u>11,373</u>

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Other fundraising costs	11,857	12,926

8 Charitable activities

	Accommodation and sports hire 2025 £	Outdoor activities 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Staff costs	437,422	-	437,422
Depreciation and impairment	64,314	-	64,314
Rent & rates	12,100	-	12,100
Insurance	16,235	-	16,235
Light & heat	32,925	-	32,925
Telephone	3,945	-	3,945
Advertising	990	-	990
Sundry	2,656	-	2,656
Repairs	32,233	-	32,233
Catering	50,220	-	50,220
Motor expenses	3,914	-	3,914
Outdoor Activities	-	4,816	4,816
Cleaning	20,723	-	20,723
Training	1,320	-	1,320
	678,998	4,816	683,814
Share of support costs (see note 9)	76,015	38,007	114,022
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	8,927	4,464	13,391
	763,940	47,287	811,227
Analysis by fund			
Unrestricted funds - general	702,129	47,287	749,416
Restricted funds	61,811	-	61,811
	763,940	47,287	811,227

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8

Charitable activities

(Continued)

	Accommodation and sports hire	Outdoor activities	Total
	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£
Staff costs	417,235	-	417,235
Depreciation and impairment	66,530	-	66,530
Rent & rates	8,971	-	8,971
Insurance	13,925	-	13,925
Light & heat	23,528	-	23,528
Telephone	4,452	-	4,452
Advertising	2,367	-	2,367
Sundry	2,321	-	2,321
Repairs	27,493	-	27,493
Catering	44,819	-	44,819
Motor expenses	3,663	-	3,663
Outdoor Activities	-	2,416	2,416
Cleaning	19,812	-	19,812
Training	162	-	162
	<u>635,278</u>	<u>2,416</u>	<u>637,694</u>
Share of support costs (see note 9)	66,846	36,675	103,521
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	<u>7,947</u>	<u>4,360</u>	<u>12,307</u>
	<u>710,071</u>	<u>43,451</u>	<u>753,522</u>
Analysis by fund			
Unrestricted funds - general	649,345	43,451	692,796
Restricted funds	<u>60,726</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,726</u>
	<u>710,071</u>	<u>43,451</u>	<u>753,522</u>

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

9 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	88,324	87,201
Post & stationery	1,286	1,216
Computer costs	5,191	3,914
Hospitality	59	26
Bank charges	1,162	2,064
Bookkeeping	18,000	9,100
Governance costs	13,391	12,307
	<u>127,413</u>	<u>115,828</u>
Analysed between:		
Accommodation and sports hire	84,942	74,793
Outdoor activity	42,471	41,035
	<u>127,413</u>	<u>115,828</u>

10 Net movement in funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	4,000	3,300
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	64,314	66,530
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(6,499)
	<u>68,314</u>	<u>63,331</u>

11 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration from the Charity during the year.

12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Management Staff	3	3
Administrative Staff	1	1
Catering & Housekeeping Department	8	7
Maintenance Department	5	3
Activities Department	16	14
	<u>33</u>	<u>28</u>

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12	Employees	(Continued)	
	Employment costs	2025	2024
		£	£
	Wages and salaries	476,952	454,293
	Social security costs	30,667	31,755
	Other pension costs	18,127	18,388
		<u>525,746</u>	<u>504,436</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	<u>123,657</u>	<u>100,181</u>

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly of the entity. The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees, CEO, the operations manager, the finance manager and the fundraising and communications manager.

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings	Activity equipment	Plant, equipment and IT	Computers	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 1 April 2024	1,858,325	263,901	239,416	22,591	24,490	2,408,723
Additions	-	11,597	-	3,545	-	15,142
At 31 March 2025	1,858,325	275,498	239,416	26,136	24,490	2,423,865
Depreciation and impairment						
At 1 April 2024	1,409,626	229,089	171,198	21,625	24,488	1,856,026
Depreciation charged in the year	31,706	16,033	15,123	1,452	-	64,314
At 31 March 2025	1,441,332	245,122	186,321	23,077	24,488	1,920,340
Carrying amount						
At 31 March 2025	416,993	30,376	53,095	3,059	2	503,525
At 31 March 2024	448,699	34,812	68,218	966	2	552,697

15 Fixed asset investments

	Hampshire Trust Bank	Redwood Bank	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or valuation			
At 1 April 2024	85,000	85,000	170,000
Additions	3,580	-	3,580
At 31 March 2025	88,580	85,000	173,580
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2025	88,580	85,000	173,580
At 31 March 2024	85,000	85,000	170,000

16 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	102,182	57,412
Prepayments and accrued income	7,611	5,693
	109,793	63,105

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

17 Loans and overdrafts

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank loans	<u>33,224</u>	<u>39,576</u>
Payable within one year	6,250	6,250
Payable after one year	<u>26,974</u>	<u>33,326</u>
Amounts included above which fall due after five years:		
Payable by instalments	<u>2,076</u>	<u>8,326</u>

The loan relates to a government backed bounce back loan, which is a fixed 10 year loan. This can be paid back earlier with no early repayment charge.

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

		2025	2024
	Notes	£	£
Bank loans	17	6,250	6,250
Other taxation and social security		62,160	50,440
Deferred income	20	236,079	147,851
Trade creditors		11,084	11,379
Other creditors		106,434	107,768
Accruals		<u>11,149</u>	<u>5,820</u>
		<u>433,156</u>	<u>329,508</u>

19 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

		2025	2024
	Notes	£	£
Bank loans	17	<u>26,974</u>	<u>33,326</u>

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

20 Deferred income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Arising from money received in advance	<u>236,079</u>	<u>147,851</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	<u>236,079</u>	<u>147,851</u>

Movements in the year:

Deferred income at 1 April 2024	147,851	207,393
Released from previous periods	(147,851)	(207,393)
Resources deferred in the year	236,079	147,851

Deferred income at 31 March 2025	<u>236,079</u>	<u>147,851</u>
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21 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025	2024
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>18,127</u>	<u>18,388</u>

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund.

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2025	2025	2025
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2025:			
Tangible assets	468,365	35,160	503,525
Investments	173,580	-	173,580
Current assets/(liabilities)	407,635	31,193	438,828
Long term liabilities	(26,974)	-	(26,974)
	<u>1,022,606</u>	<u>66,353</u>	<u>1,088,959</u>

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	515,557	37,140	552,697
Investments	170,000	-	170,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	313,410	32,481	345,891
Long term liabilities	(33,326)	-	(33,326)
	<u>965,641</u>	<u>69,621</u>	<u>1,035,262</u>

23 Designated funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

Movement in current year funds

	Balance at 1st Apr 2024 £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31st Mar 2025 £
Building maintenance fund	50,000	-	-	50,000
Site development fund	90,000	-	-	90,000
Site building and equipment	515,556	(62,333)	15,142	468,365
Draw Down Costs	120,000	-	-	120,000
	<u>775,556</u>	<u>(62,333)</u>	<u>15,142</u>	<u>728,365</u>

Movement in comparative year funds

	Balance at 1st Apr 2023 £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31st Mar 2024 £
Building maintenance fund	50,000	-	-	50,000
Site development fund	90,000	-	-	90,000
Site building and equipment	557,386	(64,549)	22,719	515,556
Draw Down Costs	-	-	120,000	120,000
	<u>697,386</u>	<u>(64,549)</u>	<u>142,719</u>	<u>775,556</u>

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

24 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

Movement in current year funds

	Balance at 1st Apr 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31st Mar 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Other funds	32,481	58,542	(59,830)	-	31,193
Acorn building	37,140	-	(1,981)	-	35,159
	<u>69,621</u>	<u>58,542</u>	<u>(61,811)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,352</u>

Movement in comparative year funds

	Balance at 1st Apr 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31st Mar 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Other funds	4,029	87,197	(58,745)	-	32,481
Acorn building	39,121	-	(1,981)	-	37,140
	<u>43,150</u>	<u>87,197</u>	<u>(60,726)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,621</u>

25 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the Charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Within one year	2,500	2,500
Between two and five years	10,000	10,000
In over five years	32,500	35,000
	<u>45,000</u>	<u>47,500</u>

The operating lease represents a lease for rent of premise to The Netta Trust. The lease is negotiated over terms of 25 years and rentals are fixed £2,500 per annum.

26 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

BARNSTONDALE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

27	Cash generated from operations	2025 £	2024 £
	Surplus for the year	53,697	62,028
	Adjustments for:		
	Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(6,499)
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	64,314	66,530
	Movements in working capital:		
	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(46,688)	7,576
	Increase in creditors	15,419	34,309
	Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	88,228	(59,542)
	Cash generated from operations	174,970	104,402

28	Analysis of changes in net funds	Balance at 1st Apr 2024 £	Cash flows £	Balance at 31st Mar 2025 £
	Cash at bank and in hand	612,294	149,897	762,191
	Loans falling due within one year	(6,250)	-	(6,250)
	Loans falling due after more than one year	(33,326)	6,352	(26,974)
		572,718	156,249	728,967