

Registered Charity Number  
1145178

Registered Company Number  
07662038

**The Oval (Stevenage)  
Community Association**

**Report and Accounts  
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association  
Report and accounts  
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**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association  
Company Information**

**Directors**

Jeanette Thomas (Chairperson)  
Paul Laurence Boielle  
Rose Hall (resigned 21 October 2024)  
Reverend Pete Orton

**Accountants**

Hargreaves Owen Limited  
Red Sky House  
Fairclough Hall  
Halls Green  
Herts  
SG4 7DP

**Bankers**

The Co - operative Bank plc  
PO Box 101, 1 Balloon Street  
Manchester  
M60 4EP

**Registered office**

The Oval Community Centre  
The Oval  
Vardon Road  
Stevenage  
Herts  
SG1 5RD

**Charity number**

1145178

**Company number**

07662038

# **THE OVAL (STEVENAGE) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The Directors of the Company, who are the trustees of the charity for the purposes of Charity Law, present their report for the Accounting Period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

### **NAME, REGISTERED OFFICE AND CONSTITUTION OF THE CHARITY**

The full name of the charity is The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association.

The legal registration details are :-

<i>Company Registration Number</i>	07662038
<i>The Registered Office is</i>	The Oval Community Centre, The Oval Vardon Road, Stevenage, Herts SG1 5RD
<i>Charity Registration Number</i>	1145178
<i>The telephone number is</i>	01438 359404

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE COMPANY**

The company is governed by its' Articles of Association, as modified by special resolution on 19th December 2012. The company's charitable objects, set out in its' Articles of Association, are:

- to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Stevenage without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions, by associating together the said inhabitants and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure - time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life of the said inhabitants

- to establish, or secure the establishment of, a Community Centre and to maintain and manage the same (whether alone or in co-operation with any local authority or other person or body) in furtherance of these objectives

- to promote such other charitable purposes as may from time to time be determined

### **SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY IN RELATION TO ITS OBJECTIVES**

In all the activities undertaken by the Company, the Directors in their role as charity trustees have been mindful of their statutory duty to take into account the guidance on public benefit set out in The Charity Commission's Guidance Documents PB1 The Public Benefit Requirements, PB2 Running a Charity and PB3 Reporting.

During the accounting period, the principal activity of the Company comprised the day-to-day running and management of The Oval Community Centre, including the letting of rooms and halls.

Sarah Walker, the Community Centre Manager, is the Company's senior paid employee. The range and scope of activities undertaken, during the 2024/2025 year can best be judged from her report prepared for the Company's 2025 AGM, which is reproduced below (in italics), having been endorsed by the Directors.

# **THE OVAL (STEVENAGE) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

### **Centre Manager's Report**

#### **Hire**

It has been a busy and challenging time for the office staff with many changes to the diary bookings throughout the year. However, the extra work has paid off and our daytime hire is picking up considerably.

- The psychic circle has stopped meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024.
- The Mums & Baby Yoga sessions stopped on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024 after her offer period ran out.
- Our own Toddler Group closed on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024. Due to the lack of volunteers to run the group, numbers attended had dwindled. It was a shame to lose such a vital community group.
- Due to funding cuts, we lost the hire from NHS Health on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2024 who were working alongside the Family Centre to provide parents-to-be sessions, 3 times every 2 months.
- Sabre Grappling hired room 3/4 for 4 evenings a week from 7pm – 8pm starting 14<sup>th</sup> October to teach Brazilian Jujitsu to Adults. Unfortunately, the room was too small, and they left us on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024.
- Chair Yoga left us on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024. They were on a temporary reduced rate that we could no longer sustain. We could not accommodate her class in a smaller room.
- Yoga with Mirka ceased on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024 due to low numbers of attendees.
- Home School Tutoring started a regular hire on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 for 15 hours per week, term time. Unfortunately, this hire only lasted 4 weeks.
- Buzz Cheerleaders hire abruptly stopped on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 due to family commitments.
- Dance Yourself Fit joined us for a brief period over the summer holidays 2024. However, we were unable to accommodate them on a longer term.
- The Black Men Forum joined us on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 hiring the main hall on a Monday evening for over 50's black men to join a table tennis league.
- The Irish Network approached us to hire our rooms as they were looking to venture further into the Community. We were excited to be able to offer them a variety of dates, times and rooms to suit their needs on a regular weekly basis. Their hire commenced on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024.
- TBC Healthcare started hiring the coffee bar on Thursday mornings from 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to run a weight loss clinic for people referred from a GP. After their first week they increased their sessions to 2 a week for 12 weeks.
- Space Herts hired room 3/4 from 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025 for a 6-week training course.
- Stevenage Borough Football Foundation increased their hire to 3 sessions per week with effect from 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025, adding adult walking football.
- Our Craft Group continues and is at full capacity.

# **THE OVAL (STEVENAGE) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

During the quieter period of the summer holidays, we closed the Centre Office on a Friday, to help keep staff costs down.

The Family Centre Contract was up for tender and was won by OneYMCA. They took over from Barnardos our existing hirer on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025. Jeannette and Paul had a Teams Call with HCC and OneYMCA on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to look through the hire agreement. Gail, myself and SBC also joined a further meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024 to discuss the hire agreement in more detail. The Agreement was signed on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

OneYMCA does not employ a cleaner. We provided a quote for this service, which was accepted and our cleaner Caroline commenced cleaning the Youthwing with effect from 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 for 5 hours per week.

Other continuous regular hire includes, Jive of Hearts, Dogs Trust, Beezee Bodies, Youth Connexions, TCES, Ostomistics, Longfellow Pilates, Friendship Group, Dogs Trust, Chiropodist, Amputee Family.

### **Functions**

Children's parties have remained consistent throughout the year.

Evening functions were very quiet at the beginning of the financial year but began to pick up towards the end. We have formed a link with Andy Marshall who runs a mobile bar company to promote each other's services, which has brought in some adult parties.

### **Staff Changes**

Sarah Walker – Centre Manager with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

Gail Mardlin – Deputy Manager with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

### **Caretakers**

David Slade's health remains stable, and he is slowly building back into taking on more work. David Doy continues to do maintenance tasks during his caretaking shifts.

Abbey has reduced her regular caretaking hours due to family commitments.

Caroline Swallow, our cleaner, also joined our Caretaking team in November 2024.

Philip Swallow joined our Caretaking Team on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

### **Trustees**

Sadly, our longstanding Trustee Rose Hall passed away on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Rose was a huge part of the Community Centre for many years, also running the Friendship Group. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Her funeral was held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024, and her wake was at the Centre.

# **THE OVAL (STEVENAGE) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

### **Other**

\*The payroll system was moved to Moneysoft with effect from April 2024 and the Iris contract has been cancelled. The new system is much more user-friendly.

\*The Scottish Power account was in credit, and we were able to apply for a refund of £797.22 in July 2024.

Staff were awarded a 2.5% salary increase, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

\*The regeneration of the Oval Area is still being worked on by SBC. I had a meeting to discuss the interior of our new building on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2024 so the plans could be finalised to go out to tender. We await any further news via Stevenage Borough Council.

\*We had a price increase for all hire of 2.5% with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024.

\*We were given an HCC Grant of £5000 to run a Community Café over the colder months. The grant allowed us to pay for the room hire, energy costs, staff costs and covered all the refreshments we provided. The café commenced on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024, initially opening every Thursday from 12.45pm – 3pm to provide free light refreshments. As the session grew, we were able to extend it to a Tuesday from 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025 and a Saturday morning once a month from 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025, in which we provided a light breakfast and a takeaway lunch bag.

\*We purchased a sum up machine in January 2025 so that we can take card payments during our own events.

\*Michelle and Jean, our volunteers, kindly continue to hold regular jumble sales for us and takings for this financial year were £1030.02 which is an improvement on last year (£979.63). We continue to pass on unwanted jumble to Herts Air Ambulance. A big thank you to Michelle and Jean for all their hard work with not only the jumble but manning stalls at our events.

### **Events**

2024 was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Centre and All Saints Church. Therefore, we decided to hold some special events as part of our celebrations –

\*On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024 we held a Family Easter Disco, with LCB funding. This money provided a disco, crisps, drinks and a raffle, all free of charge. 96 people attended.

\*Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024, we held an over 50's afternoon tea/disco from 1pm – 3pm. With LCB funding we paid for the disco, cream tea and refreshments. The Irish Network kindly provided volunteers to do the catering, and we could not have done it without them. We provided 120 visitors with a free afternoon. The mayor was in attendance.

\*Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2024 was our Summer Fair from 11am – 2pm. The weather wasn't kind to us, and all activities were moved inside. We provided a giant inflatable football goal, kiddi go-carts, inflatable fun and a face painter all free of charge as they were kindly paid for by LCB funding. The turnout was quieter than usual, however all the stall holders did well. Kevin Bonavia attended, which was his first appearance as MP for Stevenage. We were also visited by the mayor. Past employees and current craft group members kindly pulled together to help us.

\*Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 together with All Saints Church, we had a stall at Stevenage Older Persons Day. We promoted all our groups and services, gave out home made cakes and craft goodies and free Christmas cards. The event was well attended and a worthwhile exercise.

# **THE OVAL (STEVENAGE) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

\*Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2024 together with All Saints Church we held a Quiz Night.

\*Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024 was our popular Christmas Craft Fair from 11am – 2pm. Despite horrendous weather we were busy with 40 craft stalls. LCB kindly funded the Face Painter, Santa and Santas Gifts so we were able to offer these free of charge. The Family Centre was a great support in running free craft activities for children and helping with the Grotto. We had 2 stalls, manned by volunteers.

\*Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2025, together with All Saints Church we held a Quiz Night. 53 people attended.

Income from all events throughout 2024/25 was £1594.99 and expenditure was £226.62, making an overall profit of £1368.37.

**A huge thank you to all the staff, volunteers and trustees for their dedication and support throughout the year to provide a warm, welcoming Centre for the community."**



# **THE OVAL (STEVENAGE) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association is a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered with Companies House on 8th June 2011 as Company No. 07662038 and with the Charity Commission on 20th December 2011 as charity no. 1145178.

It was founded by the Trustees of the Oval Community Association, registered charity no. 270150, who are the guarantors, undertaking to pay £1 each if the company is wound up, with the express purpose of taking over the running of the Oval Community Centre, The Oval, Vardon Road, Stevenage, from the unincorporated charity.

The current Trustees are:

Jeanette Thomas (chair)	(appointed 8 June 2011)
Paul Laurence Boielle	(appointed 8 June 2011)
Rose Hall	(resigned 21 October 2024)
Reverend Pete Orton	(appointed 3 November 2021)

The trustees as noted above are also the guarantors and directors of the company.

The Company being limited by guarantee, there are no directors' interest in share capital.

All the directors of the company are also trustees of the charity, and their responsibilities include all the responsibilities of directors under the Companies Acts and of trustees under the Charities Act. The directors are members of the company

The Directors of the Company have no interest in any contract with the Company nor do they receive any remuneration for their service or personal expenses.

# **THE OVAL (STEVENAGE) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **a Transactions and Financial Position**

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act.

#### **Hon Treasurer's Report**

The statutory accounts, prepared on an accruals basis, record that, with income from lettings increased from the 2023/2024 year there was a small surplus on the year of £1,926. This is the first surplus since the pandemic, indicating that lettings income is recovering following their collapse due to the pandemic. Energy costs increased from £10,795 to £11,356, more than twice the pre-Ukraine war level.

In 2024/2025, wages in the year were £65,367, an increase of 11% on the £58,815 of the previous year, reflecting both an increase in activity levels and in the wage rates, the latter necessary to retain staff. Pre-pandemic, two thirds of the Centre's expenditure was accounted for by salaries. In 2024/2025 this percentage was 70% due in part to our on-going squeeze on all non-essential expenditure and in part to on-going staffing issues. Nine years ago, the Company had made a commitment to pay its lowest paid employees the Living Wage Foundation's living wage. In the 2020/2021 year, because of uncertainty about the future resulting from the pandemic, wages were frozen at the 2019/2020 level. In addition, the Company limited all discretionary expenditure to the bare minimum, in an effort to stretch the Company's reserves as far into the future as possible. However, towards the end of 2021, in response to difficulties in recruiting caretaking staff, their wage rate was raised to the Living Wage Foundation rate, with a commitment to raising all staff to this rate, as a minimum, during 2022/2023, which commitment was duly honoured, as it has been in subsequent years, including 2024/2025.

In the 2025/2026 year the challenge will be to judge whether and by how much activities return to pre-pandemic levels and the resultant impact on the Charity's income and the resources available to cover expenditure, and this in turn will put pressure on those expenditure items over which the Company has control, which is primarily staff wages, accounting for some 70% of annual expenditure. This wage percentage can only be sustained at the expense of investment in repair, renewals, fittings and fixtures and the like, in which there has been significant under-investment over the previous 5 years.

## **THE OVAL (STEVENAGE) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The Oval (Stevenage) Enterprises Ltd., which ran the bar at Community Centre functions, was set up by trustees and staff members of The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association's predecessor unincorporated charity as that charity's trading arm. The founders, who were Enterprises shareholders, donated their shares to the charity in the 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 years. However, Enterprises Directors decided to suspend operations when the existing premises licence fell due for renewal at the end of summer 2021, as functions with bars were so infrequent that staffing them was uneconomic, and it is now a dormant company.

The Company receives assistance each year from Stevenage Borough Council, through leasing the Community Centre at a nominal rent. The 2019/2020 annual report discussed at length the Borough Council's plans to sweep all the existing buildings, including the Community Centre and All Saints Church, off the Oval site and then use developers to redevelop, squeezing a Community Centre somewhere into an odd corner of the site. As reported in 2022/2023, the current plan is to relocate the Community Centre and All Saints Church to a site north of its current location, with the Community Centre envisaged as a 3 story building at the south end of the new site, with the main hall on the second floor, not ideal from the Community Association's point of view. Discussions with the architects engaged by Stevenage Borough Council to design the new Community Centre, and indeed the entire area redevelopment, have concluded with the Borough Council looking to put the redevelopment out to tender. Even if the redevelopment goes to plan, it will be a couple of years yet before the new community centre is complete. Linked to the redevelopment plans is the Community Association's lease of the Community Centre, which ran out in 2021/2022, and which the Borough Council have informed the Association won't be renewed or extended except on a year-by-year basis. This is continuing to have a negative effect on the Association's prospects of obtaining more substantial grants, though this hasn't stopped the Company from taking advantage of grants controlled by local Councillors,

As mentioned in previous annual reports, the Community Centre shares the Oval complex with All Saints Church, an ecumenical partnership between the Methodist Church and the Church of England with a common entrance hall and shared toilets. A good working relationship with the officials and clergy of the two congregations, and especially the Church of England's full-time priest, makes for an easier life. He, with the support of the church's officials has been active in pursuing opportunities for co-operative working. All Saints Church are in a stronger position than the Community Association when it comes to the redevelopment, as the freehold of the church site and the building itself, are owned by an independent body representing the original founders of All Saints Church: that is the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church and the Methodist Church. Indeed, discussions between the Borough Council's lawyers and the Church's owner's lawyers are on-going. Until an agreement is reached, there is significant potential to delay the redevelopment programme.

# **THE OVAL (STEVENAGE) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

### **b Fixed Assets**

During the period April 2024 to March 2025 there were no additions to Fixed Assets.

### **c Reserves Policy**

The level of unrestricted reserves held at the end of the 2024/2025 financial year was £114,196 which amounts to some 14 months income at the 2024/2025 rate. In the 2015/2016 year, as a result of the uncertainties about the long-term future of the Community Centre, and the increasing trend for the Company to have to call on its own resources to keep the Community Centre weatherproof and warm, the Directors/Trustees reviewed the reserves policy, and felt it prudent, by the time the redevelopment of The Oval precinct takes place, to have in reserves a year's unrestricted income. Accordingly, the current level of reserves is more than that required by the current reserves policy. The issue with this policy is that for the past 9 years, when the redevelopment of the Oval precinct will take place has always been "within the next 5 years". Although the signs are promising, with work to start on preparing the ground for the new building forecast to start before the end of 2025, the Oval redevelopment is not yet a done deal, and if the Borough Council's finances become over-stretched, the Oval redevelopment could find itself once more "kicked into the long grass."

The Company does not at present anticipate having to cease operation permanently when the existing Community Centre is demolished since the redevelopment plans provide for a replacement, albeit not like-for-like, but there will be disruption with winding down of operations in one building and winding them up in another, which may not be concurrent, and the replacement Centre may not be able to accommodate all the existing range of activities, resulting in some loss of revenue and increases in costs.

At the beginning of the 2024/2025 financial year, the Directors expected to have to draw down the reserves by at least £19,500 to cover the shortfall of income over expenditure in the financial year as a result of the after-effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. In the event, for the reasons outlined earlier, the outcome over the year was a surplus of £1,926 reflected in the modest increase in reserves.

### **d Share Capital**

The company is limited by guarantee and therefore has no share capital

### **e Responsibilities of the trustees in relation to the financial statements**

The Directors (who are also the charity's trustees) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of financial affairs of the company and of the profit and loss of the company for that period.

# THE OVAL (STEVENAGE) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Directors, as trustees, are also responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply not only with the Companies Act 2006 but also the Charities Act 2011 and 2022. 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.

In all the activities undertaken by the Company, the Directors in their role as charity trustees have been mindful of their statutory duty to take into account the guidance on public benefit set out in The Charity Commission's Guidance Documents PB1 The Public Benefit Requirements, PB2 Running a Charity and PB3 Reporting.

The directors consider that for the year ended 31 March 2025, the company was entitled both to an exemption from a statutory audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

However, the Charities Act 2011 does require an independent examination and accordingly, the directors have appointed Karen Bunyan of Hargreaves Owen Ltd as Independent Examiner.

In accordance with company law, as the charitable company trustees, the Directors certify that:

•so far as they are aware, there is no relevant information of which the charitable company's independent examiners are unaware; and

•as the trustees of the charitable company, they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the company's independent examiner is aware of that information.

### f Method of preparation of accounts

The trustees, in their capacity as directors, state that the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

*P.L. Boiella*

Paul Laurence Boiella  
Director and Trustee

Dated *16<sup>th</sup> September 2025*

The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 14 to 23.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and 2022 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to 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 next statement.

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Oval (Stevenage)  
Community Association**

**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 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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

*K. Bunyan*

Karen Bunyan FCCA  
Hargreaves Owen Ltd  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Red Sky House  
Fairclough Hall  
Halls Green  
Weston  
Herts  
SG4 7DP

The date upon which my opinion is expressed is: 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025

**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year Total Funds
Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>				
Voluntary Income	-	6,112	6,112	862
Activities for generating funds	87,800	-	87,800	74,042
Investment Income	1,579	-	1,579	1,114
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>89,379</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>95,491</b>	<b>76,018</b>
<b>Costs of charitable activities</b>				
Governance costs	87,915	4,720	92,635	86,087
	930	-	930	930
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>88,845</b>	<b>4,720</b>	<b>93,565</b>	<b>87,017</b>
<b>Net (outgoing) / incoming resources before transfers between funds</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>(10,999)</b>
<b>Gross transfers between funds</b>			-	-
<b>Net (outgoing) / incoming resources before Other recognised gains and losses</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>(10,999)</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>(10,999)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>113,662</b>	<b>2,127</b>	<b>115,789</b>	<b>126,788</b>
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>	<b>114,196</b>	<b>3,519</b>	<b>117,715</b>	<b>115,789</b>

The net movement in funds referred to above is the net outgoing resources as defined in the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting issued by the Charity Commission for England & Wales and is reconciled to the total funds as shown in the Balance Sheet on page 16 as required by the said statement.

**All activities derive from continuing operations**

**The notes on pages 15 to 22 form an integral part of these accounts.**



**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association  
Balance Sheet  
as at 31 March 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>The assets and liabilities of the charity :</b>			
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	7	10	10
Tangible assets	8	7	7
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	6,006	7,181
Cash at bank and in hand		117,327	113,862
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>123,333</u>	<u>121,043</u>
<b>Creditors:-</b>			
amounts due within one year	10	(5,635)	(5,271)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>117,698</u>	<u>115,772</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>117,715</u>	<u>115,789</u>
<b>Net assets / (liabilities)</b>		<u>117,715</u>	<u>115,789</u>
<b>The funds of the charity :</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted revenue accumulated funds		114,196	113,662
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>		114,196	113,662
<b>Restricted income funds</b>			
Restricted revenue accumulated funds		3,519	2,127
<b>Total restricted funds</b>		3,519	2,127
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>117,715</u>	<u>115,789</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit or loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

*P. L. Boiella*

P Boiella  
Director

Approved by the board of trustees on

*16<sup>th</sup> September 2025*

The notes on pages 16 to 23 form an integral part of these accounts.

**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**1 Accounting policies**

***Basis of preparation of the accounts***

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared 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) issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2022, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

***Incoming Resources***

Incoming resources are accounted for on a receivable basis i.e. they are included if the date receivable falls within the period covered by these accounts.

***Investment Income***

Bank Interest received is included on an actual receipts basis.

***Recognition of liabilities***

Liabilities are recognised on the accruals basis in accordance with normal accounting principles, modified where necessary in accordance with the guidance given in the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting (revised June 2008) issued by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales .

***Fixed assets and depreciation***

Upon incorporation, fixed assets were transferred from the unincorporated association at nil book value - consequently in respect of these assets no depreciation has been charged in this accounting period.

Fixed Assets that have been purchased in subsequent years are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets (less their estimated residual value ) over their estimated useful economic lives.

Fixtures, fittings & office equipment	25% straight line
---------------------------------------	-------------------

***Taxation***

As a registered charity, the company is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the company , and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities

**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

***Funds structure policy***

The charity maintains a general unrestricted fund which represents funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

Restricted funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes, and it is the policy of the board of trustees to carefully monitor the application of those funds in accordance with the restrictions placed upon them.

There is no formal policy of transfer between funds or on the allocation of funds to designated funds, other than that described above.

Any other proposed transfer between funds would be considered on the particular circumstances.

***Transition to FRS 102***

No restatement of items has been required in making the transition to FRS 102. The transition date was 1 April 2015.

**2 Winding up or dissolution of the charity**

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain 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.

<b>3 Surplus for the financial year</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
This is stated after crediting :-		
Revenue from ordinary activities	93,912	74,904
and after charging:-		
Reporting Accountant's fees	930	930

Funds belonging to the charity have not been used for the purchase of insurance to protect the charity from loss arising from the neglect or defaults of its trustees, employees or agents, or to indemnify its trustees, employees or agents, against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part.

**4 Statement that no expenses were paid to trustees or connected persons**

No expenses were paid to trustees or persons connected with them.

**5 Analysis of support costs**

An analysis of support costs by activity (Appendix 2) is included in the detailed schedule to the Statement of Financial Activities.

**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

<b>6 Staff Costs and Emoluments</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Gross Salaries	65,367	58,815

<b>Numbers of full time employees or full time equivalents</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Engaged on charitable activities	3	3

There were no fees or other remuneration paid to the trustees

**7 Intangible Fixed Assets**

	<b>Shares in group undertaking</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2024	10
Additions	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>10</u>

10 Ordinary shares with a nominal value of £1 each in The Oval (Stevenage) Enterprises Ltd - now a dormant company ceased trading on 5 April 2022 - were donated to the charity in the year ended 31 March 2019.

The charity now holds 100% of the share capital of The Oval (Stevenage) Enterprises Ltd

**8 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Fixtures, fittings &amp; office equipment £</b>
<b>Asset cost</b>	
At 1 April 2024	19,285
Additions	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>19,285</u>
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2024	19,278
Charge for the year	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>19,278</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 March 2025	<u>7</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>7</u>

**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

9 Debtors	2025 £	2024 £		
Trade debtors	6,006	7,181		
Prepaid expenses	-	-		
	<u>6,006</u>	<u>7,181</u>		
10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025 £	2024 £		
Trade creditors	204	638		
Accrued expenses	2,318	1,680		
PAYE and NI	1,188	878		
Deferred income and grants in advance	1,925	2,075		
	<u>5,635</u>	<u>5,271</u>		
11 Analysis of the Net Movement in Funds	2025 £	2024 £		
Net movement in funds from Statement of Financial Activities	1,926	(10,999)		
Net resources applied on functional fixed assets	-	-		
Net movement in funds available for future activities	<u>1,926</u>	<u>(10,999)</u>		
12 Particulars of Individual Funds and analysis of assets and liabilities representing funds At 31 March 2025	Unrestricted funds  £	Designated funds  £	Restricted funds  £	Total Funds  £
Intangible Fixed Assets	10			10
Tangible Fixed Assets	7	-		7
Current Assets	119,814	-	3,519	123,333
Current Liabilities	(5,635)	-	-	(5,635)
	<u>114,196</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,519</u>	<u>117,715</u>
	£	£	£	£
	Funds at 2024 £	Movements in as below £	Transfers Between £	Funds at 2025 £
Unrestricted	113,662	581	(47)	114,196
Fire Marshall Training	60			60
LBC - First Aid	20		(20)	-
SBC Christmas Fair	12		(12)	-
LCB Training	951			951
SBC Xmas Fair	30		(30)	-
LCB Funding 2024	1,054	178	(1,159)	73
SBC Display Board		134	(134)	-
LCB Printer	-	300		300
SBC Summer Fair	-	200		200
LCB Afternoon Tea		300		300
HSF Warmspaces Café	-	5,000	(3,365)	1,635
	-			-
				-
				-
	<u>115,789</u>	<u>6,693</u>	<u>(4,767)</u>	<u>117,715</u>

**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**13 Endowment Funds**

The charity had no endowment funds in the year ended 31 March 2025

**14 Share Capital**

The charity is incorporated under the Companies Act 2006 and is limited by guarantee, each member having undertaken to contribute such amounts not exceeding one pound as may be required in the event of the company being wound up whilst he or she is still a member or within one year thereafter

There are 3 members of the company (2024 -4)

# The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association

## Appendix 1

### Analysis of Total Incoming & Outgoing Resources by Activity for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Fundraising	Other Activities	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>				
Voluntary Income	6,112	-	6,112	862
Activities for generating funds	87,800	-	87,800	74,042
Investment Income	1,579	-	1,579	1,114
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Other Incoming Resources</i>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>95,491</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>95,491</b>	<b>76,018</b>
<i>Costs of generating funds</i>				
Costs of generating voluntary income	-	-	-	-
<i>Costs of charitable activities</i>	92,635	-	92,635	86,087
Governance costs	930	-	930	930
<i>Other resources expended</i>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>93,565</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>93,565</b>	<b>87,017</b>
<b>Net Incoming Resources by activity</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>(10,999)</b>

**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association**  
**Schedule to the Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Prior Period Total Funds
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
<b>Voluntary Income</b>				
<b>Grants, legacies and donations</b>				
<b>Government and public bodies</b>				
<b>Incoming resources of a revenue nature</b>				
Grant income	-	6,112	6,112	862
<b>Total</b>	-	6,112	6,112	862
<b>Total Grants, Legacies &amp; Donations Received</b>	-	6,112	6,112	862
<b>Gifts in kind, donated services and facilities</b>				
Gifts and Donations	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Gifts in kind, donated services and facilities</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Voluntary Income</b>	-	6,112	6,112	862
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>				
Fundraising activities	87,800	-	87,800	74,042
<b>Total of activities for generating funds</b>	87,800	-	87,800	74,042
Bank deposit interest received	1,579	-	1,579	1,114
<b>Total Investment Income</b>	1,579	-	1,579	1,114
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	89,379	6,112	95,491	76,018
<b>Costs of generating funds</b>				
<b>Direct support costs</b>				
Coffee bar costs	73	-	73	176
Grant expenditure	47	4,720	4,767	-
	120	4,720	4,840	176
<b>Staff costs in support of charitable activities</b>				
Salaries - Administrative staff	33,617	-	33,617	38,081
Pension Contributions - administrative staff	1,321	-	1,321	1,554
	34,938	-	34,938	39,635
<b>Employee costs:</b>				
Travel and subsistence	12	-	12	12
Conferences & Courses	-	-	-	-
	12	-	12	12
<b>Premises Costs</b>				
Rent and rates payable	1,509	-	1,509	1,445
Insurance	982	-	982	940
Light and heat	11,356	-	11,356	10,796
Cleaning	9,649	-	9,649	9,913
Premises repairs and renewals	1,030	-	1,030	724
Alarm system maintenance	640	-	640	563
Caretaker	20,967	-	20,967	14,793
	46,133	-	46,133	39,174



**The Oval (Stevenage) Community Association**  
**Schedule to the Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Prior Period Total Funds
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>General administrative expenses:</b>				
Telephone and internet	1,539	-	1,539	1,539
Postage	-	-	-	39
Stationery and printing	1,334	-	1,334	1,256
Gifts and donations	9	-	9	121
IT Systems maintenance	2,004	-	2,004	1,977
Advertising and PR	-	-	-	-
Sundry expenses	466	-	466	763
Bad debts	-	-	-	-
	<b>5,352</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,352</b>	<b>5,695</b>
<b>Professional fees in support of charitable activities</b>				
Legal fees	-	-	-	-
Licences and permits	1,360	-	1,360	1,395
Companies House	-	-	-	-
	<b>1,360</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,360</b>	<b>1,395</b>
<b>Other support costs</b>				
Depreciation of assets used for charitable purposes	-	-	-	-
	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Support costs</b>	<b>87,915</b>	<b>4,720</b>	<b>92,635</b>	<b>86,087</b>
<b>Total Expended on Charitable Activities</b>	<b>87,915</b>	<b>4,720</b>	<b>92,635</b>	<b>86,087</b>
<b>Governance costs that are not direct management functions inherent in generating funds, service delivery and programme or project work</b>				
<b>Specific governance costs</b>				
Reporting Accountant's Fees	930	-	930	930
<b>Total governance costs</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>930</b>