



...Bringing people together

FAN – Friends and Neighbours

The FAN Charity

Company Registration Number: 07157056 (England and Wales)

Charity no: 1134900

Financial statements

For the year ending 31st March 2025

Start date: 1st April 2024

End date: 31ST March 2025

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The FAN Charity
Company Information
For the year ended 31st March 2025

Registered address: 29 Park Avenue, Whitchurch, Cardiff, Wales,
CF14 7AL

Company Registration Number: 07157056
(England and Wales)

Charity no: 1134900

Bankers: HSBC (Albany Road, Cardiff)

Directors/Trustees as at 31st March 2025

Peter Akers
Jane Tooby
Sara Jones
Ian Thomson
Huda Khirelsied.
Katherine Kanyeihamba
Jane Booty
Deepika Bagga
Donald Sargeant
Mohammad Jazini

Annual Directors/ Trustees Report of Fan Charity

(Reg.Charity No.1134900 Companies House No. 7157056)

1st April 2024 - 31st March 2025

1) Objectives and Activities of the FAN Charity

Objectives: to promote religious and racial harmony by developing and strengthening good relations between individuals of all beliefs, races and cultures thus fostering a spirit of kinship, mutual understanding and respect among the peoples of the world.

Activities: FAN Groups bring people together to meet, listen and talk. The FAN Charity encourages the growth of FAN Groups, both face to face and online, to achieve its objectives; increase participation in FAN Groups, and adherence to the FAN principles as outlined in the Opening and Closing statements that govern each meeting, thus increasing public benefit to all participants and the communities in which they sit. Trustees confirm that they have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In assessing success Trustees use a combination of participation rates, and feedback from participants (at FAN meetings, Questionnaires and in case histories) from Facilitators and partners.

2) Development of the FAN Charity

This is the fourteenth year of operating as a charitable company recognised by the Charities Commission and Companies House. Trustees meet regularly on Zoom and have begun to meet face to face once again. Attendance remains high. Meetings are minuted with active participation by all Trustees in meetings and Working Groups. Trustees ensure that governance and staff support and supervision are robust. Trustees do not operate separately from FAN Groups; both participating in and leading FAN Groups.

While many Trustee meetings, and especially Working Groups take place on Zoom increasingly Trustee meetings take place face to face as did the FAN Charity AGM in October 2024. FAN Groups are predominantly face to face; of our 48 Groups only 4 are online meeting the needs of those who are unable or unwilling to attend in person, and 6 Groups are run in house by partner organisations (Job Centre Plus, the YMCA hostel, Tros Gynnal Plant, EYST and Riverside Community Development) who have adopted the FAN model as a useful way to build relationships with their clients. Two of our Groups now meet in Welsh as we have a new monthly face to face Group in Cardiff. Having the option of virtual FAN is valued by participants.

Our National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF) project Sustainable FAN 2022-2025 is now coming to an end in May 2025. Our work on this project has left us with a thriving network of FAN Groups in South Wales. Our two steering groups in West Wales and serving the East have proved a valuable place to monitor our progress against outcomes set by the Lottery. It is pleasing that 3 of the 4 outcomes have

been met convincingly with work to be done embedding FAN's dementia friendly status and links to Carer organisations. Our work with Tros Gynnal Plant, SASS and Oasis and

REACH have increased our profile with younger people as shown by our survey of participants in November 2024. Training of Facilitators is flexible and appropriate with training sessions delivered online and in person to meet local need. There is still a gap between those trained and those active in FAN but this is being tackled by more targeted recruitment and the recognition that after training, trainees and the organisations that they represent are then in a better position to see if FAN will meet their needs. Half yearly reports to the Lottery have been favourable received, our final report is in development.

Cost of Living (COL) Support from the Lottery extends until July 2025, and we are grateful to the Lottery for this additional support, which has meant that we have been able to bring our main Lottery funding to a successful conclusion. The greatest part of FAN's expenditure is on salaries for our less than 1.5 Full Time Equivalent staff, and that FAN achieves a great deal with this small staff team, working with our wonderful volunteers.

During this year we brought two separately funded projects to a successful conclusion: funding from the Postcode Community Trust enabled staff to work creatively with volunteers to develop their skills as FAN Ambassadors - taking out information about FAN into their communities. While the title 'Ambassador' was not popular the work done was enjoyable and constructive. In addition, one of our young volunteers has set up and runs our new Instagram account. Funding in Swansea from the UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund gave us an opportunity to follow up an idea from FAN participants and a cookbook of recipes and stories was produced by Swansea FAN friends. This was a mammoth task but the end result was professional and worth it. Well done Philippa and her Swansea volunteers. Sales of the cookbook have raised over £1000 for FAN. We have received £500 so far from the Coop Community Fund which will pay the rent for our Bridgend FAN Group. Building on our Glamorgan Voluntary Services Loneliness funding in St Athan, our FAN Group for Afghan women and the local community continues to meet and has provided a stepping stone to greater cooperation working with other organisations committed to community cohesion in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Our staff team comprises of FAN Manager, Sarah Duncan-Jones and Admin Support worker, Sally Smith, who focuses on data, DEWIS Cymru and reaching out on social media. Our NLCF Development and Support Workers are Philippa Wisdom in Swansea and Janina Kuczys in Cardiff. Caroline Dodd worked as a Development Officer in Barry and St Athan on the Ambassador project. All staff are home-based but regularly get out and about to visit Groups and promote FAN to the wider public. Being able to mix and match face-to-face and online training has been a very

effective tool this year. Trustees are grateful for the commitment and efforts of our Staff.

Partnerships are vital to FAN's development and sustainability. Building on established partnerships with Library Hubs in Cardiff and The Vale, cafes, community centres, churches, centres for Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Swansea and Cardiff, new links have been forged with The Ukraine Hub in Cardiff and Morriston Library in Swansea. FAN continues to innovate and new FAN+ Groups for Poetry and Walking have started, inspired and led by volunteer Facilitators. Two conversation groups followed by FAN were set up during the year to give FAN participants with English as an additional language specific support. FAN staff and volunteers reached out to the wider community through attendance at Health Fayres, Into Work events, Community

festivals and through links to Swansea City of Sanctuary. Increasingly, such events are staffed by volunteers.

Almost all Facilitators use our weekly data collection system. Form completion time has reduced and our Administrative worker is increasingly able to focus on Social Media and group support. Attendance at Groups fluctuates, but it is monitored and supported where appropriate. Success is measured by the number of Groups, numbers attending, but also by the benefits reported by participants and Facilitators – of confidence grown, loneliness alleviated, opportunities for connection and integration provided, along with opportunities for informal English practice, which was measured autumn 2024 through a questionnaire to participants and to Facilitators. While FAN continues to appeal to people from many different countries now living in the UK, two thirds of FAN participants are local people. We recognise that it can sometimes be difficult within a FAN Group to reconcile the needs of English learners and those who are local but lonely and isolated. However, we are clear that there are great benefits in bringing these disparate groups together. As a FAN participant says: I like getting to know each other and speak to others is a help to me. There is good discussion and people share about things this is interesting. The human nature is to talk, to learn about each other and give support. I can share my feelings at FAN and this really helps me. There is always a group here and there is trust, we share equally, with no judgment and no teacher.

It is clear that FAN Groups continue to be a useful, economical, and vital resource in communities. FAN Groups benefit from having dedicated individuals or small groups of people, who volunteer as FAN Facilitators, who ensure that the group meets weekly and follows FAN principles. A training programme using Zoom and Teams has been developed and regular training sessions take place in person or online. Development Workers mentor new trainees and offer them opportunities to put their new skills into practice. While some FAN Groups have been set up in London and Colwyn Bay, these groups have not continued once the key person left. Currently, the only FAN Groups operating outside the South Wales area are through friends in

Kenya. All South Wales Facilitators are supported by FAN staff. Facilitator Get Togethers were held online and in person this year – it is wonderful to be able to be back in a room together; and small team meetings were held with Swansea FAN Group, where concerns, experiences and good practice can be shared.

FAN ensures that our Website and Facebook pages are up-to-date and engaging. FAN now has over 1300 followers and increasing engagement with posts. We have come off X and set up an Instagram account. Our website manager is no longer able to support the site and this is something of a concern for FAN – Trustees are working to resolve this. A second Newsletter was produced in June 2024. FAN is active in the WCVA Safeguarding Community of Practice Group, REACH in Swansea and Cardiff, and the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Community Cohesion/More in Common Networks as well as Bridgend's Croeso network. We continue to hold Great Winter and Summer Get Together events, linking with the local More in Common Groups.

3) Sustaining FAN beyond the end of our NLCF Grant, May 2025

In Spring 2024 FAN undertook an extensive consultation with our community to establish our way forward from 2025 so that a new Strategic Plan could be agreed and written. It was clear that participants valued the Charity's work and that our aim should

be seeking out further funding that would enable FAN maintain its current position and to continue to employ at least the same amount of staffing.

However, despite extensive work and consultation with funders and potential partners and after much consideration, Trustees decided in December 2024 not to pursue an application to the National Lottery Community Fund for substantial funds to cover our core costs for the next two or three years, and also not to apply for a smaller but significant amount from the WCVA Volunteering Fund. Essentially, this was because the criteria for securing funds from these sources were impossible for FAN to fulfil at this time.

This means that FAN will be entering a new era from May 2025. Our intention is to strive to continue our FAN Group activities as before, and even to develop new FAN Groups when opportunities arise.

We are very grateful for the support of all our funders as noted above. In addition, we have the support of new funder The Community Foundation Wales, funds raised by former Chair Roy Skelton and his family by running for his 80th birthday, cookbook sales and generous donations by FAN supporters we have saved enough money to continue to employ staff in the short term. However, we will be working with significantly fewer staff hours and can only commit to these new arrangements for one year at this point. We are delighted to report that Sally, Janina and Philippa our current staff members have agreed to stay with us under new contracts. We will hugely miss the contribution of Sarah Duncan-Jones FAN Manager who has retired

from that role. However, Sarah has expressed a willingness to become a volunteer FAN Trustee.

Going forwards, Trustees are working with the Chairman as they take on additional responsibilities and new ways of working in FAN. We will be focusing on continuing to support our Facilitators in their vital role of running our existing network of FAN Groups and delivering an excellent FAN experience to our participants – and indeed expanding the network where possible.

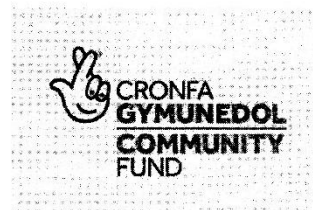
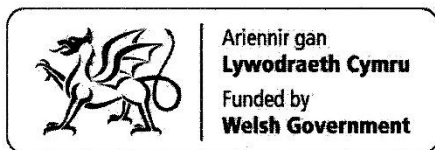
Thanks are extended to Ian Thomson, Chair of the FAN Charity, who works tirelessly on the Charity's behalf. Many thanks to Peter Akers our efficient Treasurer who manages FAN finances. Thanks also to Jane Tooby, who continues to line manage the FAN Manager, and to all Trustees who give enormous support to FAN, many of whom participate in Groups and who bring with them a wide range of skills. Their work at Trustees and in FAN Groups has been critical to FAN's success.

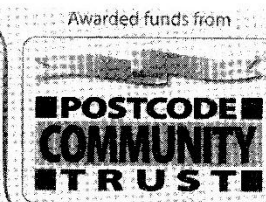
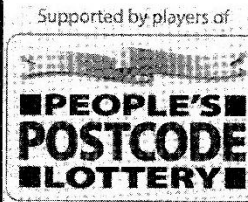
4) Plans for 2025-2026

Our plans for the coming year are to

- Continue to seek new funding for core and project work
- Make the new Trustee and staffing arrangements work for FAN, Facilitators and participants
- ensure the continued operation of our network of FAN Groups across South Wales with or without significant funding

The FAN Charity is grateful to our generous funders for their support 2024-25 see logo page





SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD BY:

1) T. Shona (Director)
Date: 28/10/25

2) S. Jan (Director)
Date: 28/10/25

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FAN CHARITY, for the 12 months ended 31st March 2025

I report on the accounts of the charity for the financial year ended at 31st March 2025.

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 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act), and
- to state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. It does not include an examination of whether expenditure is consistent with the provisions of any grant agreements. 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. My 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:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Examiner: Wayne Strong

Signature:



Date:

18/10/25

The Fan Charity
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

Statement of financial activities		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		2025	2025	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources	Notes				
Grants		0	45,332	45,332	55,245
Donations		4,273	850	5,123	3,092
Donations in kind		0	0	0	0
Fundraising		1,800	0	1,800	0
Investment Income		0	0	0	0
Total incoming resources	2	6,073	46,182	52,255	58,337
Costs of charitable activities		1,798	57,221	59,019	50,932
Total resources expended	3	1,798	57,221	59,019	50,932
Net incoming resources		4,275	(11,039)	(6,764)	7,405
Total funds brought forward		17,367	14,889	32,256	24,851
Total Funds carried forward before transfers		21,642	3,850	25,492	32,256
Transfer between funds		(812)	812	0	0
Total funds carried forward		20,830	4,662	25,492	32,256
Balance sheet:					
Current assets					
Debtors		0	0	0	0
Cash at bank and in hand		20,830	4,662	25,492	32,256
Total current assets		20,830	4,662	25,492	32,256
Creditors:					
Amounts due within one year		0	0	0	0
Net Assets		20,830	4,662	25,492	32,256
Financed by:					
Accumulated funds brought forward		17,367	14,889	32,256	24,851
Recognised gains and losses		4,275	(11,039)	(6,764)	7,405
Transfer between funds		(812)	812	0	0
Closing revenue accumulated funds		20,830	4,662	25,492	32,256

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(i) Ensuring that the company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and

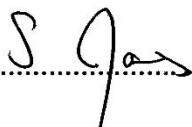
(ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit or loss for the financial period in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD BY:

1).....  (Director)

..... Date: 28/10/25

2).....  (Director)

..... Date 28/10/25

The Fan charity
Notes to the Accounts
For the period ended 31 March 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 (SORP 2005) and the Companies Act 2006, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Insofar as the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting issued by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales, effective April 2005 requires compliance with specific Financial Reporting Standards other than the FRSSE then the specific Financial Reporting Standards have been followed where requirements differ from those of the FRSSE.

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement.

The particular accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Accounting Convention

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

The charity is entirely dependent on continuing donations grant aid and as a consequence the going concern basis is also dependent on the continuing donations grant aid.

Basis of preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE), effective January 2007, and all other applicable accounting standards, as modified by the 2005 Revision of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting issued by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales, effective April 2005. The accounts have been drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act.

Income receivable

Revenue grants received are credited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are due. Legacies, donations and voluntary income are credited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are received.

Resources Expended

The policy for including items within the relevant activity categories of resources expended is to recognize them when there is a legal and constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure as described in the Financial Reporting Standards 5 and 12.

Costs of Charitable Activities

Costs included in charitable activities comprise all resources applied to the charity in undertaking its work to meet its charitable objectives as opposed to the costs of raising the funds to finance these activities and governance costs.

Governance Costs

Included are the costs of governance arrangements which relate to the general running of the charity as opposed to the direct management functions inherent in generating funds, service delivery and programmed project work.

Allocation of Costs within Types of Resources Expended The methods and principles for the allocation and apportionment of all costs between the different activity categories of resources are based on directly attributable costs.

Winding Up or Dissolution of the Charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remains any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Donations	4,273	850	5,123	3,092
Donations in kind	0	0	0	0
Grants	0	45,332	45,332	55,245
Fundraising	1,800	0	1,800	0
Total	6,073	46,182	52,255	58,337
Investment Income				
Other bank deposit interest received				
Total Investment Income	0	0	0	0
Total Incoming Resources	6,073	46,182	52,255	58,337

3 CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted 2025 £	Restricted 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cost of Wages /Consultancy	1,632	50,201	51,833	44,414
Hiring costs	0	0	0	0
Admin and other Office Expense	124	2,658	2,782	1,010
Subsistence/Travel	0	1,696	1,696	1,827
Publicity	0	143	143	416
Meeting Expenses	42	1,779	1,821	2,817
Training	0	275	275	240
Insurance	0	469	469	208
Total Expended on Charitable Activities	1,798	57,221	59,019	50,932

Number of part-time employees included within cost of wages: 5 (2024-25)

Trustees' time given voluntarily to the charity during the past year has been the equivalent of 2 x full-time employees,

4 PARTICULARS OF 6XRESTRICTED FUNDS

	£ Main Lottery	£ Lottery COL	£ Other Grants &donati ons
Balance at 1/4/2024	2,633	4,937	7,320
Incoming Resources	28,137	14,635	3,410
Total	30,770	19,572	10,730
Outgoing Resources	28,717	20,384	8,120
Balance 31/3/2025	2,053	(812)	6,301
Transfers	0	812	0
Balance at 31/3/2025	2,053	0	2,610

Other small grants & restricted donations were:

- Brigend volunteers donations.
- Postcode lottery
- Swansea SPF
- PCF