

Charity registration number 1099164 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 04779914

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	David Dale Lorraine Jones Linda Marshall Ian Parker Phillippa Thompson	(Appointed 28 February 2025)
Secretary	Linda Marshall	
Charity number	1099164	
Company number	04779914	
Registered office	31 Budebury Road Staines Middlesex TW18 2AZ	
Independent examiner	Natalie Bracey FCA Europa Link Sheffield Business Park Sheffield S9 1XU	

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

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ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published in October 2019.

Objectives and activities

The Charity's objectives are the promotion of any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community of Sheffield and in such other areas as the Charity may from time to time determine; and in particular the advancement of the Christian religion, the advancement of education, the promotion of religious and educational study and research and the publication of the results of all such study and research; and the relief of poverty, sickness, affliction and distress.

In furtherance of the above objectives, but not otherwise, the Charity may exercise the following powers:

(i-viii are the standard powers of a charitable company)

(ix) provide facilities for religious fellowship and training.

(x) procure to be written and print, publish, issue and circulate gratuitously or otherwise any reports or periodicals, books, pamphlets, leaflets or any other documents,

(xi) arrange and provide for, or join in arranging and providing for the holding of exhibitions, meetings, lectures and classes,

(xii) establish residential communities for persons directly engaged in the furtherance of the purpose of the aforesaid,

(xiii) promote, encourage or undertake experimental work.

Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

Providing facilities for religious fellowship: Two Weekend Conferences were held: in May at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire, and in October at Foxhill, Frodsham in Cheshire. Day meetings held in July and in February were by video conference. The regular gatherings online, open to all-comers, which had been started in June 2020 continued to meet fortnightly. The branch in London continued its practice of holding monthly meetings, alternately on line and in person. The North-West England branch meets occasionally in person but mainly by video conference. The online meetings were valued by participants who were geographically remote or in poor health, while the meetings in person were valued by those unable to participate in the online meetings because they lacked access to IT. Most of these meetings were attended by associates and non-members, thus providing a public benefit.

Publications: 'ACT Together', containing articles by Community members and friends, was published in May and October.

Residential communities: Two of the Community's houses in Sheffield were sold. One, being to a charity providing accommodation for people seeking asylum. The remaining two houses in Sheffield continue as residential communities. Work continued on the refurbishment of accommodation within the Burngreave complex.

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Relief of poverty etc.: All members were asked to give a day's income to the annual appeal, which this year went to The Four Homes of Mercy, a charitable organisation in Bethany, Palestine that provides care and support for individuals with severe multi-sensory challenges, particularly children. A grant was also made from the Wider Service Fund to the Four Homes of Mercy as well as to the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust to maintain a wood in memory of one of the Community's members. The Burngreave community rooms have started to be used again to provide a meeting place for local people, with activities such as a men's mental health cafe, language classes, women only craft and education activities and a free community meal. Following on from discussions started last year, we were able to give grants using surplus money from previous sales of properties to a project undertaking grass root theological education and distance theological education for the majority world.

Financial review

For the period under review, the Trust had a deficit of income over expenditure of £111,578, which relates to a restricted fund surplus of £150 and an unrestricted funds deficit of £111,728. This is including a deficit on the sale of a number of properties in the year of £43,246.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level sufficient enough to meet the expected annual running costs.

Plans for future periods

The 5 year plan of the trustees, following consultation with the membership, is to dispose of all our property, taking due regard to the interests of remaining tenants, and involving other charities where possible. During the year, 2 of the properties were sold according to the agreement reached last year.

Detailed procedures for disposing of further funds as they become available were agreed at the national gathering in October 2024, with two categories of projects for which applications could be made on the agreed application form: Projects/organisations proposed by members and associates of Ashram and Organisations working with people in housing need. Conversations have begun with a local Sheffield network as to whether an agreement can be reached for them to use the Burngreave property, and with a Housing Association regarding giving to them the Rock Street property. When all remaining assets have been disposed of, the company and Charity will be wound up.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

The charity's governing documents are the memorandum and articles of associations from incorporation on 29 May 2003.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

David Dale

Lorraine Jones

Linda Marshall

Ian Parker

Phillippa Thompson

Helen Davies

(Appointed 28 February 2025)

(Resigned 28 February 2025)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are selected from the members of at least two years standing. A potential new trustee will be approached by one of the existing trustees, on the basis of the skills and experience which they have on offer. If prepared to serve, their name will be put to the AGM of all members for approval.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025*

Organisational structure

The Ashram Community is A Not for Profit Charity.

Decision making is by the whole Membership of the Community at the Community Meetings held four times a year. The Community elect the Trustees who meet four times a year or more frequently if required. The Annual General Meeting elects the officers of the Community.

There are up to Six Trustees who have oversight of the Properties and Finances and who ensure compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.

Any decisions by the Trustees are discussed and approved by the membership including approving the annual accounts

A Trustee has been appointed by the Community to manage the day to day running and administration of the properties.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Linda Marshall

Trustee

26 July 2025

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Ashram Community Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

N Bracey FCA
Hart Shaw LLP
Europa Link
Sheffield Business Park
S9 1XU

5 August 2025

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	2,412	-	2,412	2,318	-	2,318
Charitable activities	3	5,873	1,100	6,973	4,773	926	5,699
Investments	4	40,977	-	40,977	36,658	-	36,658
Total income		49,262	1,100	50,362	43,749	926	44,675
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5	117,744	950	118,694	51,067	3,025	54,092
Total expenditure		117,744	950	118,694	51,067	3,025	54,092
Net gains/(losses) on investments	9	(43,246)	-	(43,246)	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		(111,728)	150	(111,578)	(7,318)	(2,099)	(9,417)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		609,696	1,462	611,158	617,014	3,561	620,575
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		497,968	1,612	499,580	609,696	1,462	611,158

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

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		177,207		338,596
Current assets					
Debtors	12	26		84	
Cash at bank and in hand		323,985		274,038	
		324,011		274,122	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,638)		(1,560)	
Net current assets			322,373		272,562
Total assets less current liabilities			499,580		611,158
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	14		1,612		1,462
Unrestricted funds	15		497,968		609,696
			499,580		611,158

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The trustees' responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 26 July 2025

Linda Marshall

Trustee

Company registration number 04779914 (England and Wales)

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Ashram Community Trust is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 31 Budebury Road, Staines, Middlesex, TW18 2AZ.

1.1 Accounting convention

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

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

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

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

1.4 Income

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

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

1.5 Expenditure

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

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Freehold land and buildings	0% straight line
Leasehold land and buildings	0% straight line

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

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

1.9 Financial instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Donations and gifts	2,412	2,318

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Week ends	5,873	-	5,873	4,773	-	4,773
Wider service fund	-	254	254	-	338	338
Community projects fund	-	-	-	-	29	29
Days income	-	846	846	-	559	559
	5,873	1,100	6,973	4,773	926	5,699

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Rental income	33,446	29,946
Interest receivable	7,531	6,712
	40,977	36,658

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Direct costs		
Week ends	9,332	6,715
Donations	75,660	2,875
Premises alterations	5,715	8,340
Rent and water rates	12,239	8,748
Utilities	6,748	16,116
Insurance	5,910	6,043
Activities	264	303
Sundries	-	50
Wider service fund	350	465
Community projects fund	-	1,789
Days income	600	771
	<u>116,818</u>	<u>52,215</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 6)		
Governance	1,876	1,877
	<u>118,694</u>	<u>54,092</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	117,744	51,067
Restricted funds	950	3,025
	<u>118,694</u>	<u>54,092</u>

6 Governance costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Analysed between:		
Independent examiners fee	1,638	1,560
Administration	34	13
Printing, postage and stationery	204	304
	<u>1,876</u>	<u>1,877</u>

7 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8 Employees

There were no employees during the year.

The average number of trustees was 6 (2024 - 6)

9 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Sale of investments	(43,246)	-

10 Taxation

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	338,596
Disposals	(161,389)
At 31 March 2025	177,207
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	177,207
At 31 March 2024	338,596

12 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	26	84

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	1,638	1,560

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

14 Restricted funds

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

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Days Income	421	846	(600)	63	730
Community Project Fund	1	-	-	(1)	-
Wider Service Fund	540	254	(350)	(63)	381
Burngreave Multifaith	500	-	-	1	501
	<u>1,462</u>	<u>1,100</u>	<u>(950)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,612</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
	(1)	-	-	-	(1)
Days Income	633	559	(771)	-	421
Community Projects Fund	1,762	29	(1,789)	-	2
Wider Service Fund	667	338	(465)	-	540
Burngreave Multifaith	500	-	-	-	500
	<u>3,561</u>	<u>926</u>	<u>(3,025)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,462</u>

Days Income - Members contribute annually a Day's income towards a project, normally overseas, as decided by the Community Meeting, where an amount of up to £1,000 would make a difference.

Community Projects Fund - Funded through membership giving, donations are given to local community projects or initiatives that member are involved with, as agreed by the Community Meeting.

Wider Service Fund - The members who contribute to this fund decide on the recipients. It supports people, inside and outside of the Community, who are in situations that are in need of financial help.

Burngreave Multifaith - Money generated by the Burngreave Mult-faith project is used for local Sheffield Initiatives.

During the year the Wider Service Fund donated £63.30 across to the Days Income fund. This has been represented as a transfer above.

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

15 Unrestricted funds

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

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Weekends	(1,886)	-	(9,332)	15,873	-	4,655
General funds	611,582	49,262	(108,412)	(15,873)	(43,246)	493,313
	<u>609,696</u>	<u>49,262</u>	<u>(117,744)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(43,246)</u>	<u>497,968</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Weekends Fund	56	-	(6,715)	4,773	-	(1,886)
General funds	616,958	43,749	(44,352)	(4,773)	-	611,582
	<u>617,014</u>	<u>43,749</u>	<u>(51,067)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>609,696</u>

Weekends Fund The Weekends Fund is used to subsidise those who are unable to pay the full fees for the residential weekends.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Total 2025
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2025:			
Tangible assets	177,207	-	177,207
Current assets/(liabilities)	320,761	1,612	322,373
	<u>497,968</u>	<u>1,612</u>	<u>499,580</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	338,596	-	338,596
Current assets/(liabilities)	271,100	1,462	272,562
	<u>609,696</u>	<u>1,462</u>	<u>611,158</u>

ASHRAM COMMUNITY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025***

17 Related party transactions

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