



Annual Report

2024-2025



Community Works

Because life matters...

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Community Works CIO

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Mr. Timothy Ward (from Jan 2025)

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Rebecca Lawson-Tancred
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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mr. Rob Rolls

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Ben Poole

Chairman's Report

My first duty as the new Chair of Community Works is to extend my heartfelt thanks to our outgoing Chair, David Sharp, who has led the organisation with dedication and integrity for the past ten years. Under his guidance, Community Works navigated some of the most challenging periods in its history, including the Covid pandemic and the successful merger of Thirsk Community Care and Thirsk Clock. It has been a privilege to work alongside David, and stepping into his shoes is both an honour and a daunting task.

I would also like to offer a warm welcome to our new CEO, Sarah Gill, who has already made a strong and positive impression through her open, collaborative style of leadership. My sincere thanks also go to our dedicated and compassionate staff team, whose daily commitment and care continue to

make such a meaningful difference in our community. And finally, but most importantly, I want to express our deepest gratitude to our volunteers. Without their time, energy, and generosity, Community Works simply could not deliver the wide range of services that so many local people depend upon.

The charity sector is currently facing significant challenges, with increasing demand for services coupled with ever-tightening funding. In response, it is vital that Community Works continues to build its resilience and sustainability — generating more income through our own activities, engaging our beneficiaries, and strengthening the support we receive from the local community.

When speaking with local residents, it's clear that Community Works is still something of a "best-kept



secret" in Thirsk. While many recognise our Re-use Shop, far fewer are aware of the breadth and impact of the support we provide.

One of our key aims moving forward is to raise the organisation's profile and ensure that more people understand who we are, what we do, and how they can get involved. Through this report and the launch of our new strategy at the AGM, we will begin that important journey.

Tim Ward
Chair
Community Works

Message From The CEO

It is my pleasure to introduce the 2024–25 Annual Report for Community Works CIO.

Although I was not part of the organisation during this reporting period, I want to begin by recognising and celebrating the dedication of everyone who contributed to our work across the year. From staff and volunteers to trustees and partners, Community Works continued to provide essential support and opportunities to people in our communities. The year was not without its challenges. Charities everywhere have been facing the pressures of rising costs, growing demand, and increasing complexity in the needs of local people. What stands out to me in looking back over this report is how resilient Community

Works has been. The services delivered during 2024–25 show commitment, adaptability, and a determination to make a difference when it matters most.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the leadership team, staff, and volunteers who carried this organisation forward through the year. Their achievements, reflected in the following pages, demonstrate the heart of Community Works: people coming together to support one another, create connections, and strengthen the fabric of community life.

As I step into the role of Chief Executive, I do so with a deep respect for what has already been built. I am excited by the strong foundations laid in 2024–25 and the opportunities ahead to grow, strengthen, and extend our impact.



Together with our staff, trustees, volunteers, and partners, we will continue to develop Community Works so it remains a trusted, vital presence in the lives of local people.

I hope you find the stories and numbers in this report inspiring. They capture a year of hard work, collaboration, and meaningful impact.

Thank you for your continued support as we move forward with confidence and ambition.

Sarah Gill
CEO
Community Works

About Community Works

Our Vision

To improve the life chances of everyone we serve and to build resilience through our programmes and engagements.

Our Values



Integrity: We will be honest, open and transparent.



Compassion: Compassion and respect are at the heart of everything we do.



Inclusivity: We welcome everyone without judgement.



Fairness: We endeavour to act in a fair manner and challenge injustice around us.



Openness: We are open to collaboration, change and listening to feedback.

What We Do

Community Works is here to make life a little easier, a little fairer, and a lot more connected for people in and around Thirsk. Every day, we provide practical support to individuals and families who might otherwise struggle alone. That can mean a food parcel in a moment of crisis, a hot meal delivered to someone who cannot cook for themselves, or a lift to a hospital appointment for someone without transport.

But it is about more than services. Our Re:Use Store makes homes, provides people furniture at reduced prices and promotes a more environmentally friendly approach to preloved items. Our women's projects, men's sheds, carers' support and counselling services offer safe spaces for people to share experiences and build resilience. Through our volunteers, community groups and partnerships, we bring people together in ways that reduce isolation and strengthen the fabric of our local area.

At the heart of this are 19 dedicated staff and more than 90 volunteers. Between them they deliver frontline services, manage operations, run shops and vans, and provide the leadership and governance that keep the organisation strong. It is their combined effort that ensures Community Works continues to be a trusted and vital presence in our community.

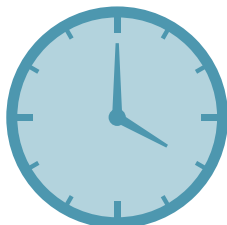
Whether it is food, friendship, transport, advice or simply a listening ear, Community Works exists to ensure everyone who needs help receives it.

Year At a Glance

OVERALL

10,464

Hours were spent volunteering
for Community Works



7,192

Times Community
Works offered support
to people

377

New people were
supported by
Community Works



MEN'S SHEDS

425
Times Visited

58

Men received
individual or
group support
across the year



FOOD BANK



1189

People Supported

442

Households



CARER'S BREAK



129

Clients Served
(with 15 different people)

MEALS ON WHEELS



1608

Meals Delivered

RE:USE



480

Families Were Helped

CATALYST PROJECT

130 women accessed Catlayst over the five year period, 38 within the year April 2024 to March 2025.



A total of 26 individuals attended groups in Thirsk and Richmond.

And 25 accessed support from the Head of Women's work.

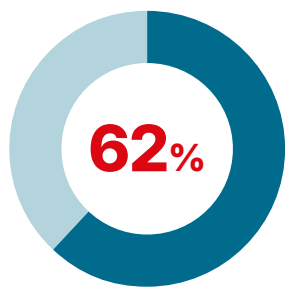
8 women benefitted from receiving counselling from our year 4 student counsellors.

Groups ran on Tuesday mornings in Richmond and Wednesday mornings in Thirsk.

KEYWORK

165 individuals benefited from Key Work Support.

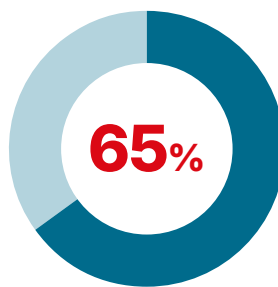
Rise 2 Thrive and Multiply Projects successfully delivered support to over 90 individuals.



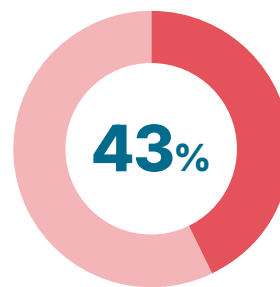
of these engaged with Key Workers on a project receiving multiple appointments.



achieved some kind of positive outcome from their support.



felt their mental wellbeing had improved due to Key Work Support.



gained employability focused support.

CAR SCHEME



OLDER PERSON'S SERVICES

1530
Number of
Contacts Served

252
Clients Served

Across 50 weeks with 4 sessions per week until September and 3 sessions per week from October.

Service Spotlights



MEN IN SHEDS



FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP



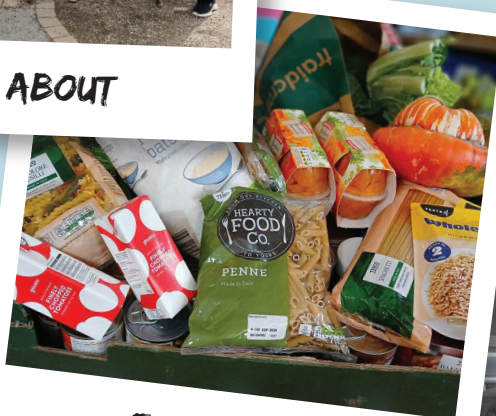
TIME FOR TIME



OUT 'N' ABOUT



OLDER PEOPLE'S SERVICES



FOOD BANK



MEALS ON WHEELS

Food Bank

The Community Works Food Bank exists to provide emergency food and essential supplies to individuals and families experiencing crisis or financial hardship. It is totally dependent on donations and ran at a cost to Community Works. We work to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry, offering not just food parcels but also compassion, dignity, and practical support. By responding quickly to urgent needs, the Food Bank helps to ease immediate pressures while connecting people to wider services that can support them in addressing the underlying issues they face.

Key achievements:

We successfully bid for 2 grants from North Yorkshire Council, receiving a total of £13,500. We also had a grant from Broadacres of £400.

Donation levels were very similar to 2023/4. We helped by two Fareshare/Tesco initiatives, which boosted donations. Local business also made some substantial food donations, and the

Thirsk Community Garden, run by the Probation Service, provided fresh fruit and veg in season.

The food bank volunteers are a largely self-organising team continuing to provide most of the foodbank effort at no cost.

New developments:

We set up a new partnership with The Hygiene Bank, which is a national charity providing donations of non-food items such as toiletries.

Extra effort we put into up-front publicity for Harvest Festival, led to excellent donations.

We started collecting surplus food through Aldi and Lidl, for example bread and pastries, which have provided a useful addition to supplies and reduce food waste.

Our team of staff and volunteers have gained confidence in signposting anyone who asks for assistance to the most appropriate member of our staff team.



"I have received considerable gratitude from service users who have accessed food parcels. They have expressed that the system is fair and straightforward, enabling support to be directed to those most in need."

"Volunteering at the Food Bank has been one of the most rewarding things I've ever done. Knowing that I can help make someone's day a little easier means the world to me."



Q CASE STUDY

One local resident came to us after struggling to make ends meet when unexpected bills left them with no money for food.

Through the Food Bank, we were able to provide emergency parcels to get them through a difficult time, while also linking them with wider support. They told us the help was a lifeline and gave them the breathing space they desperately needed.

From there, they were able to progress onto the Rise2Thrive programme, receiving weekly sessions with our Key Working team. This extra support has helped them build confidence, manage their finances, and begin moving towards greater independence and ultimately getting into work.

Re:Use Store & Van Team

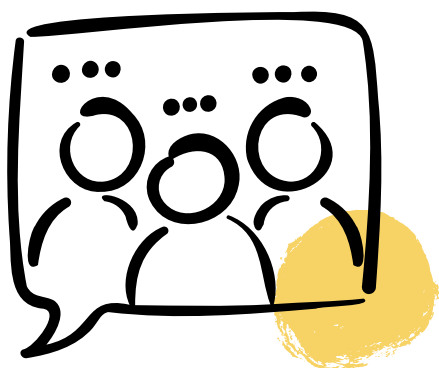
Our Re:Use furniture store plays a vital role in both environmental sustainability and community wellbeing. The store collects good quality, preowned furniture that might otherwise go to landfill, and makes it available at affordable prices for local people, including those on low incomes. By extending the life of these items, we reduce waste and promote recycling. The store also offers volunteer and employment opportunities. The store has a good reputation for supporting local households with affordable goods in time of financial pressure, customer

feedback highlighted how valuable the store had been in supporting families during the cost-of-living crisis, we have built a good working relationship with Broadacres Housing Association, providing low-cost items to those in financial distress.

The positive atmosphere in the store has contributed to a welcoming community space, a place where everyone feels happy to enter without the usual barriers which may stop those in need of accessing support.

CASE STUDY

One long term volunteer explained that before joining the team they felt very isolated and had little daily structure. Volunteering at the store gives them purpose, routine and social contact. They are now a valued member of the team, with strong friendships and a real sense of belonging.



“

“When my mum passed away, we wanted her furniture to go to a good cause, we contacted the store and from the very first contact, to the van lads coming to pick up her furniture we were treated with respect and kindness.”

“I live for the days that I volunteer in the store, my life would be so dull without it, I’ve made some real friends and feel useful again.”

”

Car Scheme

The Car Scheme provides essential transport services that help people remain healthy, independent, and connected to their community.

It enables individuals to access vital medical appointments, visit family and friends, go shopping, attend social activities, or simply enjoy a trip to the hairdresser — the everyday journeys that help sustain wellbeing and quality of life.

The service ensures that people who might otherwise struggle to get out can continue to participate in community life. Volunteer drivers

provide much more than transport; they offer conversation, reassurance, and a sense of connection that helps to reduce loneliness and isolation.

Over the year, the scheme has supported older people, carers, and those with limited mobility to maintain access to health services, friendships, and community networks. It plays a key role in supporting independence and preventing social isolation, helping people to live well, stay active, and remain part of their community.



“Door to door service and the drivers are very friendly.”



CASE STUDY

Fliss is a long-term volunteer with Community Works. She is community-minded, and she has in the past been a Sitter on our Carers' Break service. She is unable to drive anymore due to health reasons. The Car Scheme enables her to attend health appointments and volunteer. Without it, she would be socially isolated, which could impact her well-being. Fliss's use of the car scheme doesn't just help her look after her health; it also enriches our services with her presence at our Food & Friendship Group.

Carer's Break

Our Sitting Service provides essential respite for carers of loved ones living together, offering two hours per week of dedicated support. During this time, a trained volunteer meets with the cared-for individual to engage in conversation, agreed activities, or simply offer companionship. This allows carers a much-needed break, whether to rest, complete household tasks, or enjoy social time elsewhere.

We have expanded from supporting just a few carers to many more, introducing varied forms of support such as a walking group and a golf group to better meet individual needs.

Volunteers have delivered meaningful engagement with those being cared for, helping to reduce feelings of isolation and provide companionship.

Carers have reported feeling supported, reassured, and better able to manage their responsibilities. The service has faced some operational challenges, including limited volunteer availability during peak times and occasional scheduling conflicts that affect matching volunteers with those being cared for. Additionally, ongoing training and recruitment of volunteers remain essential to meet increasing demand and ensure safe, high-quality visits.

Whilst there have been fluctuations throughout the year, our dedicated volunteers have increased the hours spent providing carers with much needed respite. We aim to provide much more consistency throughout the next financial year.

CASE STUDY

Every Monday, 'L' enjoys a couple of hours playing golf with one of our volunteers, 'J'. The activity keeps him active, engaged, and independent, while his wife gets some much-needed time to research and plan care options.

When 'L' returns, both of them are relaxed and smiling. In just a couple of hours, the Sitting Service provided both enjoyment for 'L' and vital respite for his wife, showing how shared support can make a real difference.

“

“Those two hours each week make such a difference. I can catch up on errands and have a cup of tea in peace knowing David is happy and well cared for. It's a little bit of freedom that means the world.”

”

Older People's Services

People living with Dementia who reside in their own homes in the community attend our Past Times session on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10am and 3pm. We also provide for those living with Early Onset Dementia on a Wednesday between 10am and 3pm (known as Out 'N' About). This enables their regular Carer to receive much needed respite, which they often don't realise the value of until they engage. It also enhances the care being given to the person living with Dementia, making them feel part of the community still whilst stimulating their minds.

In April 2024, we were delighted to be fully staffed again, with both Gill and Alice in post, allowing us to provide continuity and care at its best. Our groups are a vibrant mix of men and women with a wide range of abilities and interests. We take great care to tailor activities to individual preferences, and it's always wonderful to see participants discovering new

experiences—sometimes trying something for the first time and finding they absolutely love it. Throughout the year, participants were supported by Gill, Alice, and our amazing volunteers, who provided encouragement, companionship, and a friendly presence.

The atmosphere was one of laughter, curiosity, and connection, as everyone enjoyed activities together, shared stories, and felt valued as part of our group. We had a short period (September 2024 – February 2025) where access to the Thirsk Community Minibus was unavailable. We had to think pragmatically about how to handle this and decided on staff and volunteers' cars to transport our clients. This restricted the number of clients we supported and impinged upon the variety of activities we could offer. We learnt a valuable lesson and were extremely happy when the situation was resolved and we could further our client base again.

CASE STUDY

Margaret has been coming along to Past Times since 2022. Sadly, Margaret's dementia has declined during this time. However, that didn't stop her from thoroughly enjoying dancing around to "The Music Man" – Past Times theme song! Her laugh came back whenever that was played, and it was beautiful to see. Margaret had been a yoga teacher, and she was often seen doing some yoga moves alongside Alice and Debbie – it was quite the sight to behold!

Betty joined Out 'N' About in June 2024, settling in immediately with her lovely sense of humour, fun and kindness. It is always lovely to hear Betty talk about her life – she has led quite an incredible one. Her daughter said this of us: "My mum loves her days out with the Out N About group. You are an amazing bunch of people who give my mum's life so many opportunities to remember who she is. Thank you."



"Thank you so much for what you do. It is so much appreciated, Don has only been going a couple of times but has been made so welcome by everyone! Thank you, thank you, thank you!"



Our Lovely Gill

In February 2025 our lovely Gill retired from her role as head of older people's services. Gill worked for Community Works (starting with Thirsk Community Care) for nearly 37 years, starting all the way back in 1988. Gill started on just 8 hours a week and her first job was to run the car scheme. She quickly added more hours to do more incredible work. She started and ran a play scheme and a sitting service for children living with disabilities. In the mid 1990's, Gill focussed her work on the older people of Thirsk, eventually setting up dementia day care for those living with dementia in the 2000s.

She has worked tirelessly for the people of Thirsk – all whilst helping Keith (her husband) to run a farm, running a campsite and looking after not only her own children, but countless foster children too. When you ask people to say a few words about Gill, the clear and resounding answer is always compassion, kindness and hard-working. We all feel incredibly privileged to have worked with Gill during her outstanding and committed career.

Once she adopts you into her life, she doesn't let go and, in our view, she perfectly sums up our values. We shall miss Gill very much but will carry on her legacy and look forward to the bright future of our Older People's work. We wish Gill all the very best for her retirement where she is already busier than ever!



Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels is a community service that delivers nutritious, freshly prepared meals directly to the homes of individuals who are unable to shop or cook for themselves, often due to age, illness, or disability. The service helps promote health, independence, and social connection for those in need. Key achievements this period include the expansion of our delivery routes, maintaining almost 100% on-time delivery for all scheduled clients, and strengthening our partnerships.

We have also made significant developments in enhancing our database and improving the efficiency of our weekly rotas.

Feedback from clients has been overwhelmingly positive, with many reporting that they feel

more independent and less isolated, alongside praise for the quality of meals at Meadowfields and the friendliness of our volunteers.

Operationally, we have experienced occasional delays due to roadwork and traffic, as well as increased demand placing additional pressure on existing delivery routes. Volunteer availability has also been limited during peak holiday periods and so we temporarily capped the service to 15 clients until more drivers could be recruited.

Funding and resourcing challenges have arisen due to rising food and fuel costs, leading to higher mileage claims from drivers.



"Before Meals on Wheels, I often went for days without speaking to anyone. Now, I look forward to the friendly face at my door each day."



CASE STUDY

One of our clients, who lives alone with family spread far across the country, often felt isolated and found it difficult to prepare meals. Since receiving our Meals on Wheels service, they now enjoy daily face-to-face contact with our team and a hot, nutritious meal every single day.

The service has not only supported their health but has also introduced a reassuring routine, helping them feel more connected and less alone.

CASE STUDY

"A" was referred by the Adult Mental Health team as their contact was ending. After years of domestic violence, she'd been relocated and was extremely fearful—rarely leaving home or allowing her children to attend school. Through weeks of gentle home visits, progress was made: we attended health appointments, shopped locally, and joined her children's sports day. Previously forbidden to cook, A learned meal preparation through foodbank support and now enjoys cooking for her family. With encouragement, she befriended neighbours, joined a women's group, and even went out to dinner—something she never thought possible. Though recovery continues, A is proud of how far she's come.



"I surprised myself, I have very low confidence, but I was able to run one of our groups, everyone was so impressed with my resin making, I loved showing everyone how to create Christmas decorations and that they wanted me to run more sessions."

"I have really enjoyed poetry writing, I didn't know that I could do it, but I can, and I have."



Our Catalyst service supported women from the age of 18 throughout the Hambleton and Richmondshire areas. The main focuses being Wellbeing, social interactions, improved mental wellbeing and improved skillsets. 38 women accessed the service within the year April 2024 to March 2025, making it a total of 130 over the entire project.

A total of 26 individuals attended groups in Thirsk and Richmond and 25 accessing one to one support from the Head of Women's work. 8 women benefitted from receiving counselling from our year 4 student counsellors. Groups ran on Tuesday mornings in Richmond and Wednesday mornings in Thirsk.

The women who attended groups and crafting sessions felt supported, empowered, gained friendships, gained skills and received appropriate information which enabled them to flourish. Art and poetry sessions were particularly well received, and some wonderful work was created. The overall theme for the weekly groups was positivity, looking at what we can do rather than what we can't - what made us great as women and individuals. The women were encouraged to share their individual skillsets, by leading small groups, sharing their knowledge and encouraging others to try new activities and gain new skills.

They were introduced to mindfulness, relaxation and guided meditation, all were received with an open mind and positivity. Some women reported that they used the techniques in their own time with good effect. The main barrier we experienced was the rural location of some of our members, and the lack of transport available to them. This impacted their ability to attend the regular Multiply tied in closely with our Food Bank, along with providing Service Users friendly and supportive numeracy support relating to people's financial planning. We found a lot of people who need the food bank were not budgeting effectively and we worked with them to show how they can break down their income and outgoings.

Key Work

Our Key Work service provides one-to-one support to adults in Thirsk, Richmond, Northallerton, Harrogate and Ripon.

Key Achievements:

We delivered Rise 2 Thrive and Multiply Projects successfully. We expanded our Key Worker team to support people across North Yorkshire, including Harrogate, Richmondshire, Northallerton and Thirsk. We designed the project to provide holistic one-to-one support, helping people regain independence and move towards work. Multiply tied in closely with our Food Bank, along with providing Service Users friendly and supportive numeracy support relating to people's financial planning. We found a lot of people who need the food bank were not budgeting effectively and we worked with them to show how they can break down their income and outgoings.

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being moved to digital only, and more banks leaving the high street, we saw demand for our Digital Inclusion project. We created 11 Digital Champions within the organization and were able to support people every week at drop-ins.

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New Developments:

Hiring a Key Worker in Harrogate expanded our reach and she has been fantastic at providing high quality Key Work in a new area. Her input into how we deliver Key Work has been invaluable and has strengthened the service, demonstrating the value of our Key Work model. Strong feedback received: The support offered on the Rise 2 Thrive project received some very positive feedback. Particularly the work done in the Beacon in Catterick working with homeless veterans where several of them progressed into training.

Q CASE STUDY

X, long known to Community Works, was outwardly capable but privately struggling with poor mental health, heavy drinking, and debt. Ashamed of his rent arrears, he avoided help until eviction left him homeless. Our Key Worker worked with North Yorkshire Council to secure temporary housing in Middlesbrough and provided ongoing support as his mental health suffered. With coordinated, non-judgmental help, X was rehoused quickly, accessed benefits and food support, began volunteering, and regained confidence—eventually moving into employment. Though challenges remain, he escaped a situation he once thought hopeless.



“The support I got from Community Works has meant the world to me. In six months my mental health has been transformed, and I am now starting an online learning course aimed at eventually becoming a counsellor.”



Men's Sheds

Men's Shed & Shedding Doubt Provides a safe space, currently gender specific, allowing for social and behavioural interaction to manage and promote mental wellbeing, in a workshop environment. It blends service users and volunteers, including 1 to 1 support from the staff team. The programme has welcomed referrals from local GPs and the community mental health team. We began to create an identity through social media, promoting things created and brought back to life within the workshop.

This year has seen us start to step into the community with a very successful project at Sowerby primary school, working with local businesses, the Rotary and the school.

Key Challenges:

Funding and resources is the biggest challenge to the project despite re-use and upcycling, the project requires an accessible budget once a month and this has not been available. Sales from products made in the workshop have entirely gone into the core funds.

The limitations of the workshop being a safe working space for no more than 12 meant on really busy days some people having to work outside.

The building has no heating and many days were lost in winter due to the temperature being too cold to work in, even the lads came in looking like eskimos.

🔍 CASE STUDY

After first accessing the foodbank, J was introduced to the Men in Sheds project, where he received housing support and one-to-one mental health sessions. Time in the workshop helped him rediscover his passion for craftsmanship, and he was also referred to community mental health services for further support. J rebuilt family connections, began volunteering at a Ripon charity shop, and completed several small craft jobs. His next goal is to start his own handyman business in the community.

“

“Men in sheds, better than daytime TV.”

“Helped a lot with my mental wellbeing.”

“Always look forward to catching up with everybody.”

”



Groups – Carers, Time for Time, Food and Friendship

Carers

The Family Carers Group provides a safe, supportive space for carers to meet, once a month, share experiences, and focus on their own wellbeing while managing the demands of caring for loved ones. Sessions combine activities such as meditation, yoga, arts and crafts, music, mindful doodling, quizzes and cooking – all designed to reduce stress and offer practical tools that can be used at home.

Guest speakers and professionals from organisations including Carers+, Dementia Forward, Social Services and Home Instead have also contributed, providing valuable advice and support. Regular attendance of 5–6 carers has fostered strong peer support and friendships, while a diverse programme of activities has kept sessions engaging and relevant.

A highlight of the year was celebrating the group's first anniversary, which increased community visibility and gave participants a sense of pride and belonging.

Time for Time

Our Time for Time sessions have run every Tuesday morning at 14A Market Place, welcoming around nine regular attendees. Each session begins with a hot drink and conversation, giving people the chance to share what's been happening in their week and build relationships. This is followed by lively quizzes and activities that bring plenty of laughter and connection.

The group has become a valued source of support, helping members through bereavement, loneliness and other difficult times. Strong friendships have formed, creating a safe, welcoming space where people feel listened to and understood. Shared experiences, such as a recent minibus trip to Preston Park, have been highlights that lift spirits, reduce isolation and strengthen community ties.

While the group continues to thrive, challenges remain. Health and mobility difficulties can affect attendance, and transport is sometimes a barrier. Volunteer capacity is also key, and we are especially grateful to Jess and now Linda for the time and care they give to the group.

Food and Friendship

Our Food and Friendship sessions run every Wednesday at the Gavel Café, bringing together around 25 people each week. The group share a two-course hot meal with a drink, enjoy a quiz while waiting for food, and round off with a few games of bingo. What began as a simple lunch has grown into a lively, welcoming community. Over the past year, the group has gone from strength to strength. It offers much more than food – it provides laughter, companionship, and a safe place where friendships can deepen. The consistency of meeting every week has created strong bonds, with members supporting one another and looking forward to their time together.

The main challenge has been success itself. Demand is now greater than capacity, leaving us with a waiting list of people keen to join. While this highlights the popularity and importance of the group, it also underlines the scale of loneliness in our community. Plans are already underway to launch a second session on an alternative day so more people can benefit.



Q CASE STUDY

During the journey that is caring for someone, there comes a pivotal moment when help of 'those in the know' becomes necessary. I care for my husband who has Alzheimer's and other health conditions, and for me that moment came a couple of years ago when I reached out to CarersPlus, an organisation for unpaid family carers. They put me in touch with Community Works (CW), a local charity hub which, as the name suggests, works in the community to help those who need assistance in day-to-day life and also those who are caring for family members. Once connected to this organisation, all sorts of guidance and avenues opened up for us, from allowances to help with care, sources of advice in the Community Services of the NHS and Health and Adult Services in North Yorkshire Council.

The Carers Group is an important sub-hub to meet with other carers, share experiences and care professionals to offer the latest advice. Both my husband and I were nervous about taking the first steps into CW, but it has rewarded us with both vital help and friendships.

'L' first started attending Time for Time just after her husband passed away. Her mobility is very limited and she is often lonely at home, feeling isolated and unhappy. Since attending the weekly meetings with Time for Time, 'L' has found a purpose again. She is both supported and a support to others in their loss and loneliness. She is a delight to talk to for group members, volunteers and staff.

“

"I learnt some valuable cooking skills that have meant I have meal options. Thank you to Kate for all your support!"

"It's nice to be with people, especially when you're on your own. We have a laugh together every week."

"This means so much to me, it's the only hot meal I have every week. I love these people!"

”



Volunteers

Our volunteers are at the heart of Community Works. In 2024/25, more than 90 people gave their time, skills and energy to deliver many of our core services – support we could not provide without them. They bring experience from nursing, teaching, policing, HR and many other walks of life, adding huge strength to our work. Since appointing a Head of Volunteers in March 2024, numbers have grown from 72 to 90 by April 2025. Regular drop-ins at Community House give people a chance to learn more, and each month a small but steady stream of new volunteers joins us. Our services also continue to adapt: for example, a Thursday afternoon drop-in is now a full-day offer, creating new roles and opportunities for volunteers.

What Went Well

Having a single point of contact for volunteers has been a real strength. Regular check-ins and twice-monthly drop-ins are valued, giving people space to share ideas, raise concerns or

simply enjoy a chat. Staff also make a point of visiting services directly – for example, weekly at the Food Bank – so volunteers across the organisation feel supported and recognised.

Challenges & Learning

As a small charity, capacity is always limited. In May 2024 we held our first “Menu” listening event with staff, volunteers, donors and service users. The strongest theme was clear: we need to raise our profile locally, strengthen communication, and build more connections with other organisations.

In response, we have begun door-to-door engagement in Thirsk, combining welfare checks with raising awareness of Community Works. Of the first 50 people visited, only 10 had heard of us – a stark reminder of how much more there is to do. This work will continue into East Thirsk, alongside wider plans to promote our services and strengthen partnerships.



“

“Volunteering for CW has completely change my life. I feel valued, appreciated and have made lots of new friends. I love helping out weekly and see the change CW makes in local community!”

”

Challenges and Lessons Learnt

Like many small charities, Community Works faced a year of both achievements and challenges. A recurring theme was funding uncertainty. Services such as the Food Bank and Keywork programme relied on short-term grants, often confirmed late or received partway through delivery. This created difficulties in planning and retaining staff and highlighted the importance of securing more sustainable income streams.

Operationally, services also faced barriers. The Food Bank experienced drops in supermarket donations, later resolved after clarifying collection rules. The Re:Use store wrestled with limited storage, fluctuating donations, and competition from online retailers, while the Car Scheme and OPS services had to manage pressures on volunteers, transport and facilities. Each situation tested our adaptability, but also reinforced the need for clear communication, volunteer support, and flexible planning.

Volunteer recruitment and retention was another challenge, particularly in physically demanding roles. We have learned the importance of tailoring roles, strengthening support, and continuing to value the contribution volunteers make.

The Keywork service found the job market tougher than in previous years, making it harder to help clients into employment. In response, the team has started building

stronger links with local employers to create clearer pathways into work. Despite recruitment delays and funding pressures, the team demonstrated real resilience.

At the same time, we've noticed a shift in how funding is being made available. More grants are focusing on specific projects rather than supporting central running costs, creating pressure on our core infrastructure. This change has prompted us to explore new ways of generating income, strengthen partnerships, and get more creative in how we sustain and grow our organization.

Finally, February 2025 brought a leadership change with the departure of the Chief Executive. This transition underlined the importance of strong governance, continuity planning and the commitment of staff and trustees to maintain stability during times of change.

What we take from these challenges is clear: Community Works is at its best when it adapts quickly, supports one another, and learns from setbacks. These lessons are already shaping our plans for 2025/26 and beyond.



Looking Ahead: Priorities For 2025/26

The year ahead is one of opportunity and renewal for Community Works. With a new Chief Executive and a new Chair in place, we are entering a period of fresh leadership that will build on strong foundations while shaping the organisation for the future.

A central priority in 2025/26 will be to engage widely with staff, volunteers, trustees, partners, the people we serve and the wider community to develop a clear and ambitious five-year plan.

This process will ensure our services remain rooted in community need, sustainable in the long term, and ready to respond to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Alongside this, we will continue to strengthen governance and leadership, ensuring Community Works has the right structures, skills and partnerships in place.

Financial sustainability remains essential, and we will be re-applying for funding to continue our work as a Community Anchor and to sustain vital projects such as our women's programme, the Keywork service, and our wider support services. We are also exploring opportunities to expand into young people's services, as well as identifying new sources of funding to develop and grow our impact.

It is a time to listen, to plan with purpose, and to set a course that will carry Community Works into the future with confidence and clarity.



Financial Overview

Whilst the demands on Community Works (CW) resources and services have continued apace, 2024/25 has proven to be a notably difficult year. We have faced the not insignificant pressures brought about by the cost-of-living increases, including increases in National Insurance and Minimum Wages, which have drained the available funding the charity has received. These challenges are well recognised across all public sectors, but especially in the charitable sector where we are dependent on grants and donations; in times of difficulty these income streams become less forthcoming.

However, in addition to these direct challenges there has been an increase in the reliance on CW for core functions, such as the Food Bank, Meals on Wheels, Car Scheme, etc. where there are direct financial impacts. It is of concern that there is limited support funding for these key activities from agencies, and as such their viability continues to sit on a knife edge.

With the resignation of the chief executive officer toward the end of the financial year, there was some disruption to the bidding processes which impacted on potential income streams and resulted in unexpected associated costs. It should be noted that (and due praise given to Kirsty White and her colleagues) the Senior Leadership Team acted up to cover the short fall until Sarah Gill was appointed as the new CEO in May 2025, and did a sterling job in keeping the bidding processes active.

The current funding position for CW is a decrease in resources of **£4,441**. Resources expended in the year were **£549,661** against an income of **£548,300**. The current net value of CW at the end of year stands at **£410,426**.

David Tucker
Treasurer & Chair
Finance Committee

Financial Overview

Balance Sheet

	Year ending 31/03/2025	Year ending 31/03/2024
Fixed Assets		
Property	203,447	202,140
Computer & Office Equipment	9,246	2,547
Furniture & Fixtures	3,803	-
Motor Vehicles	3,524	4,699
Total Fixed Assets	220,020	209,386
Current Assets		
Trade debtors	2,826	6,927
Prepayments	4,838	34,233
Petty Cash	231	1,675
Bank - Lloyds current a/c	26,598	5,986
Virgin/Yorkshire Bank	324	-
Bank - Lloyds Business Bank Instant	113,890	114,077
Credit Card	(875)	(179)
Co-op	62,508	-
Lloyds Fixed Term Deposit Account	-	52,043
Total Current Assets	210,340	214,762
Total Assets	430,360	424,148
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	(8,055)	(1,985)
Accruals	(4,410)	(4,398)
PAYE	(7,469)	(4,763)
Pension Control	-	(1,216)
Total Current Liabilities	(19,934)	(12,362)
Net Working Capital	190,406	202,401
Total Assets less Liabilities	410,426	411,787
Reserves		
Funds	387,652	387,652
Surplus b/fw d	24,135	21,912
Surplus(deficit) (Current Year)	(1,361)	2,223
	410,426	411,787

Income

Voluntary	52,694
Grant Income - Unrestricted	28,125
Grant Income - Restricted	175,509
Contract Income	110,349
Re-Use shop	76,522
Other income	103,221
Bank Interest	1,879

Expenditure

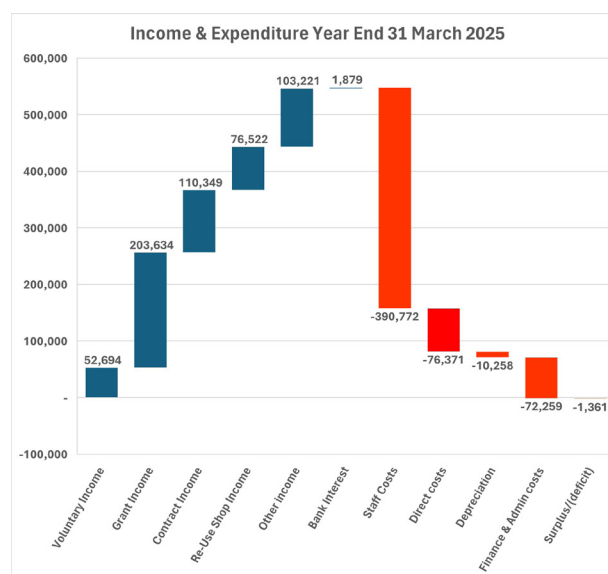
Staff	390,772
Direct costs	76,371
Depreciation	10,258
Finance & Admin	72,259

Surplus/(deficit)

Income	548,300
Expenditure	549,661
Surplus/(deficit)	(1,361)

Actuals	Budget	Diff Act vs Budget
52,694	60,000	(7,306)
28,125	82,000	(53,875)
175,509	227,700	(52,191)
110,349		110,349
76,522	72,918	3,604
103,221	114,100	(10,879)
1,879		1,879
548,300	556,718	(8,418)
390,772	382,481	8,291
76,371	74,238	2,133
10,258		10,258
72,259	72,474	(215)
549,661	529,193	20,468
(1,361)	27,525	(28,886)

548,300	556,718	(8,418)
549,661	529,193	20,468
(1,361)	27,525	(28,886)



The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements each year which give a true and fair view of the charity's income, expenditure, assets and liabilities.

Copies of the full accounts and trustees report for the year ending 31st March 2025 will be lodged with the Charity Commission and can be obtained from Community Works CIO.

Thanks & Acknowledgements

Community Works is built on the dedication, passion and generosity of many people. We want to thank our staff, volunteers, trustees, partners, funders and supporters for the role each has played in 2024/25. Your commitment has enabled us to deliver vital services, respond to challenges, and remain a trusted presence for people across our community. Quite simply, we could not do this without you.

- National Lottery Community Fund
- COOP Local Community Fund
- UK Government
- Thirsk Town Council & Mayor
- Tesco's Stronger Starts
- North Yorkshire Council
- Better Connect
- Risetothrive



Funded by
UK Government








Community Works

Because life matters...

*At heart, Community Works is
about people supporting people.
Thank you for standing with us.*

 Community Works CIO
14A Market Place, Thirsk, YO7 1LB
 01845 524494
 www.communityworks.uk



Community Works

Because life matters...

Community Works

Because life matters...



APRIL 2023 – MARCH 2024

**Community Works CIO
Achievement and Progress Report
Registered Charity Number 1096518**



Introduction from the Chief Executive Officer Rob Rolls

To re-quote some lines from a Christmas Carol – ‘the year has performed its wonderful dance’! The period from April 2023 to March 2024 was very formative for the future of Community Works, and an exciting time as we went through many smaller changes which were specifically designed to improve our services and our scope of operations. It is the nature of annual reports that they are written some time after the events themselves, but looking back this report reminds us of year of strong progress.

Food bank

2023/2024 was the year when the food bank took its greatest strides, by means of a new reporting and data collection system, and working towards better ways of managing our support to those who need us. We were also able to move the food bank upstairs and thanks to some wonderful work from our volunteers, brand new shelving appeared to make the food bank look even more like the welcoming and supportive environment that we have always known that it was.

“Without the food bank we as a parents wouldn’t have been able to provide food for our children over the Christmas period, it meant that we could use the spare money we had to pay for heating and that we didn’t have to choose between the two.”

During the year the food bank was able to provide 536 parcels for individuals and families around Thirsk. Due to the creation of a system of introducing informal



assessments from our team, we were able to ensure that only those people that really needed a food parcel got one, despite us never really turning people away. 536 parcels during the year is a massive achievement and equates to well over



THE FOODBANK



2,000 bags full of food and other products. Our food bank continues to be the envy of many groups across North Yorkshire and we are particularly grateful to our volunteers in this area who are both wise and dedicated.

During this period we also worked hard at ensuring a better engagement with those service users who come across Community Works via our FoodBank. We started to look into staff and volunteer training, in order that we would be able to offer an informal 'triage' to assess what need sometimes lay behind each food parcel request.

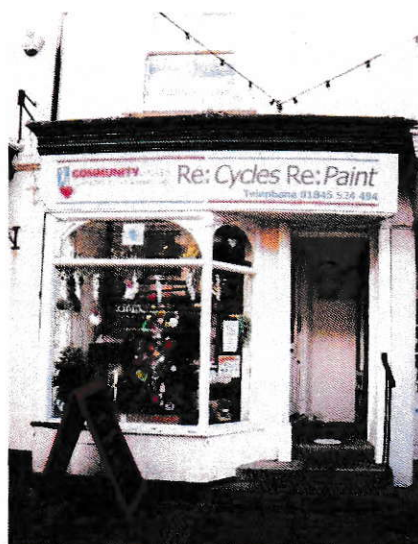
This year as before, we were generously supported by people from all walks of life who simply wanted to help someone worse off than themselves. Time after time we would be surprised by a local school, a

community group, a Thirsk based business, or even just individuals who wanted to donate food, cleaning or sanitary products.

Re:Use Store

The Re:Use store continued to deliver and collect furniture and second hand goods from around the Thirsk area, and importantly continued to be the place where members of the community grew their self-confidence and a renewed sense of purpose through volunteering. We spent some time improving the work of the Men in Sheds and began plans for embedding some of our work with men through this avenue. Our hope for the future is that we will be able to have some dedicated staff time in this area, enabling it to grow and link in more productively with the shop itself.

RE:USE STORE



The store was able to generate over £61,000 during this reporting period which is some achievement given the cost-of-living crisis which bit hard between April 2023 and March 2024.

Car Scheme

This reporting period saw a change of staffing for the Car scheme, and we also moved to a new digital system of operations. Both developments brought a renewed and clearer focus to this area of work which provides low-cost transport to many hundreds of (mainly) older people every year.

Our paper-based system of many folders was gradually changed, leading to a far more effective, manageable and environmentally friendly process for this valuable service. During the reporting period, we were able to complete just under 2,000 journeys which is of course is testament to our dedicated volunteer army and the hard work of the staff involved.

What is unique about this service is the friendly and approachable nature of our drivers, and what they also get from the volunteering themselves.

One of our volunteers, Paul said, "Volunteering has given me a sense of contribution and structure to my week. I regard it as a part-time job. Community Works is a fine example of a locally run organisation that offers several services which are greatly

appreciated by their users". Paul himself covered 5,587 miles during the reporting period!



CAR SCHEME

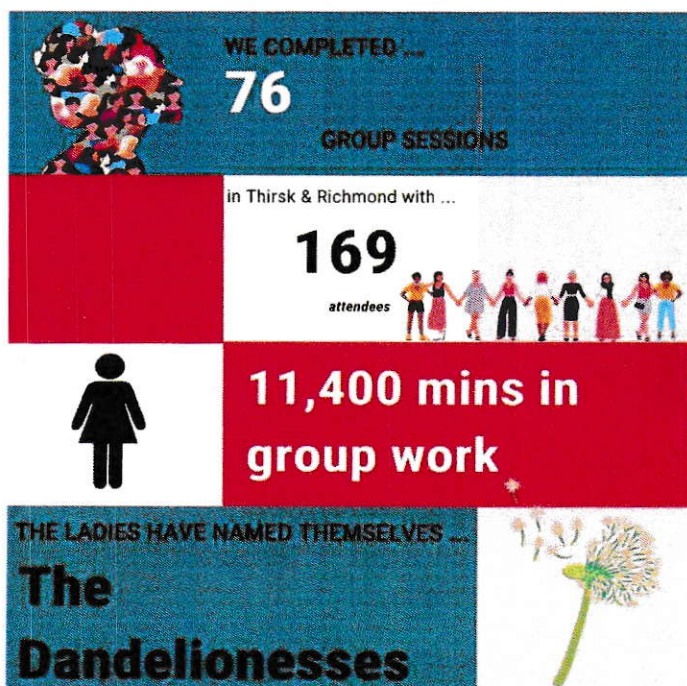


Women's Work

This reporting period was a time of change for the Women's Work at Community Works. We had two staffing changes, and this naturally resulted in some of the work slowing down during the recruitment period. Vic Stapylton took on some of the role and enabled a gentler and more group-work based approach which has benefitted the women quite considerably. We work now with a more diverse group and Vic's approachable way of working has enabled the group to start to grow again, as well as us being able to offer some counselling to smaller numbers of people.



WOMENS WORK



Older People's Services

The work of our OPS team continued to strengthen during the reporting period, with work happening across different venues. We continued with our Dementia Daycare sessions in Sowerby, and continued to receive strong feedback from this area of our work. We started to look at plans for developing this service, and began to recruit extra staff, following one of our team leaving on health grounds. The main focus of



the work happened throughout the wider community, with Time for Time, Food and Friendship, Sitting Service and Carscheme all contributing to the large numbers of engagements with older people each year. We also started a new piece of work with people living with Young/Early Onset Dementia, and began to consider ways in which we could grow and expand this work next year.



Meals on Wheels

Supported by a developing understanding of our 'backroom', Client Relationship Manager programme, our Meals on Wheels service continued at a steady pace throughout 2023 and the early part of 2024, serving hot and healthy meals to over a dozen clients throughout Thirsk and the surrounding area.

This is an invaluable service providing food to older people, and is staffed by our excellent volunteer

MEALS ON WHEELS



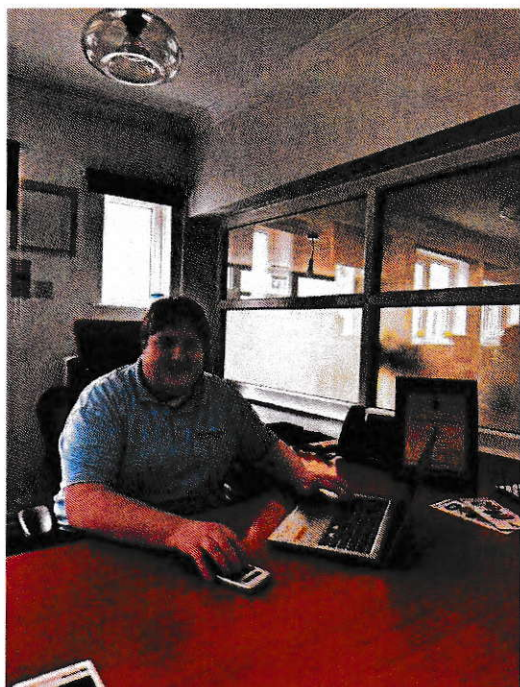
drivers, who again cover hundreds of miles throughout the year, to ensure that this work progresses.



Keywork

One of our most exciting developments during the reporting period came as a part of our one-to-one engagements with our client group – which we know as Keywork. Previously Community Works had been able to take part in various contracted services, enabling our service users to access employment, or those engagements have been around trying to improve the current living and working conditions of those who take part. During this reporting period, we were successful in our applications to continue this work and as we built around this service with more detailed data being captured and examined our group and one to one engagements, it became clear that we could very helpfully grow this service to a higher level. Recognised by outside agencies, again we find ourselves at the heart of some significant delivery in and around North Yorkshire.

At the time of writing, this service has vastly grown and strengthened with other staff being added to the work. During the early months of 2024 we recognised our own capacity for growth. Our investment in data capture services and the experience of staff meant that we were also able to build our own in-house training programme,



helping members of the community to deal with their own finances and spending priorities for the week ahead. Our Head of Keywork and Engagement Oliver Lewis has continued to build up this area of our work. Oliver himself is locally recognised as a specialist in the area of Information Advice and Guidance and his commitment to those whom we serve within the Thirsk area has been unwavering.

Again, this growth demonstrates Community Works' commitment to those in need in the local area. During this reporting period, there were 169 new people accessing this area of our work, which is a huge growth and reflects the fact that the Cost-of-Living crisis continued to have a

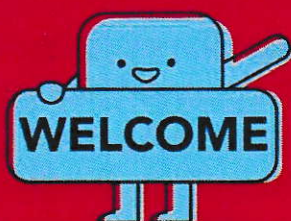
detrimental effect to many.

KEY WORK

WE SUPPORTED ...

3371

PEOPLE IN NEED



of this ...

169

were new to our services



**We offered over
15 services**

VOLUNTEERS DONATED ...

9359

HOURS



Community Anchor Organisation

During the reporting period Community Works was confirmed as North Yorkshire Council's choice of CAO for Thirsk. This confirmation recognises our ability to signpost people to support wherever and whenever it is needed, as well as being an encouragement to us that our services and operational delivery are of an excellent standard. During the process of becoming a CAO, we looked more thoroughly at our broader work and realised that we needed to be more proactive in listening to the community and the needs that were being expressed. Due to some external funding, we were delighted to recruit Liga Salma as our Community Worker and Volunteer Co-Ordinator. Liga has been working hard within the local area to identify recognised need, as well as creating volunteer pathways and enhancing the volunteer experience for those that help with Community Works. We have seen increased numbers of volunteers come to work with us as a direct result of Liga's work.

Supportive Employment

During this time, we also recognised that we needed to further enhance our reputation as an employer. Community Works has always been somewhere where more vulnerable people can not only volunteer but from time to time be offered employment. During this year we began to look at ways in which we could be a more supportive employer, offering better work-based experiences for those who have come from more challenging backgrounds. We looked at the way that other organisations run supported employment, (which, although it is a slightly different approach, helped us to learn how we could be better at what we do). As a result of this work we have worked hard to enable our staff to thrive in their roles with us.

Branding and Marketing

During the reporting period we also invested a lot of time into looking at how other people in the community saw us as a charity and how we were perceived, not just in terms of social media but also through other avenues where people would hear about us. As a direct result of our CSR programme we were able to identify a supplier of uniforms at a much cheaper price and we were able to pay for these with a grant. A new logo and strap line meant that our profile changed, and furthermore we began to put a lot of time into measuring our social media impact itself. We were

able to identify the main focus group for our social media posts and saw a significant uplift in terms of interest around the operations of the Charity and also a significant change in terms of sales as some of our store items began to go online.

Finance and Operational Systems

One of the more major yet hidden aspects of the progression of the charity was the implementation of new financial processes and systems. In terms of our governance, we were able to ensure that our finances were comprehensively managed and that even more than before, we were able to account for all of our income and expenditure. Through a new system of accounting software, and supported by some outstanding staff and volunteers we have been able to make significant progress in this aspect of our, 'behind the scenes operations'. Community Works' Finance and



Resource Committees continue to meet on a regular basis, reporting back to the board of trustees and ensuring that our financial management and Compliance are at a very high standard.

A Final Word

Having spent some time pouring over the achievements of Community Works in order to compile this report, the depth and breadth of everything we achieve during a year is really quite staggering. We continue to engage with many hundreds of people each year, many of them often in a crisis of sorts. We treat each individual with compassion and respect, whilst working hard to improve their life chances

through our often slender resources – and this is no mean feat. Once again we are indebted to our hard working staff and volunteers who always seem able to go the extra mile. Be that a driver, a van hand, someone in the Bike group, a volunteer at Orchid House, any one of hundreds of people that donates every year to the foodbank – all of our staff and volunteers should be thanked for their efforts this year.

Rob Rolls
Chief Executive Officer

Community Works CIO
Trustees' report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Charity number: 1096518

THE BARKER PARTNERSHIP
Chartered Accountants
Thirsk

Community Works CIO

Chair's Report

for the year ended 31 March 2024

Welcome to Community Works' Annual Report 2023- 24

The second year of our new CEO's tenure has been one of consolidation and development.

During the first half of the year we focused on consolidation, especially around our financial systems and internal processes. As you would expect, this work enabled Rob to do a deep dive into the organisation and our processes and has enabled very strong foundations for us moving forward. Being financially stable and creating clear structures allowed the second half of the year to become a much more developmental stage for us.

To that end we have embraced the Community Anchor work and are proud to have been awarded that status for Thirsk. This in itself allows us to be more flexible and responsive to the needs of the communities we serve, and we are looking forward to developing this work further, to ensure that Thirsk provides its communities with the things they need, but more importantly want.

In addition, we are continually striving to improve our services with additional funding for projects such as Shedding Doubt, The Menu and our Rise to Thrive work. All of which provide our Thirsk Community with much needed support. This additional funding also demonstrates the value and quality of the work we provide and is a real testament to the work the staff and volunteers do, to ensure that the individual and funders' needs are met.

Although reports of this nature are about our past achievements, I can't ignore the future! For me, the coming year is definitely a stepping stone to greater things. We certainly have some opportunities coming our way, with a new Mayoral Authority, new Central Government and with the help of Garfield Weston's Pilotlight programme we will develop a long-term strategy which will ensure that Community Works provides the services to support and benefit our community.

As always, the significant strides we have taken this year have only been possible because of the amazing staff, volunteers and Trustees supporting us. Their commitment, passion and dedication make Community Works the organisation it is, and my personal thanks go to everyone who has contributed to ensuring that we can meet the ever increasing and diverse needs of our community.



Mr D I Sharp
Chair of the trustees
30 October 2024

Community Works CIO

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Community Works CIO

Legal and administrative information

Charity number	1096518
Registered office	Community House 14a Market Place Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1LB
Trustees	Mrs R E Lawson-Tancred Mr D I Sharp Chairperson Mr D Shorrocks Mr C Snowden (Resigned 14 October 2024) Mr M Sollitt Mrs G Turton Mr T Ward Mr D R Tucker
Chief Executive	Mr R Rolls
Accountants	The Barker Partnership Chartered Accountants 17 Central Buildings Market Place Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1HD

Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The organisation converted to a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) from a charitable company limited by guarantee on 30 September 2019. The charity was registered at the Charities Commission on 14 March 2003.

The CIO was established under a constitution dated 27 November 2019.

Appointment of trustees

Under the constitution, a trustee must be appointed by the charity's members. Also the constitution requires at the annual general meetings one third of the trustees shall retire by rotation.

Trustee induction and training

Most trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity. New trustees are invited to meet with the chair in order to familiarise themselves with the charity, in areas such as:

- The obligation of the board of trustees
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity
- Resourcing and financial position
- Future plans and objectives.

Trustees are encouraged to attend external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organisation

The charity's constitution states that there can be a minimum of 3 trustees and a maximum of 12 trustees.

Sub groups of the board of trustees cover specific issues such as human resources, events and health and safety.

Volunteers

The charity values the help and support the volunteers provide. Volunteers are encouraged to participate in internal and external training programmes.

Risk review

The trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed, particularly those related to the operations and finances of the charity employing the Charities Commission audit tools, where such exist. They are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

Objectives

Community Works CIO's charitable objects are as follows:

1) The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage (primarily in the county of North Yorkshire):

(a) by providing premises and support services for young people and adults to support their development and to increase their potential for playing a full part in the social and economic life of the community;

(b) by providing support services and care in their own home or in the local community for persons whose lifestyle is limited by age or disability;

(c) by such other means (being charitable in law) as the trustees may from time to time consider appropriate.

2) To advance such other charitable purposes under the laws of England and Wales as the Trustees shall from time to time consider expedient.

Our Mission

We will facilitate partnerships to support people in North Yorkshire, particularly from Thirsk to connect with and contribute to their community by providing opportunities for them to improve their economic, health and social wellbeing. In particular, our work will help make the following differences:

Increase Social Inclusion

Increase Community Resilience

Improve Well-being

Increase Economic Prosperity

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity's Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Achievements and performance

Introduction from the Chief Executive Office - Rob Rolls

To re-quote some lines from a Christmas Carol - 'the year has performed its wonderful dance'! The period from April 2023 to March 2024 was very formative for the future of Community Works, and an exciting time as we went through many smaller changes which were specifically designed to improve our services and our scope of operations. It is the nature of annual reports that they are written some time after the events themselves, but looking back this report reminds us of year of strong progress.

Food bank

2023/2024 was the year when the food bank took its greatest strides, by means of a new reporting and data collection system, and working towards better ways of managing our support to those who need us. We were also able to move the food bank upstairs and thanks to some wonderful work from our volunteers, brand new shelving appeared to make the food bank look even more like the welcoming and supportive environment that we have always known that it was. One Foodbank user said "Without the food bank we as a parents wouldn't have been able to provide food for our children over the Christmas period, it meant that we could use the spare money we had to pay for heating and that we didn't have to choose between the two."

Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

During the year the food bank was able to provide 536 parcels for individuals and families around Thirsk. Due to the creation of a system of introducing informal assessments from our team, we were able to ensure that only those people that really needed a food parcel got one, despite us never really turning people away. 536 parcels during the year is a massive achievement and equates to well over 2,000 bags full of food and other products. Our food bank continues to be the envy of many groups across North Yorkshire and we are particularly grateful to our volunteers in this area who are both wise and dedicated.

During this period we also worked hard at ensuring a better engagement with those service users who come across Community Works via our FoodBank. We started to look into staff and volunteer training, in order that we would be able to offer an informal 'triage' to assess what need sometimes lay behind each food parcel request.

This year as before, we were generously supported by people from all walks of life who simply wanted to help someone worse off than themselves. Time after time we would be surprised by a local school, a community group, a Thirsk based business, or even just individuals who wanted to donate food, cleaning or sanitary products.

Re:Use Store

The Re:Use store continued to deliver and collect furniture and second hand goods from around the Thirsk area, and importantly continued to be the place where members of the community grew their self-confidence and a renewed sense of purpose through volunteering. We spent some time improving the work of the Men in Sheds and began plans for embedding some of our work with men through this avenue. Our hope for the future is that we will be able to have some dedicated staff time in this area, enabling it to grow and link in more productively with the shop itself.

The store was able to generate over £67,000 during this reporting period which is some achievement given the cost-of-living crisis which bit hard between April 2023 and March 2024.

Car Scheme

This reporting period saw a change of staffing for the Car scheme, and we also moved to a new digital system of operations. Both developments brought a renewed and clearer focus to this area of work which provides low-cost transport to many hundreds of (mainly) older people every year.

Our paper-based system of many folders was gradually changed, leading to a far more effective, manageable and environmentally friendly process for this valuable service. During the reporting period, we were able to complete just under 2,000 journeys which is of course is testament to our dedicated volunteer army and the hard work of the staff involved.

What is unique about this service is the friendly and approachable nature of our drivers, and what they also get from the volunteering themselves. One of our volunteers, Paul said, "Volunteering has given me a sense of contribution and structure to my week. I regard it as a part-time job. Community Works is a fine example of a locally run organisation that offers several services which are greatly appreciated by their users". Paul himself covered 5,587 miles during the reporting period!

Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

Women's Work

This reporting period was a time of change for the Women's Work at Community Works. We had two staffing changes, and this naturally resulted in some of the work slowing down during the recruitment period. Vic Stapylton took on some of the role and enabled a gentler and more group-work based approach which has benefitted the women quite considerably. We work now with a more diverse group and Vic's approachable way of working has enabled the group to start to grow again, as well as us being able to offer some counselling to smaller numbers of people.

Older People's Services

The work of our OPS team continued to strengthen during the reporting period, with work happening across different venues. We continued with our Dementia Daycare sessions in Sowerby, and continued to receive strong feedback from this area of our work. We started to look at plans for developing this service, and began to recruit extra staff, following one of our team leaving on health grounds. The main focus of the work happened throughout the wider community, with Time for Time, Food and Friendship, Sitting Service and Carscheme all contributing to the large numbers of engagements with older people each year. We also started a new piece of work with people living with Young/Early Onset Dementia, and began to consider ways in which we could grow and expand this work next year.

Meals on Wheels

Supported by a developing understanding of our 'backroom', Client Relationship Manager programme, our Meals on Wheels service continued at a steady pace throughout 2023 and the early part of 2024, serving hot and healthy meals to over a dozen clients throughout Thirsk and the surrounding area.

This is an invaluable service providing food to older people, and is staffed by our excellent volunteer drivers, who again cover hundreds of miles throughout the year, to ensure that this work progresses.

Keywork

One of our most exciting developments during the reporting period came as a part of our one-to-one engagements with our client group - which we know as Keywork. Previously Community Works had been able to take part in various contracted services, enabling our service users to access employment, or those engagements have been around trying to improve the current living and working conditions of those who take part. During this reporting period, we were successful in our applications to continue this work and as we built around this service with more detailed data being captured and examined our group and one to one engagements, it became clear that we could very helpfully grow this service to a higher level. Recognised by outside agencies, again we find ourselves at the heart of some significant delivery in and around North Yorkshire.

At the time of writing, this service has vastly grown and strengthened with other staff being added to the work. During the early months of 2024 we recognised our own capacity for growth. Our investment in data capture services and the experience of staff meant that we were also able to build our own in-house training programme, helping members of the community to deal with their own finances and spending priorities for the week ahead. Our Head of Keywork and Engagement Oliver Lewis has continued to build up this area of our work. Oliver himself is locally recognised as a specialist in the area of Information Advice and Guidance and his commitment to those whom we serve within the Thirsk area has been unwavering.

Again, this growth demonstrates Community Works' commitment to those in need in the local area. During this reporting period, there were 169 new people accessing this area of our work, which is a huge growth and reflects the fact that the Cost-of-Living crisis continued to have a detrimental effect to many.

Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

Community Anchor Organisation

During the reporting period Community Works was confirmed as North Yorkshire Council's choice of CAO for Thirsk. This confirmation recognises our ability to signpost people to support wherever and whenever it is needed, as well as being an encouragement to us that our services and operational delivery are of an excellent standard. During the process of becoming a CAO, we looked more thoroughly at our broader work and realised that we needed to be more proactive in listening to the community and the needs that were being expressed. Due to some external funding, we were delighted to recruit Liga Salma as our Community Worker and Volunteer Co-Ordinator. Liga has been working hard within the local area to identify recognised need, as well as creating volunteer pathways and enhancing the volunteer experience for those that help with Community Works. We have seen increased numbers of volunteers come to work with us as a direct result of Liga's work.

Supportive Employment

During this time, we also recognised that we needed to further enhance our reputation as an employer. Community Works has always been somewhere where more vulnerable people can not only volunteer but from time to time be offered employment. During this year we began to look at ways in which we could be a more supportive employer, offering better work-based experiences for those who have come from more challenging backgrounds. We looked at the way that other organisations run supported employment, (which, although it is a slightly different approach, helped us to learn how we could be better at what we do). As a result of this work we have worked hard to enable our staff to thrive in their roles with us.

Branding and Marketing

During the reporting period we also invested a lot of time into looking at how other people in the community saw us as a charity and how we were perceived, not just in terms of social media but also through other avenues where people would hear about us. As a direct result of our CSR programme we were able to identify a supplier of uniforms at a much cheaper price and we were able to pay for these with a grant. A new logo and strap line meant that our profile changed, and furthermore we began to put a lot of time into measuring our social media impact itself. We were able to identify the main focus group for our social media posts and saw a significant uplift in terms of interest around the operations of the Charity and also a significant change in terms of sales as some of our store items began to go online.

Finance and Operational Systems

One of the more major yet hidden aspects of the progression of the charity was the implementation of new financial processes and systems. In terms of our governance, we were able to ensure that our finances were comprehensively managed and that even more than before, we were able to account for all of our income and expenditure. Through a new system of accounting software, and supported by some outstanding staff and volunteers we have been able to make significant progress in this aspect of our, 'behind the scenes operations'. Community Works' Finance and Resource Committees continue to meet on a regular basis, reporting back to the board of trustees and ensuring that our financial management and Compliance are at a very high standard.

A Final Word

Having spent some time pouring over the achievements of Community Works in order to compile this report, the depth and breadth of everything we achieve during a year is really quite staggering. We continue to engage with many hundreds of people each year, many of them often in a crisis of sorts. We treat each individual with compassion and respect, whilst working hard to improve their life chances through our often slender resources - and this is no mean feat. Once again we are indebted to our hard working staff and volunteers who always seem able to go the extra mile. Be that a driver, a van hand, someone in the Bike group, a volunteer at Orchid House, any one of hundreds of people that donates every year to the foodbank - all of our staff and volunteers should be thanked for their efforts this year.

Rob Rolls
Chief Executive Officer, October 2024

Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

Financial review

The charity depends almost entirely on grants and donations for its incoming resources. These resources have increased during the year by £35,654. Resources expended during the year were £550,518. The charity has £411,787 of funds at the year end.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit.

Reserves policy

The trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets are held as general funds at such a level that there are free reserves to provide financial flexibility over the next financial period.

New funding streams are continually being identified for this purpose.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

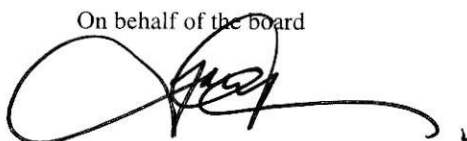
The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice ('SORP');
- make judgements and 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with responsible accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011 the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the board



Mr D R Tucker
Chair of Finance Committee

Community Works CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Community Works CIO.

I report on the accounts of Community Works CIO for the year ended 31 March 2024 set out on pages 3 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act;
- 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 Commission. 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 my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (i) which gives me 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 to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Barrie Cross ACA
The Barker Partnership
Chartered Accountants
17 Central Buildings
Market Place
Thirsk
North Yorkshire
YO7 1HD

30 October 2024

Community Works CIO

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Incoming and endowments					
Donations and legacies	2	32,346	8,069	40,415	30,360
Investment income	3	548	-	548	127
Incoming resources from charitable activities	4	291,229	216,089	507,318	484,600
Other income	5	4,460	-	4,460	2,000
Total income		<u>328,583</u>	<u>224,158</u>	<u>552,741</u>	<u>517,087</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	6	351,869	125,845	477,714	581,976
Other resources expended	7	-	72,804	72,804	-
Total expenditure		<u>351,869</u>	<u>198,649</u>	<u>550,518</u>	<u>581,976</u>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		(23,286)	25,509	2,223	(64,889)
Total funds brought forward		234,645	174,919	409,564	474,453
Total funds carried forward		<u>211,359</u>	<u>200,428</u>	<u>411,787</u>	<u>409,564</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Community Works CIO

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	209,386	281,379
Current assets			
Debtors	13	41,160	24,048
Cash at bank and in hand		173,783	114,436
		<u>214,943</u>	<u>138,484</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(12,542)</u>	<u>(10,299)</u>
Net current assets		<u>202,401</u>	<u>128,185</u>
Net assets		<u>411,787</u>	<u>409,564</u>
Funds	15		
Restricted income funds		200,428	174,919
Unrestricted income funds		211,359	234,645
Total funds		<u>411,787</u>	<u>409,564</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 30 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by


Mr D I Sharp
Chairperson

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Company number CE020578) having solely charitable objectives, and registered as a charity (number 1096518). The registered office is Community House, 14a Market Place, Thirsk, North Yorkshire, YO7 1LB.

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

1.1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with 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) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

1.2. Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations and legacy income is received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant. Gifts in kind are recorded at fair value of the items.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity, being the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.
- Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable.
- Investment income is included when receivable.

1.3. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management.

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1.4. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings	-	0%
Leasehold property improvements	-	Straight line over the life of the lease
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	33% straight line
Office equipment	-	33% straight line
Motor vehicles	-	25% reducing balance

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
General donations and fundraising	32,346	8,069	40,415	30,360
	<u>32,346</u>	<u>8,069</u>	<u>40,415</u>	<u>30,360</u>

3. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Bank interest receivable	548	548	127
	<u>548</u>	<u>548</u>	<u>127</u>

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Re: use	67,180	-	67,180	61,355
Better Connect	28,573	-	28,573	55,605
Car Scheme	20,530	18,978	39,508	40,764
Multiply NYC	16,141	-	16,141	6,052
Catalyst	-	30,832	30,832	30,832
Two Ridings Community Foundation (Activity)	4,000	-	4,000	6,500
The Henry Smith Charity (IL)	-	56,550	56,550	56,000
Kickstart	-	-	-	3,879
Meals on Wheels	15,920	-	15,920	12,637
UKSPF - Buildings	-	16,446	16,446	-
Mental Health	-	-	-	15,000
Community Grants (Thirsk Infant School)	4,174	5,480	9,654	-
Foodbank	-	20,000	20,000	28,625
Thriving at Work/RISE	27,098	-	27,098	32,292
The Menu	-	21,000	21,000	-
Garfield Weston (Pilotlight)	-	1,000	1,000	-
OPS - Dementia Day Care	49,404	-	49,404	51,237
Shedding Doubt	-	40,000	40,000	-
Library	-	-	-	2,422
SHIC	7,500	-	7,500	15,000
OPS - Carer's Break	-	5,803	5,803	7,870
OPS - Early Onset Dementia (Out & About)	8,063	-	8,063	-
Stronger Communities NYC	16,000	-	16,000	36,000
Client Income	880	-	880	578
Other Small Grants	25,766	-	25,766	21,952
	<u>291,229</u>	<u>216,089</u>	<u>507,318</u>	<u>484,600</u>

5. Other income

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Room hire	1,790	1,790	-
Gift aid income	2,670	2,670	2,000
	<u>4,460</u>	<u>4,460</u>	<u>2,000</u>

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

6. Costs of charitable activities - by fund type

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Community Works (note 8)	204,989	116,144	321,132	410,590
Core costs (note 9)	146,880	9,701	156,581	171,385
	<u>351,869</u>	<u>125,845</u>	<u>477,714</u>	<u>581,976</u>

7. Other resources expended

	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets - see note 17	72,804	72,804	-
	<u>72,804</u>	<u>72,804</u>	<u>-</u>

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Community Works £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Direct costs	81,401	81,401	72,984
Wages and salaries	171,198	171,198	239,536
Training & recruitment	429	429	1,330
Staff - other costs	5,805	5,805	7,317
Rent	29,316	29,316	33,564
Utilities	6,732	6,732	15,552
Insurance	7,441	7,441	14,649
Motor and travelling costs	1,091	1,091	7,501
Accountancy charges	5,714	5,714	6,967
Other professional fees	93	93	-
Other office expenses	6,064	6,064	8,077
Telephone	5,848	5,848	3,113
Sundry expenses	-	-	-
	<u>321,132</u>	<u>321,132</u>	<u>410,590</u>

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

9. Core costs

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Direct costs - Activities	2,144	955	3,099	2,138
Direct costs - Transport & mileage	60	-	60	-
Direct costs - Repairs & maintenance	1,292	-	1,292	1,862
Direct costs - Building maintenance	-	8,746	8,746	81
Wages and salaries	99,320	-	99,320	106,051
Staff recruitment & training	467	-	467	13,679
Staff - other costs	4,302	-	4,302	4,679
Rent	10,238	-	10,238	11,895
Utilities	6,446	-	6,446	3,930
Insurance	4,459	-	4,459	3,824
Motor and travelling costs	1,938	-	1,938	651
Accountancy charges	1,428	-	1,428	1,709
Other professional fees	302	-	302	1,355
Other office expenses including IT	8,362	-	8,362	1,976
Telephone	2,386	-	2,386	763
Bank interest and charges	745	-	745	949
Depreciation	2,991	-	2,991	15,843
	<u>146,880</u>	<u>9,701</u>	<u>156,581</u>	<u>171,385</u>

10. Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year

	2024 £	2023 £
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible fixed assets	2,992	15,843
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets - see notes 17	72,804	-
	<u>75,796</u>	<u>15,843</u>

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

11. Employees

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	257,176	322,758
Social security costs	13,342	22,829
Pension costs	9,507	11,266
Other costs	600	730
	<u>280,625</u>	<u>357,583</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2023 : None).

Number of employees

The average monthly numbers of employees (including the trustees) during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents, was as follows:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Trustees	8	10
Administration	1	1
Staff and development workers	15	19
	<u>24</u>	<u>30</u>

Trustees received no remuneration and were not reimbursed for any of their expenses.

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

12. Tangible fixed assets	Land and buildings freehold £	Leasehold property improvements £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Skate Park £	Total £
Cost							
At 1 April 2023	202,140	28,058	12,130	12,367	17,322	113,254	385,270
Additions	-	-	-	3,803	-	-	3,803
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(113,254)	(113,254)
At 31 March 2024	<u>202,140</u>	<u>28,058</u>	<u>12,130</u>	<u>16,170</u>	<u>17,322</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>275,819</u>
Depreciation							
At 1 April 2023	-	28,058	12,027	12,299	11,055	40,450	103,889
Charge for the year	-	-	103	1,322	1,567	-	2,992
On disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(40,450)	(40,450)
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>28,058</u>	<u>12,130</u>	<u>13,621</u>	<u>12,622</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,431</u>
Net book values							
At 31 March 2024	<u>202,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,547</u>	<u>4,699</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>209,386</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>202,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>6,267</u>	<u>72,804</u>	<u>281,379</u>

13. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	6,927	18,748
Other debtors	34,233	5,300
	<u>41,160</u>	<u>24,048</u>

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	1,985	797
Other taxes and social security	4,763	5,232
Other creditors	1,396	-
Accruals and deferred income	4,398	4,270
	<u>12,542</u>	<u>10,299</u>

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 as represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	209,386	-	209,386
Current assets	14,515	200,428	214,943
Current liabilities	(12,542)	-	(12,542)
	<u>211,359</u>	<u>200,428</u>	<u>411,787</u>

16. Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	At 31 March 2024 £
General Funds	<u>234,645</u>	<u>328,583</u>	<u>(351,869)</u>	<u>211,359</u>

Purposes of unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use in accordance with the charitable objects.

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

Garfield Weston (Pilotlight)

A grant from the Garfield Weston Foundation, enabling us to receive support from the Pilotlight charity for ten months

The Menu

This is a two year project aimed at listening to our local communities and is based on the ABCD model of community development.

Shedding Doubt

This is a project focusing on Men's Mental health and giving participants the opportunity to open up about their challenges in a productive & supportive environment. It is also about helping individuals find retraining and looking for new career opportunities for the over 50s.

Community Grants (Thirsk Infant School)

This is a grant towards some of the costs of IT and Communications systems.

UKSPF - Buildings

A grant towards the partial refurbishment of Community House.

Thirsk Skate Park

The HDC, Big Lottery Fund, Thirsk Town Council, North Yorkshire Council and the Donation represents income received for the construction of the park. The balance on these funds represents the undepreciated element of the park.

During the year the lease to the skatepark was surrendered and therefore the asset has been written off against the restricted fund brought forward.

18. Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to continue to be able to continue as a going concern.

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

17. Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	At 31 March 2024 £
Community Works				
The Henry Smith Charity (IL)	59,070	56,550	(22,551)	93,069
Catalyst	32,798	30,832	(26,998)	36,632
Scrubs	1,000	-	(1,000)	-
Foodbank	7,009	22,377	(30,514)	(1,128)
OPS - Carer's Break	7,404	5,803	(3,646)	9,561
OPS - Early Onset Dementia (Out & About)	-	3,868	(2,569)	1,299
OPS - Dementia Day Care (Past Times)	-	1,824	(1,824)	-
Car Scheme	(5,166)	18,978	(21,103)	(7,291)
Garfield Weston (Pilotlight)	-	1,000	(590)	410
The Menu	-	21,000	(3,134)	17,866
Shedding Doubt	-	40,000	(496)	39,504
Community Grants (Thirsk Infant School)	-	5,480	(2,674)	2,806
UKSPF - Buildings	-	16,446	(8,746)	7,700
Thirsk Skate Park				
Hambleton District Council	36,995	-	(36,995)	-
Big Lottery Fund	22,625	-	(22,625)	-
Thirsk Town Council	2,250	-	(2,250)	-
North Yorkshire Council	8,100	-	(8,100)	-
General Donations	2,834	-	(2,834)	-
	<u>174,919</u>	<u>224,158</u>	<u>198,649</u>	<u>200,428</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

The Henry Smith Charity (IL)

Provides support and training to adults to reach their potential.

Catalyst

The project is supporting vulnerable women from across Hambleton and Richmondshire through mentoring, life coaching and support group sessions. The project aims to help women get back on track with their lives and reintegrate into their local communities.

Foodbank

Donations and grants for the purchase of food and toiletries and the running of the foodbank.

Older People Services (OPS)

A service providing respite sitting to carers of older people.

Car Scheme

Community careshare project.

Community Works

Because life matters...



APRIL 2023 – MARCH 2024

**Community Works CIO
Achievement and Progress Report
Registered Charity Number 1096518**



Introduction from the Chief Executive Officer Rob Rolls

To re-quote some lines from a Christmas Carol – ‘the year has performed its wonderful dance’! The period from April 2023 to March 2024 was very formative for the future of Community Works, and an exciting time as we went through many smaller changes which were specifically designed to improve our services and our scope of operations. It is the nature of annual reports that they are written some time after the events themselves, but looking back this report reminds us of year of strong progress.

Food bank

2023/2024 was the year when the food bank took its greatest strides, by means of a new reporting and data collection system, and working towards better ways of managing our support to those who need us. We were also able to move the food bank upstairs and thanks to some wonderful work from our volunteers, brand new shelving appeared to make the food bank look even more like the welcoming and supportive environment that we have always known that it was.

“Without the food bank we as a parents wouldn’t have been able to provide food for our children over the Christmas period, it meant that we could use the spare money we had to pay for heating and that we didn’t have to choose between the two.”

During the year the food bank was able to provide 536 parcels for individuals and families around Thirsk. Due to the creation of a system of introducing informal



assessments from our team, we were able to ensure that only those people that really needed a food parcel got one, despite us never really turning people away. 536 parcels during the year is a massive achievement and equates to well over



THE FOODBANK



2,000 bags full of food and other products. Our food bank continues to be the envy of many groups across North Yorkshire and we are particularly grateful to our volunteers in this area who are both wise and dedicated.

During this period we also worked hard at ensuring a better engagement with those service users who come across Community Works via our FoodBank. We started to look into staff and volunteer training, in order that we would be able to offer an informal 'triage' to assess what need sometimes lay behind each food parcel request.

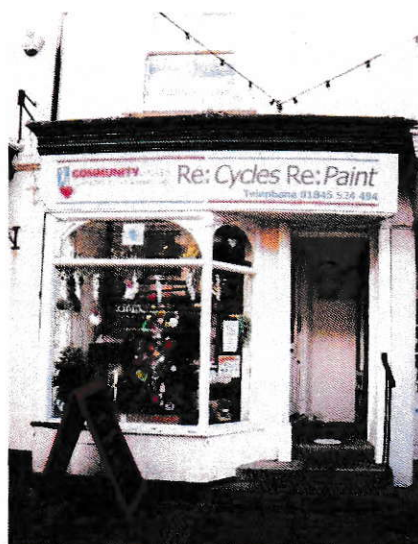
This year as before, we were generously supported by people from all walks of life who simply wanted to help someone worse off than themselves. Time after time we would be surprised by a local school, a

community group, a Thirsk based business, or even just individuals who wanted to donate food, cleaning or sanitary products.

Re:Use Store

The Re:Use store continued to deliver and collect furniture and second hand goods from around the Thirsk area, and importantly continued to be the place where members of the community grew their self-confidence and a renewed sense of purpose through volunteering. We spent some time improving the work of the Men in Sheds and began plans for embedding some of our work with men through this avenue. Our hope for the future is that we will be able to have some dedicated staff time in this area, enabling it to grow and link in more productively with the shop itself.

RE:USE STORE



The store was able to generate over £61,000 during this reporting period which is some achievement given the cost-of-living crisis which bit hard between April 2023 and March 2024.

Car Scheme

This reporting period saw a change of staffing for the Car scheme, and we also moved to a new digital system of operations. Both developments brought a renewed and clearer focus to this area of work which provides low-cost transport to many hundreds of (mainly) older people every year.

Our paper-based system of many folders was gradually changed, leading to a far more effective, manageable and environmentally friendly process for this valuable service. During the reporting period, we were able to complete just under 2,000 journeys which is of course is testament to our dedicated volunteer army and the hard work of the staff involved.

What is unique about this service is the friendly and approachable nature of our drivers, and what they also get from the volunteering themselves.

One of our volunteers, Paul said, "Volunteering has given me a sense of contribution and structure to my week. I regard it as a part-time job. Community Works is a fine example of a locally run organisation that offers several services which are greatly

appreciated by their users". Paul himself covered 5,587 miles during the reporting period!



CAR SCHEME

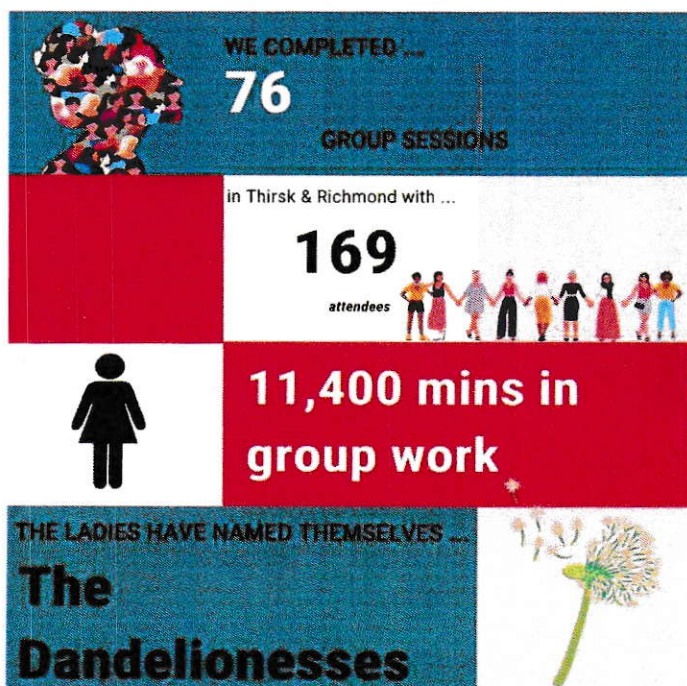


Women's Work

This reporting period was a time of change for the Women's Work at Community Works. We had two staffing changes, and this naturally resulted in some of the work slowing down during the recruitment period. Vic Stapylton took on some of the role and enabled a gentler and more group-work based approach which has benefitted the women quite considerably. We work now with a more diverse group and Vic's approachable way of working has enabled the group to start to grow again, as well as us being able to offer some counselling to smaller numbers of people.



WOMENS WORK



Older People's Services

The work of our OPS team continued to strengthen during the reporting period, with work happening across different venues. We continued with our Dementia Daycare sessions in Sowerby, and continued to receive strong feedback from this area of our work. We started to look at plans for developing this service, and began to recruit extra staff, following one of our team leaving on health grounds. The main focus of



the work happened throughout the wider community, with Time for Time, Food and Friendship, Sitting Service and Carscheme all contributing to the large numbers of engagements with older people each year. We also started a new piece of work with people living with Young/Early Onset Dementia, and began to consider ways in which we could grow and expand this work next year.



Meals on Wheels

Supported by a developing understanding of our 'backroom', Client Relationship Manager programme, our Meals on Wheels service continued at a steady pace throughout 2023 and the early part of 2024, serving hot and healthy meals to over a dozen clients throughout Thirsk and the surrounding area.

This is an invaluable service providing food to older people, and is staffed by our excellent volunteer

MEALS ON WHEELS



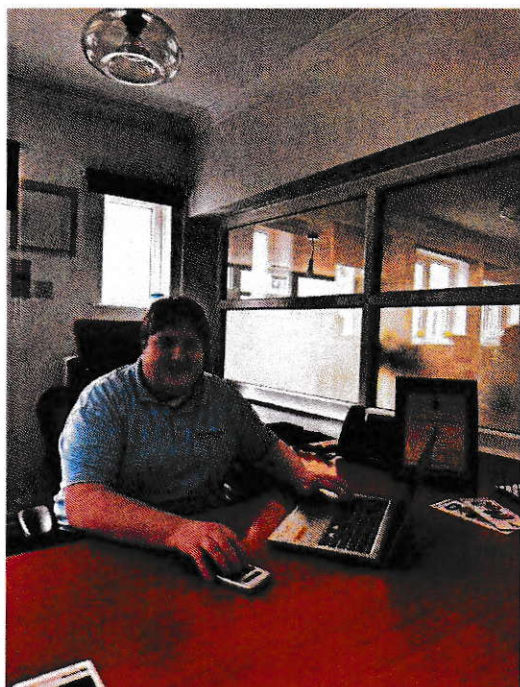
drivers, who again cover hundreds of miles throughout the year, to ensure that this work progresses.



Keywork

One of our most exciting developments during the reporting period came as a part of our one-to-one engagements with our client group – which we know as Keywork. Previously Community Works had been able to take part in various contracted services, enabling our service users to access employment, or those engagements have been around trying to improve the current living and working conditions of those who take part. During this reporting period, we were successful in our applications to continue this work and as we built around this service with more detailed data being captured and examined our group and one to one engagements, it became clear that we could very helpfully grow this service to a higher level. Recognised by outside agencies, again we find ourselves at the heart of some significant delivery in and around North Yorkshire.

At the time of writing, this service has vastly grown and strengthened with other staff being added to the work. During the early months of 2024 we recognised our own capacity for growth. Our investment in data capture services and the experience of staff meant that we were also able to build our own in-house training programme,



helping members of the community to deal with their own finances and spending priorities for the week ahead. Our Head of Keywork and Engagement Oliver Lewis has continued to build up this area of our work. Oliver himself is locally recognised as a specialist in the area of Information Advice and Guidance and his commitment to those whom we serve within the Thirsk area has been unwavering.

Again, this growth demonstrates Community Works' commitment to those in need in the local area. During this reporting period, there were 169 new people accessing this area of our work, which is a huge growth and reflects the fact that the Cost-of-Living crisis continued to have a

detrimental effect to many.

KEY WORK

WE SUPPORTED ...

3371

PEOPLE IN NEED



of this ...

169

were new to our services

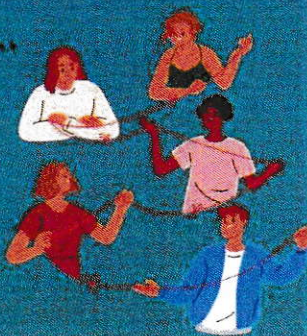


**We offered over
15 services**

VOLUNTEERS DONATED ...

9359

HOURS



Community Anchor Organisation

During the reporting period Community Works was confirmed as North Yorkshire Council's choice of CAO for Thirsk. This confirmation recognises our ability to signpost people to support wherever and whenever it is needed, as well as being an encouragement to us that our services and operational delivery are of an excellent standard. During the process of becoming a CAO, we looked more thoroughly at our broader work and realised that we needed to be more proactive in listening to the community and the needs that were being expressed. Due to some external funding, we were delighted to recruit Liga Salma as our Community Worker and Volunteer Co-Ordinator. Liga has been working hard within the local area to identify recognised need, as well as creating volunteer pathways and enhancing the volunteer experience for those that help with Community Works. We have seen increased numbers of volunteers come to work with us as a direct result of Liga's work.

Supportive Employment

During this time, we also recognised that we needed to further enhance our reputation as an employer. Community Works has always been somewhere where more vulnerable people can not only volunteer but from time to time be offered employment. During this year we began to look at ways in which we could be a more supportive employer, offering better work-based experiences for those who have come from more challenging backgrounds. We looked at the way that other organisations run supported employment, (which, although it is a slightly different approach, helped us to learn how we could be better at what we do). As a result of this work we have worked hard to enable our staff to thrive in their roles with us.

Branding and Marketing

During the reporting period we also invested a lot of time into looking at how other people in the community saw us as a charity and how we were perceived, not just in terms of social media but also through other avenues where people would hear about us. As a direct result of our CSR programme we were able to identify a supplier of uniforms at a much cheaper price and we were able to pay for these with a grant. A new logo and strap line meant that our profile changed, and furthermore we began to put a lot of time into measuring our social media impact itself. We were

able to identify the main focus group for our social media posts and saw a significant uplift in terms of interest around the operations of the Charity and also a significant change in terms of sales as some of our store items began to go online.

Finance and Operational Systems

One of the more major yet hidden aspects of the progression of the charity was the implementation of new financial processes and systems. In terms of our governance, we were able to ensure that our finances were comprehensively managed and that even more than before, we were able to account for all of our income and expenditure. Through a new system of accounting software, and supported by some outstanding staff and volunteers we have been able to make significant progress in this aspect of our, 'behind the scenes operations'. Community Works' Finance and



Resource Committees continue to meet on a regular basis, reporting back to the board of trustees and ensuring that our financial management and Compliance are at a very high standard.

A Final Word

Having spent some time pouring over the achievements of Community Works in order to compile this report, the depth and breadth of everything we achieve during a year is really quite staggering. We continue to engage with many hundreds of people each year, many of them often in a crisis of sorts. We treat each individual with compassion and respect, whilst working hard to improve their life chances

through our often slender resources – and this is no mean feat. Once again we are indebted to our hard working staff and volunteers who always seem able to go the extra mile. Be that a driver, a van hand, someone in the Bike group, a volunteer at Orchid House, any one of hundreds of people that donates every year to the foodbank – all of our staff and volunteers should be thanked for their efforts this year.

Rob Rolls
Chief Executive Officer

Community Works CIO
Trustees' report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Charity number: 1096518

THE BARKER PARTNERSHIP
Chartered Accountants
Thirsk

Community Works CIO

Chair's Report

for the year ended 31 March 2024

Welcome to Community Works' Annual Report 2023- 24

The second year of our new CEO's tenure has been one of consolidation and development.

During the first half of the year we focused on consolidation, especially around our financial systems and internal processes. As you would expect, this work enabled Rob to do a deep dive into the organisation and our processes and has enabled very strong foundations for us moving forward. Being financially stable and creating clear structures allowed the second half of the year to become a much more developmental stage for us.

To that end we have embraced the Community Anchor work and are proud to have been awarded that status for Thirsk. This in itself allows us to be more flexible and responsive to the needs of the communities we serve, and we are looking forward to developing this work further, to ensure that Thirsk provides its communities with the things they need, but more importantly want.

In addition, we are continually striving to improve our services with additional funding for projects such as Shedding Doubt, The Menu and our Rise to Thrive work. All of which provide our Thirsk Community with much needed support. This additional funding also demonstrates the value and quality of the work we provide and is a real testament to the work the staff and volunteers do, to ensure that the individual and funders' needs are met.

Although reports of this nature are about our past achievements, I can't ignore the future! For me, the coming year is definitely a stepping stone to greater things. We certainly have some opportunities coming our way, with a new Mayoral Authority, new Central Government and with the help of Garfield Weston's Pilotlight programme we will develop a long-term strategy which will ensure that Community Works provides the services to support and benefit our community.

As always, the significant strides we have taken this year have only been possible because of the amazing staff, volunteers and Trustees supporting us. Their commitment, passion and dedication make Community Works the organisation it is, and my personal thanks go to everyone who has contributed to ensuring that we can meet the ever increasing and diverse needs of our community.



Mr D I Sharp
Chair of the trustees
30 October 2024

Community Works CIO

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Statement of financial activities	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 21

Community Works CIO

Legal and administrative information

Charity number	1096518
Registered office	Community House 14a Market Place Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1LB
Trustees	Mrs R E Lawson-Tancred Mr D I Sharp Chairperson Mr D Shorrocks Mr C Snowden (Resigned 14 October 2024) Mr M Sollitt Mrs G Turton Mr T Ward Mr D R Tucker
Chief Executive	Mr R Rolls
Accountants	The Barker Partnership Chartered Accountants 17 Central Buildings Market Place Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1HD

Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The organisation converted to a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) from a charitable company limited by guarantee on 30 September 2019. The charity was registered at the Charities Commission on 14 March 2003.

The CIO was established under a constitution dated 27 November 2019.

Appointment of trustees

Under the constitution, a trustee must be appointed by the charity's members. Also the constitution requires at the annual general meetings one third of the trustees shall retire by rotation.

Trustee induction and training

Most trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity. New trustees are invited to meet with the chair in order to familiarise themselves with the charity, in areas such as:

- The obligation of the board of trustees
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity
- Resourcing and financial position
- Future plans and objectives.

Trustees are encouraged to attend external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organisation

The charity's constitution states that there can be a minimum of 3 trustees and a maximum of 12 trustees.

Sub groups of the board of trustees cover specific issues such as human resources, events and health and safety.

Volunteers

The charity values the help and support the volunteers provide. Volunteers are encouraged to participate in internal and external training programmes.

Risk review

The trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed, particularly those related to the operations and finances of the charity employing the Charities Commission audit tools, where such exist. They are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

Objectives

Community Works CIO's charitable objects are as follows:

1) The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage (primarily in the county of North Yorkshire):

(a) by providing premises and support services for young people and adults to support their development and to increase their potential for playing a full part in the social and economic life of the community;

(b) by providing support services and care in their own home or in the local community for persons whose lifestyle is limited by age or disability;

(c) by such other means (being charitable in law) as the trustees may from time to time consider appropriate.

2) To advance such other charitable purposes under the laws of England and Wales as the Trustees shall from time to time consider expedient.

Our Mission

We will facilitate partnerships to support people in North Yorkshire, particularly from Thirsk to connect with and contribute to their community by providing opportunities for them to improve their economic, health and social wellbeing. In particular, our work will help make the following differences:

Increase Social Inclusion

Increase Community Resilience

Improve Well-being

Increase Economic Prosperity

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity's Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Achievements and performance

Introduction from the Chief Executive Office - Rob Rolls

To re-quote some lines from a Christmas Carol - 'the year has performed its wonderful dance'! The period from April 2023 to March 2024 was very formative for the future of Community Works, and an exciting time as we went through many smaller changes which were specifically designed to improve our services and our scope of operations. It is the nature of annual reports that they are written some time after the events themselves, but looking back this report reminds us of year of strong progress.

Food bank

2023/2024 was the year when the food bank took its greatest strides, by means of a new reporting and data collection system, and working towards better ways of managing our support to those who need us. We were also able to move the food bank upstairs and thanks to some wonderful work from our volunteers, brand new shelving appeared to make the food bank look even more like the welcoming and supportive environment that we have always known that it was. One Foodbank user said "Without the food bank we as a parents wouldn't have been able to provide food for our children over the Christmas period, it meant that we could use the spare money we had to pay for heating and that we didn't have to choose between the two."

Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

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Re:Use Store

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Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

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Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

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A Final Word

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Community Works CIO

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

Financial review

The charity depends almost entirely on grants and donations for its incoming resources. These resources have increased during the year by £35,654. Resources expended during the year were £550,518. The charity has £411,787 of funds at the year end.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit.

Reserves policy

The trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets are held as general funds at such a level that there are free reserves to provide financial flexibility over the next financial period.

New funding streams are continually being identified for this purpose.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

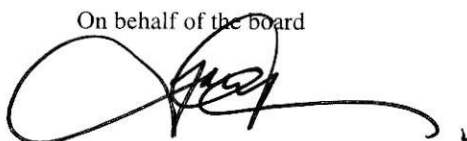
The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice ('SORP');
- make judgements and 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with responsible accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011 the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the board



Mr D R Tucker
Chair of Finance Committee

Community Works CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Community Works CIO.

I report on the accounts of Community Works CIO for the year ended 31 March 2024 set out on pages 3 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act;
- 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 Commission. 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 my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (i) which gives me 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 to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Barrie Cross ACA
The Barker Partnership
Chartered Accountants
17 Central Buildings
Market Place
Thirsk
North Yorkshire
YO7 1HD

30 October 2024

Community Works CIO

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Incoming and endowments					
Donations and legacies	2	32,346	8,069	40,415	30,360
Investment income	3	548	-	548	127
Incoming resources from charitable activities	4	291,229	216,089	507,318	484,600
Other income	5	4,460	-	4,460	2,000
Total income		<u>328,583</u>	<u>224,158</u>	<u>552,741</u>	<u>517,087</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	6	351,869	125,845	477,714	581,976
Other resources expended	7	-	72,804	72,804	-
Total expenditure		<u>351,869</u>	<u>198,649</u>	<u>550,518</u>	<u>581,976</u>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		(23,286)	25,509	2,223	(64,889)
Total funds brought forward		234,645	174,919	409,564	474,453
Total funds carried forward		<u>211,359</u>	<u>200,428</u>	<u>411,787</u>	<u>409,564</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.


The notes on pages 12 to 21 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Community Works CIO

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	209,386	281,379
Current assets			
Debtors	13	41,160	24,048
Cash at bank and in hand		173,783	114,436
		<u>214,943</u>	<u>138,484</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(12,542)</u>	<u>(10,299)</u>
Net current assets		<u>202,401</u>	<u>128,185</u>
Net assets		<u>411,787</u>	<u>409,564</u>
Funds	15		
Restricted income funds		200,428	174,919
Unrestricted income funds		211,359	234,645
Total funds		<u>411,787</u>	<u>409,564</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 30 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by


Mr D I Sharp
Chairperson

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Company number CE020578) having solely charitable objectives, and registered as a charity (number 1096518). The registered office is Community House, 14a Market Place, Thirsk, North Yorkshire, YO7 1LB.

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

1.1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with 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) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

1.2. Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations and legacy income is received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant. Gifts in kind are recorded at fair value of the items.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity, being the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.
- Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable.
- Investment income is included when receivable.

1.3. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management.

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1.4. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings	-	0%
Leasehold property improvements	-	Straight line over the life of the lease
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	33% straight line
Office equipment	-	33% straight line
Motor vehicles	-	25% reducing balance

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
General donations and fundraising	32,346	8,069	40,415	30,360
	<u>32,346</u>	<u>8,069</u>	<u>40,415</u>	<u>30,360</u>

3. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Bank interest receivable	548	548	127
	<u>548</u>	<u>548</u>	<u>127</u>

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Re: use	67,180	-	67,180	61,355
Better Connect	28,573	-	28,573	55,605
Car Scheme	20,530	18,978	39,508	40,764
Multiply NYC	16,141	-	16,141	6,052
Catalyst	-	30,832	30,832	30,832
Two Ridings Community Foundation (Activity)	4,000	-	4,000	6,500
The Henry Smith Charity (IL)	-	56,550	56,550	56,000
Kickstart	-	-	-	3,879
Meals on Wheels	15,920	-	15,920	12,637
UKSPF - Buildings	-	16,446	16,446	-
Mental Health	-	-	-	15,000
Community Grants (Thirsk Infant School)	4,174	5,480	9,654	-
Foodbank	-	20,000	20,000	28,625
Thriving at Work/RISE	27,098	-	27,098	32,292
The Menu	-	21,000	21,000	-
Garfield Weston (Pilotlight)	-	1,000	1,000	-
OPS - Dementia Day Care	49,404	-	49,404	51,237
Shedding Doubt	-	40,000	40,000	-
Library	-	-	-	2,422
SHIC	7,500	-	7,500	15,000
OPS - Carer's Break	-	5,803	5,803	7,870
OPS - Early Onset Dementia (Out & About)	8,063	-	8,063	-
Stronger Communities NYC	16,000	-	16,000	36,000
Client Income	880	-	880	578
Other Small Grants	25,766	-	25,766	21,952
	<u>291,229</u>	<u>216,089</u>	<u>507,318</u>	<u>484,600</u>

5. Other income

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Room hire	1,790	1,790	-
Gift aid income	2,670	2,670	2,000
	<u>4,460</u>	<u>4,460</u>	<u>2,000</u>

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

6. Costs of charitable activities - by fund type

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Community Works (note 8)	204,989	116,144	321,132	410,590
Core costs (note 9)	146,880	9,701	156,581	171,385
	<u>351,869</u>	<u>125,845</u>	<u>477,714</u>	<u>581,976</u>

7. Other resources expended

	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets - see note 17	72,804	72,804	-
	<u>72,804</u>	<u>72,804</u>	<u>-</u>

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Community Works £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Direct costs	81,401	81,401	72,984
Wages and salaries	171,198	171,198	239,536
Training & recruitment	429	429	1,330
Staff - other costs	5,805	5,805	7,317
Rent	29,316	29,316	33,564
Utilities	6,732	6,732	15,552
Insurance	7,441	7,441	14,649
Motor and travelling costs	1,091	1,091	7,501
Accountancy charges	5,714	5,714	6,967
Other professional fees	93	93	-
Other office expenses	6,064	6,064	8,077
Telephone	5,848	5,848	3,113
Sundry expenses	-	-	-
	<u>321,132</u>	<u>321,132</u>	<u>410,590</u>

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

9. Core costs

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Direct costs - Activities	2,144	955	3,099	2,138
Direct costs - Transport & mileage	60	-	60	-
Direct costs - Repairs & maintenance	1,292	-	1,292	1,862
Direct costs - Building maintenance	-	8,746	8,746	81
Wages and salaries	99,320	-	99,320	106,051
Staff recruitment & training	467	-	467	13,679
Staff - other costs	4,302	-	4,302	4,679
Rent	10,238	-	10,238	11,895
Utilities	6,446	-	6,446	3,930
Insurance	4,459	-	4,459	3,824
Motor and travelling costs	1,938	-	1,938	651
Accountancy charges	1,428	-	1,428	1,709
Other professional fees	302	-	302	1,355
Other office expenses including IT	8,362	-	8,362	1,976
Telephone	2,386	-	2,386	763
Bank interest and charges	745	-	745	949
Depreciation	2,991	-	2,991	15,843
	<u>146,880</u>	<u>9,701</u>	<u>156,581</u>	<u>171,385</u>

10. Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year

	2024 £	2023 £
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible fixed assets	2,992	15,843
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets - see notes 17	72,804	-
	<u>75,796</u>	<u>15,843</u>

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

11. Employees

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	257,176	322,758
Social security costs	13,342	22,829
Pension costs	9,507	11,266
Other costs	600	730
	<u>280,625</u>	<u>357,583</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2023 : None).

Number of employees

The average monthly numbers of employees (including the trustees) during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents, was as follows:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Trustees	8	10
Administration	1	1
Staff and development workers	15	19
	<u>24</u>	<u>30</u>

Trustees received no remuneration and were not reimbursed for any of their expenses.

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

12. Tangible fixed assets	Land and buildings freehold £	Leasehold property improvements £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Skate Park £	Total £
Cost							
At 1 April 2023	202,140	28,058	12,130	12,367	17,322	113,254	385,270
Additions	-	-	-	3,803	-	-	3,803
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(113,254)	(113,254)
At 31 March 2024	<u>202,140</u>	<u>28,058</u>	<u>12,130</u>	<u>16,170</u>	<u>17,322</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>275,819</u>
Depreciation							
At 1 April 2023	-	28,058	12,027	12,299	11,055	40,450	103,889
Charge for the year	-	-	103	1,322	1,567	-	2,992
On disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(40,450)	(40,450)
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>28,058</u>	<u>12,130</u>	<u>13,621</u>	<u>12,622</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,431</u>
Net book values							
At 31 March 2024	<u>202,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,547</u>	<u>4,699</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>209,386</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>202,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>6,267</u>	<u>72,804</u>	<u>281,379</u>

13. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	6,927	18,748
Other debtors	34,233	5,300
	<u>41,160</u>	<u>24,048</u>

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	1,985	797
Other taxes and social security	4,763	5,232
Other creditors	1,396	-
Accruals and deferred income	4,398	4,270
	<u>12,542</u>	<u>10,299</u>

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 as represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	209,386	-	209,386
Current assets	14,515	200,428	214,943
Current liabilities	(12,542)	-	(12,542)
	<u>211,359</u>	<u>200,428</u>	<u>411,787</u>

16. Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	At 31 March 2024 £
General Funds	<u>234,645</u>	<u>328,583</u>	<u>(351,869)</u>	<u>211,359</u>

Purposes of unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use in accordance with the charitable objects.

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

Garfield Weston (Pilotlight)

A grant from the Garfield Weston Foundation, enabling us to receive support from the Pilotlight charity for ten months

The Menu

This is a two year project aimed at listening to our local communities and is based on the ABCD model of community development.

Shedding Doubt

This is a project focusing on Men's Mental health and giving participants the opportunity to open up about their challenges in a productive & supportive environment. It is also about helping individuals find retraining and looking for new career opportunities for the over 50s.

Community Grants (Thirsk Infant School)

This is a grant towards some of the costs of IT and Communications systems.

UKSPF - Buildings

A grant towards the partial refurbishment of Community House.

Thirsk Skate Park

The HDC, Big Lottery Fund, Thirsk Town Council, North Yorkshire Council and the Donation represents income received for the construction of the park. The balance on these funds represents the undepreciated element of the park.

During the year the lease to the skatepark was surrendered and therefore the asset has been written off against the restricted fund brought forward.

18. Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to continue to be able to continue as a going concern.

Community Works CIO

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

17. Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	At 31 March 2024 £
Community Works				
The Henry Smith Charity (IL)	59,070	56,550	(22,551)	93,069
Catalyst	32,798	30,832	(26,998)	36,632
Scrubs	1,000	-	(1,000)	-
Foodbank	7,009	22,377	(30,514)	(1,128)
OPS - Carer's Break	7,404	5,803	(3,646)	9,561
OPS - Early Onset Dementia (Out & About)	-	3,868	(2,569)	1,299
OPS - Dementia Day Care (Past Times)	-	1,824	(1,824)	-
Car Scheme	(5,166)	18,978	(21,103)	(7,291)
Garfield Weston (Pilotlight)	-	1,000	(590)	410
The Menu	-	21,000	(3,134)	17,866
Shedding Doubt	-	40,000	(496)	39,504
Community Grants (Thirsk Infant School)	-	5,480	(2,674)	2,806
UKSPF - Buildings	-	16,446	(8,746)	7,700
Thirsk Skate Park				
Hambleton District Council	36,995	-	(36,995)	-
Big Lottery Fund	22,625	-	(22,625)	-
Thirsk Town Council	2,250	-	(2,250)	-
North Yorkshire Council	8,100	-	(8,100)	-
General Donations	2,834	-	(2,834)	-
	<u>174,919</u>	<u>224,158</u>	<u>198,649</u>	<u>200,428</u>

Purposes of restricted funds

The Henry Smith Charity (IL)

Provides support and training to adults to reach their potential.

Catalyst

The project is supporting vulnerable women from across Hambleton and Richmondshire through mentoring, life coaching and support group sessions. The project aims to help women get back on track with their lives and reintegrate into their local communities.

Foodbank

Donations and grants for the purchase of food and toiletries and the running of the foodbank.

Older People Services (OPS)

A service providing respite sitting to carers of older people.

Car Scheme

Community careshare project.