



We are pleased to enclose your annual accounts.



REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 08227390 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1150892

Lightwaves Community Trust

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements**

Year Ended 30 September 2024

SMH Jolliffe Cork Ltd
Accountants & Business Advisors
33 George Street
Wakefield
West Yorkshire
WF1 1LX

Lightwaves Community Trust

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for the year ended 30 September 2024**

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The aim of the charity is to provide the residents of Wakefield district and the neighbourhood of College Grove and Pinderfields with a thriving community-run facility for sport, leisure, social and community activities to advance their well-being, health and prospects and to promote cohesion within the community.

Charitable object

The objects of the charity as outlined in the articles of association are: "to further benefit the residents of Wakefield and elsewhere, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to relieve poverty, advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare and for recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving conditions of life for the residents".

Public benefit aims and intended impact

The key benefit for the public has been that Lightwaves Leisure and Community Centre (hereafter the Centre) has been sustained and remained open and in business for the public and local community following the major challenges of the pandemic. The return to 'normal' has been a gradual process but now with the resumption of the full range of activities the Trust has underlined the centre's importance as a community anchor providing services and support for local people. In this period we have regained levels of income and usage as pre-Covid times, but remain open on a Monday to Saturday basis rather than a full seven-day basis.

Thus, the Trust has bounced back to providing a full range of services and re-establishing its reputation as the key community-run city centre facility that hosts education and learning activities, social and leisure pursuits as well as welfare services that support the most vulnerable and deprived citizens and families in the community. As people have returned to "normal" pre-pandemic patterns of activity, it is clear that the local community is still adapting to serious social and economic problems, with the Centre providing vital facility for assisting families to finding their way through the impacts of the cost-of-living crisis and the long run problems left by economic austerity.

Significant Activities

The year saw a further strengthening of and rebuilding on normal patterns of activity after the transitional period post-Covid as Lightwaves as a key part of the voluntary and community sector got to grips with the changed landscape of the tremendous upheavals of the pandemic and its social, economic and health impacts. Centre usage now matches pre-pandemic levels, albeit in a very changed environment in which Lightwaves Community Trust has returned to searching out funding for the Centre's core and additional activities.

As a return to normal patterns continued the Trust has seen a welcome return to large event bookings, which have significantly improved centre use, and thus revenue levels. However, we have kept to a six-day working week as Sunday opening has only been viable for large event bookings. As noted in last year's annual report, the case for opening all weekend remains weak, but if large event bookings continue to grow then the Trust will move to a full week opening schedule.

The challenges of Covid also brought some lasting positive legacies, notably where Lightwaves Centre became part of a system of local hubs delivering services to local communities around supporting peoples' physical, emotional and financial well-being. Working with partners we continued to build on and adapt lessons learned in response to the changing needs of local residents.

**Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 30 September 2024**

We have focussed on services tackling:

- Money concerns (budgeting, benefits, vouchers),
- Energy worries (help with utilities),
- Housing related concerns (rent and accommodation),
- Jobs and related issues (training opportunities, CV help with job applications), and
- Health and family concerns.

The Centre's successful support of local people is fundamentally dependent on approachable and friendly staff and volunteers steering people to the support that will help them improve their situation and well-being. Many local people and families come to the Centre to access and have printed their food vouchers, a vital mechanism for them get food, and more broadly free up household budgets to pay for their ever-rising utilities bills. Utility bills continue to rise well above retail price index increases putting great pressures on the poorest and most vulnerable families and individuals in city. The Trust continues providing a broad range of support to families and has worked with:

- Live Well team and their services for the older people services,
- Step Up organisation for employment help (Providence Street/Town Hall),
- Adult Education for training opportunities/ESOL (Manygates Centre),
- Wakefield College for adult & young people ESOL training,
- City of Sanctuary Foodbank & services (St Michaels Church),
- Art House Projects for refugees and asylum seekers,
- Hepworth Gallery Projects for refugees and asylum seekers, and
- Age UK Wakefield District (Castleford) for pension help and older people services.

In the winter period the Centre continued to act as a Warm Space for the community. Warm Space provision continued to provide a warm and welcoming space for local people and act as a vital resource sustaining the quality of people's social life. The Warm Space project showed a mix of young people and adults accessing our Centre. The trend of increased use on Fridays continued, including the use of the Centre's sporting activities. Centre Staff also supported people by maintaining a signposting to other support services for Centre users and their families.

In this period the Trust and Centre managers continued to cope with the aftermath of the discovery of serious fraud and theft by a previously highly-trusted member of staff who stole £29,000 from the charity. The member of staff had been with the Centre since its inception and the egregious betrayal of trust was particularly distressing for all staff members. The fraud was passed to the police and justice authorities who charged the individual, who has pled guilty and whose trial and sentencing is set to occur after the period of this annual report. As reported previously the matters were reported to Charity Commission and the Trust worked with NOVA and external experts to review, strengthen our governance and operational checks and overhauled administrative procedures to prevent this ever recurring. The Trust remains committed to tackling this contingent liability by seeking recovery of the documented losses.

The Trust's 'Feel Good Fridays' initiative was maintained and is still very much universally appreciated by staff, volunteers and the local community. Together with the Centre's central location in Wakefield and this FGF initiative makes the centre even more accessible to all the community, with a free lunch provided for the elderly, and with sports activities free for the over 60-year-olds and local unemployed, as well as asylum seekers and the refugee community. Activities are half price for everybody and activities such table tennis have proven popular. The emphasis is on making the Centre welcoming and tea and cake made by local volunteers plays its part in providing a home-from-home feel to the Centre on Feel Good Fridays.

The milestone evolution of Lightwaves Foodbank into the Lightwaves Food or Community Pantry was driven by a series of challenges: a fall in donations, users' feedback on what they needed and review and reflection on likely trends in supply of foodstuffs and the demand for a wider range of essential household items beyond just food. The Food Pantry has continued to grow from strength to strength with local families finding the service essential to help them cope against a relentlessly rising food prices and household bills. In March 2024 the BBC reported that there had been the greatest rise in absolute poverty in over 30 years. (The Absolute Poverty level measures how many people cannot afford a set standard of living, constructed on the Department for Work and Pensions' definition calculated from the living standard that an average income could buy in the foundation year ending in March 2011, and where if your income is 40% below this, after adjusting for rising prices since, then you will be classed as living in absolute poverty.)

**Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 30 September 2024**

The cost-of-living crisis has accelerated over the past decade and especially in the last few years ending in September 2024, as energy costs have surged ahead of largely relatively static (or declining) household incomes and wage levels. Food banks across the Wakefield district and beyond have found it very challenging supporting families facing rising poverty. In Lightwaves Food Pantry local citizens pay a £5 weekly subscription to gain approximately £40 worth of food and other household essentials (toiletries, etc). The Community Pantry is open every Friday and its successful operation is a reflection of the level of need in the local community.

On average 4 to 5 volunteers support the Community Food Pantry Co-ordinator on Fridays, which is especially helpful for the service's functioning as well as appreciated by the Food Pantry members for the kindness, checking in and discussions about cooking the various items at the sessions. Each session attracts 10 to 15 members attending for food but who are also signposted and helped to access other services. The latter includes support sessions from Citizens Advice Bureau and Leeds Credit Union with financial advice and help, as well as access to IT resources which people need to get log into government departments websites, and other information support sources. Families attend weekly and individuals fortnightly. Volunteers have helped out across 159 different occasions underlining the valuable efforts that these good souls are putting back into and for local communities.

The pantry is laid out like a shop, and members choose their own items from a wide selection, including fresh, refrigerated, frozen and long-life foods. (The latter tends to depend on what is received from Fayre Share plus donations.) Our Community Pantry Co-ordinator attends the Wakefield & District Food Aid Network and Household Funding Meetings. The Food Pantry sustains broader benefits and access to other services for local people, notably:

- Enhancing mental and physical health of the pantry members,
- Reducing feelings of isolation with the social contact,
- Enabling them to form new friendships via signposting to community organisations,
- Encourages local volunteering opportunities,
- Improve health and well-being as the members choose their own food,
- Prevents food and other waste via Fayre Share pantry and donations,
- Prevent hunger,
- Helps rebuilds dignity and feelings of personal empowerment,
- Renews and deepens connections between families and individuals in crisis and their local community.

Sustaining supplies for the Food Pantry has been a constant pressure as the cost-of-living crisis has affected so many people, increasing demand for help as donations have fallen. As noted above the work of the Food Pantry is complemented by breadth and depth of advice and support for vulnerable families and individuals. Assistance from the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) has been particularly important. Wakefield CAB runs a drop in every Wednesday, from 10am till 12pm as well as pre-planned appointments from 1pm to 3pm. Demand for the Food Pantry has remained high and this service has become a vital, indeed, an essential core support mechanism for some of the local community's most vulnerable families and individuals. Referrals to the Food Pantry typically come from Wakefield Council services as well as local schools.

A previous grant of £11,000 Prosper Together Fund enabled the Trust to set up an assessment and decision panel made up of 3 Lightwaves Trust members who consider applications via referrals to help families experiencing exceptional hardship and emergencies, for example, such as white goods (several washing machines, tumble dryer, fridge, freezer, cooker, air fryer, etc) need for clothing for school, beds and bedding, carpeting, and in one instance a bicycle and bike lock to help a shift worker get to work on an industrial estate when buses don't run. This flexible crisis support scheme has continued into this period providing a vital financial support mechanism to get families and individuals through desperate emergency circumstances.

Lightwaves is one of 20 organisations who have been identified as closest to the households that need support. The Prosper Together Fund is helping to support families and individuals that due to unexpected circumstances find themselves in crisis especially due to no savings and living to month-to-month (lack of financial resilience) then struggle to meet their responsibilities, which can lead to further deterioration and decline in mental and physical health.

**Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 30 September 2024**

Indeed, there has been a tremendous demand for Access Vouchers and the Centre has handed out 1,335 vouchers over this period. Data compiled in NOVA's monitoring processes show Lightwaves to be the most active, and in demand Help at the Hub centre, a reflection of its central accessibility and welcoming character.

Referrals for support come via a series of local organisations such as: Vico Homes Tenants' Officers, WDH Cashwise Team, Parents' Liaison Officers from local schools, WDDAS, Turning Point and Social Workers from the Early Help Hub @ Thornhill Street and via our Food Pantry.

Also of continuing importance is the work undertaken via the Wakefield Connect Café which focusses on supporting children, teenagers, young adults, and adults. This is paralleled and complemented by funding from the Happy Healthy Holiday clubs that operate in school holiday periods and which finances sports and leisure activities as well as food for the school children and young people, and particularly mindful of supporting low-income families and children entitled to free school meals.

Over this period continued funding for the operation of the Happy Healthy Holiday clubs has provided a stimulating and crucial lifeline sustaining children and young people from some of the community's most vulnerable and poor families to have access to sports and leisure activities, meals, energising entertainment and social development that they could not otherwise afford. Lightwaves is proud to provide the safe space and leadership for such enriching activities to take place in a compassionate and inclusive fashion that nourishes health bodies and minds.

Lightwaves has sustained a strong track record leading good practice in promoting and sustaining community cohesion and inclusion and problem-solving. This has included taking an active role in trying to get local public bodies (particularly West Yorkshire Police and Wakefield Council) to act quickly and effectively to reduce anti-social behaviour or to tackle "hot spots" of such behaviour. This has not always proven easy and regrettably some problems have been allowed to drift and fester to the disadvantage of local communities. Sometimes public bodies take a non-strategic and reactive response to problems that can often results in largely wasteful/inadequate repeat visits to problem sites when early and comprehensive intervention could have dealt with the issue more effectively once and for all.

The Trust has also sustained and led a welter of positive initiatives ranging from community clean-up campaigns and litter picks through to celebrating different communities' religious holidays such as Christmas and Eid. The Centre still hosts six different faith and religious groups and plays a key role as facilitator for local faith groups as part of an overall provision of a safe, multi-cultural and open environment for all communities.

On an annual basis the Trust reports Lightwaves' deep involvement in a wide pattern of strong partnership relations and this has improved across this period. The Trust has built a strong and successful record of partnership working with key local partners such as: Next Generation, Wakefield District Sight Aid (hosting its regular Living Well with Sight Loss courses, The City of Sanctuary, the local councillors, Wakefield College, Wakefield Council, Public Health, Young Lives, NOVA, National Education Union, We Are Wakefield, the Wakefield Bid, Wakefield Hospice, WDH Hatfield Court, Create Café, and Amnesty International.

The Trust's continued relationship with, and presence of Wakefield College and its staff and students provides another welcome strand of further vitality to the Centre. In the face of some difficult challenges from anti-social behaviour in the locality Lightwaves has worked hard over this period to make the Centre Wakefield College students and staff feel safe and valued guests and partners. This will be a continued priority over next, and future years as we ensure the Centre operates as a safe and welcoming environment for all.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Trust Development

Trust governance has developed over this period with a continuing focus on renewing board representation and the functioning of a board that acts as a critical friend and asset to the operations of the Centre. The return to physical meetings has helped to anchor the sense of a return to "normal". This is the Trust's eleventh year of operation and of successfully sustaining the centre and its services as a vital resource for communities that have faced some of the most challenging and difficult economic and social conditions seen in the past 25 years and more. For sure, the Centre's services have been a very important "safety net" and source of practical and emotional support for communities and individuals. This is borne out by data (collected by NOVA) on the volume (as well as the quality) of the support provided to local communities.

Given the importance of the services hosted by as well as delivered by the Trust and its partners from the Centre it is deeply frustrating that Wakefield Council's officers and leadership have failed to deliver on long standing and oft-repeated verbal undertakings to make progress on the capital works needed on the Lightwaves building and which would sustain the Centre's long-term functionality and benefits for local communities.

As the Trust moves forward into the second quarter of the 21st century it will need to consider alternative options to safeguard the future of the building and the services and communities that it hosts.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

In this period Lightwaves Community Trust continued managing the trend to delivering a full range of community activities concomitant with opening hours and services at "normal" pre-Covid patterns. In the "new normal" of post-Covid it is clear that community anchor facilities still face some difficult and challenging times ahead and particularly given the long-term effects of austerity on public funding sources. Maintaining sound financial management and support from local organisations and both staff and volunteers have helped Lightwaves return to almost normal levels of service. Whilst various support and financial grants from Wakefield MDC, National Lottery and NOVA ensured the organisation's financial viability and sustainability in the Covid period and aftermath have allowed the Centre to bounce back in this period the operating environment of increasing costs remains challenging.

Principal Funding

Lightwaves continued last year's return to pre-pandemic patterns of income generation activities via trading activities, notably and chiefly sports facilities income, and events income. The Trust is also seeking out and applying to funding opportunities as and when these arise and appropriate to the Trust's strengths and priorities. Over the year ahead a major priority will be accessing grant and other financial resources to upgrade and refresh the building and its facilities.

The capital investment owed to Next Generation has been systematically and significantly reduced. Trustees recognise the need to maintain its efforts to build up reserves and to pro-actively seek out further capital investment in developing the Centre's facilities as a means to enhance the sustainability of our operations as well as boost income generation.

Reserves' Policy

The aims and objectives of our Reserves Policy are to:

- a. Ensure a level of working capital to sustain the Centre and the ability to perform its charitable objectives.
- b. Ensure a level of funding to undertake new challenges and opportunities as they arise.
- c. Ensure availability of funding to cover extraordinary expenditure and loss of revenue as a consequence of matters arising beyond the Trust normal day to day operations.

Underpinning these aims and objectives the Trust seeks to build up and hold a level of free reserves equivalent to two years' annual expenditure. The Trustees realise that this continues to be a long-term but necessary challenge that the Board must pursue. Sport facilities income is seasonal and fluctuates in comparison to rental income which has remained regular and helped sustain our working capital funds as well as fund staff wages and other fixed costs.

The Board of Trustees and staff continually seek to promote and implement creative and innovative income initiatives, grant applications and donations (both individual and corporate). In the year ahead a revitalised board will focus on a revision of the Trust's Funding Strategy document and begin much delayed work on a completely new five-year Business Plan. This will be informed by the conversations we hope to have with Wakefield Council (referenced above) concerning the medium to long term sustainability of the Lightwaves building, and thus the vital community work that goes on within it.

Investment powers, policy and performance

The trustees having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the centre and to the reserves policy have maintained a policy of keeping available funds in an interest earning deposit account allowing immediate access as necessary.

Looking ahead

The Trust's overall strategy of enhancing income generation and improving sustainability remains a key priority as well as specifically seek major investment to enhance and up-grade the Centre's facilities continues. Lightwaves Trust will redouble its efforts in seeking major capital investment options and particularly in light of the long hiatus of Wakefield Council in delivering on its promises to invest in the Centre to bring it up to modern standards and sustainable energy usage.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The company was formed in 2012 and is limited by guarantee. It is registered with Companies House under company registration number 08227390. The charity was formed in 2013 and is registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 1150892.

Governing document

The charity is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Members of the board of trustees are appointed to represent Next Generation (2), Wakefield College (1), local community (4) and users of Lightwaves Leisure Centre (2).

Organisation, governance and management

The board of trustees, which can have up to twelve members (eight trustees and four Board advisors), who are committed to making a success of the community management of Lightwaves, administer the charity. The board normally meets monthly with sub committees covering finance and audit, community fundraising, marketing and promotion and operational management meeting as appropriate and reporting to the full board. A general manager is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To allow effective management, the general manager has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including finance and employment.

We have reviewed our governance and control arrangements via participation in a programme provided by NOVA, the charity that supports Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations in Wakefield District to thrive and the methodology of which echoes the best practice governance assessment template of the Charity Commission.

The charity also has a number of volunteer helpers who assist the paid staff with running the centre and an apprenticeship scheme operated in conjunction with Wakefield College which provides local young people with an opportunity to work at the centre for a period of twelve months.

The strong partnership relations with Next Generation CIC, have continued on a day-to-day basis with both parties benefitting from collaboration on projects and services whether jointly run, or managed in the Centre. A core mission of Lightwaves Community Trust is a commitment to sustaining deep and strong community involvement and we will continue to build on our track record of an excellent working relationship with Next Generation.

Induction and training of new trustees

Induction into the workings of the charity is carried out by trustees and senior managers already serving on the board with ongoing training being undertaken in house and by external visits to events and similar organisations.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The trustees have approved a risk management strategy which comprises:

- a. an annual review of the risks the charity may face,
- b. the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan, and
- c. the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

This work identified financial sustainability of the building and its facilities as the continuing major financial risk for the charity. Development work in this period focussed on efforts to secure significant investments in addressing the building's sustainability. It is deeply exasperating that Wakefield Council's officers and leadership have failed to deliver on long standing and oft-repeated verbal undertakings to make progress on the capital works needed on the Lightwaves building and which would sustain the Centre's long-term functionality and benefits for local communities.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

08227390 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1150892

Registered office

Lightwaves Leisure Centre
Lower York Street
Wakefield
West Yorkshire
WF1 3LJ


Trustees

Ms I G M Van Rijn (Community Centre Manager)	- Resigned 27 November 2024
Mr M Ayub (Community Centre Manager)	
Mr J Howard (FE College Director of Estates)	- Resigned 13 February 2025
Ms D Bracewell (Physics and Maths Teacher)	
Mr J Coulton (Sports Facility Manager)	
Mr M McKigney (Retired Company Director)	
Ms S Bedford (Social Worker)	- Resigned 27 November 2024
Ms H Grocock (CEO Sight Aid)	
Ms G Gamble (NHS Manager)	- Appointed 29 January 2025
Mr J Ellis (Retired Local Government Officer)	- Appointed 26 February 2025

Independent Examiner

Claire Lawton FCA DChA
SMH Jolliffe Cork Ltd
Accountants & Business Advisors
33 George Street
Wakefield
West Yorkshire
WF1 1LX

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

 25 June 2025

Mr M G McKigney - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Lightwaves Community Trust**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Lightwaves Community Trust ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts 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 accounts 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 accounts to be reached.



Claire Lawton FCA DChA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

SMH Jolliffe Cork Ltd
Accountants & Business Advisors
33 George Street
Wakefield
West Yorkshire
WF1 1LX

Date: 25th June 2025

Lightwaves Community Trust

**Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 30 September 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		-	54,062	54,062	53,438
Charitable activities					
Sports facilities income		70,827	-	70,827	53,490
Other trading activities	2	209,469	-	209,469	225,048
Investment income	3	<u>2,437</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,437</u>	<u>795</u>
Total		<u>282,733</u>	<u>54,062</u>	<u>336,795</u>	<u>332,771</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Management and administration		38,605	53,658	92,263	127,460
Events		11,039	-	11,039	43,044
Publicity and promotion		309	-	309	1,159
Premises		<u>221,368</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>221,368</u>	<u>176,504</u>
Total		<u>271,321</u>	<u>53,658</u>	<u>324,979</u>	<u>348,167</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		11,412	404	11,816	(15,396)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>114,856</u>	<u>60,005</u>	<u>174,861</u>	<u>190,257</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>126,268</u>	<u>60,409</u>	<u>186,677</u>	<u>174,861</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Lightwaves Community Trust

**Balance Sheet
30 September 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8	-	14,836	14,836	18,545
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	40,027	-	40,027	37,066
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>134,191</u>	<u>45,573</u>	<u>179,764</u>	<u>189,519</u>
		174,218	45,573	219,791	226,585
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(47,950)	-	(47,950)	(70,269)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>126,268</u>	<u>45,573</u>	<u>171,841</u>	<u>156,316</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>126,268</u>	<u>60,409</u>	<u>186,677</u>	<u>174,861</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>126,268</u>	<u>60,409</u>	<u>186,677</u>	<u>174,861</u>
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				126,268	114,856
Restricted funds				<u>60,409</u>	<u>60,005</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>186,677</u>	<u>174,861</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30 September 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each 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 financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Lightwaves Community Trust


Balance Sheet - continued
30 September 2024

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 25 June 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr M Ayub - Trustee

 25 June 2025

Mr M G McKigney - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going concern

The financial statements are drawn up on the going concern basis which assumes the Trust will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The Trust's principal sources of income are from the trading activities, sports events and event income. New income streams are continually being evaluated and initiatives sought to balance against any future disruptions to the usual trading pattern.

The Trustees monitor cash flow and the budget forecast on a regular basis taking into consideration the changing economic and social climate, along with public sector finance availability.

The Trustees budgets indicate that the Trust will be able to maintain liquidity for a period of at least one year following the date of signing these financial statements and sustain its operational existence during the next twelve months and accordingly, the Trust accounts are appropriately prepared under the going concern basis.

Expenditure

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

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Sports equipment	- 25% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost

No depreciation is charged in the year of acquisition and a full years depreciation is charged in the year of disposal.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recorded at cost and the charity does not capitalise fixed assets which cost less than £1,000.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. General fund balances are comprised of centre income and fundraising income for the general purposes of the centre.

Restricted fund balances are comprised of grants and donations from individual donors. The terms and conditions of the funds relate to specific requests at the time of receipt by the Trust. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fees and other income

Fees receivable and charges made for services and use of premises are accounted for in the period in which the service is provided.

Grants and donations

Donations are accounted for in the period in which they are received or the amount receivable is known with certainty. Grants are reflected in proportion to the expenditure to which it relates. Grants and donations given for the general purposes of the centre are included in unrestricted funds

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Events catering income	25,854	49,575
Miscellaneous income	185	15
Rents receivable	<u>183,430</u>	<u>175,458</u>
	<u>209,469</u>	<u>225,048</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>2,437</u>	<u>795</u>

4. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>3,709</u>	<u>4,636</u>

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No Trustee received remuneration or other benefits for their work as a Trustee during the year ended 30 September 2024. However, as disclosed in note 12, one of the community centre managers was remunerated for their service as an employee, in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 September 2024 nor for the year ended 30 September 2023.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 30 September 2024

6. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Management and administration	2	2
Premises	6	6
	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	-	53,438	53,438
Charitable activities			
Sports facilities income	53,490	-	53,490
Other trading activities	225,048	-	225,048
Investment income	795	-	795
Total	<u>279,333</u>	<u>53,438</u>	<u>332,771</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Management and administration	82,347	45,113	127,460
Events	43,044	-	43,044
Publicity and promotion	1,159	-	1,159
Premises	176,504	-	176,504
Total	<u>303,054</u>	<u>45,113</u>	<u>348,167</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(23,721)	8,325	(15,396)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	138,577	51,680	190,257
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>114,856</u>	<u>60,005</u>	<u>174,861</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 30 September 2024

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Sports equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 October 2023 and 30 September 2024	<u>3,469</u>	<u>30,119</u>	<u>33,588</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 October 2023	3,469	11,574	15,043
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>3,709</u>	<u>3,709</u>
At 30 September 2024	<u>3,469</u>	<u>15,283</u>	<u>18,752</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 30 September 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>14,836</u>	<u>14,836</u>
At 30 September 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>18,545</u>	<u>18,545</u>

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	38,107	35,242
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>1,920</u>	<u>1,824</u>
	<u>40,027</u>	<u>37,066</u>

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	18,302	12,731
Other creditors	11,250	17,250
Accruals and deferred income	<u>18,398</u>	<u>40,288</u>
	<u>47,950</u>	<u>70,269</u>

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.10.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.9.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	114,856	11,412	126,268
Restricted funds			
Grants	58,614	(764)	57,850
Donations	<u>1,391</u>	<u>1,168</u>	<u>2,559</u>
	<u>60,005</u>	<u>404</u>	<u>60,409</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>174,861</u>	<u>11,816</u>	<u>186,677</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the year ended 30 September 2024

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	282,733	(271,321)	11,412
Restricted funds			
Grants	51,538	(52,302)	(764)
Donations	<u>2,524</u>	<u>(1,356)</u>	<u>1,168</u>
	<u>54,062</u>	<u>(53,658)</u>	<u>404</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>336,795</u></u>	<u><u>(324,979)</u></u>	<u><u>11,816</u></u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.10.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 30.9.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	138,577	(23,721)	114,856
Restricted funds			
Grants	51,680	6,934	58,614
Donations	<u>-</u>	<u>1,391</u>	<u>1,391</u>
	<u>51,680</u>	<u>8,325</u>	<u>60,005</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>190,257</u></u>	<u><u>(15,396)</u></u>	<u><u>174,861</u></u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	279,333	(303,054)	(23,721)
Restricted funds			
Grants	50,364	(43,430)	6,934
Donations	<u>3,074</u>	<u>(1,683)</u>	<u>1,391</u>
	<u>53,438</u>	<u>(45,113)</u>	<u>8,325</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>332,771</u></u>	<u><u>(348,167)</u></u>	<u><u>(15,396)</u></u>

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Foodbank/ Food Pantry Service

The period of the pandemic saw Lightwaves become a vital community hub to help local people negatively impacted socially and economically by the health crisis. Thankfully the major health impacts of Covid-19 have receded but the economic and social effects have continued alongside worsening economic conditions. The development and growth of the Lightwaves food bank service showed this and as knowledge and experience of providing such support deepened other models and approaches to dealing with food poverty were examined and discussed with partners such as Next Generation, the local mosques and Wakefield Council. A move to a food pantry service was developed, where users subscribe for £5 per week and can then select from a range of foodstuffs and household supplies, as well as personal hygiene and other cleaning products to the value of £40.

The transition to a food pantry service took a lot of work in terms of a different set-up as well as fit-out to a another space and with new administrative arrangements but it all went very smoothly and successfully. Overall it has been a smooth and effective change with volunteers and users of the service seeing it as a very positive development in efforts to support families and individuals experiencing need. Clearly the consultation with users as well as the development of the service from others' best practice and experience certainly helped.

Families and individuals continue to be referred to the Food Pantry via Wakefield Council's Welfare Team or via the Citizens Advice Bureau. Demand for support for deprived families has remained high and as the cost of living crisis was compounded by severe energy cost rises it has become a key pillar of what Lightwaves is able to offer the local community.

The energy crisis and its impacts on vulnerable families has seen the development of "warm Spaces" initiatives. Lightwaves made successful grant applications to the "Warm Spaces" and the Prosper Together Funds which will allow us to provide warm space as well as provide a hardship grant to poor families experiencing financial emergencies.

During the current year, the Prosper Together Fund was not supported with any grants and being used last year's surplus of £8,069 to carry on in complements the food pantry work. In this we established a decision panel Trust composed of 3 Lightwaves Trust members who consider applications via referrals to help families experiencing exceptional hardship and emergencies. These applications for support typically include provision of vouchers to replace a broken fridge, or provide a bed or bedding, clothing for school, etc. The scheme will continue into 2025 and beyond providing a vital form of support helping families out in crisis or desperate circumstances.

Fund closing balance £1,659 at 30 September 2024.

Power to Change

The Power to Change grant was for a part share of the capital works on the building to make it safe for the public to come into the centre and then feel safe once they were using the building. We had newly fitted automated entrance doors, a new internal and external modern digital CCTV system, and cleaning products/equipment that could deal with the COVID-19 virus.

Fund balance £7,680 at 30 September 2024 (held as tangible fixed assets).

NOVA Support Fund

During the pandemic Lightwaves has been a lifeline for many communities; many within our local community had experienced significant difficulties which meant that we needed to adjust our activities to support them. The NOVA fund has helped Lightwaves to develop and the setting up of the foodbank for those experiencing financial hardship, including food deliveries for vulnerable residents and those isolating. Some of the funding has also gone towards match funding with the other pots to complete capital works.

Fund balance £7,156 at 30 September 2024 (held as tangible fixed assets).

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Wakefield Happy, Healthy Holidays

The Happy Healthy Holidays scheme has been continued with funding allowing sports, learning and social activities for 8-16 year olds. Each child participating gets a healthy meal each day during the scheme. The scheme is inclusive and created and operated to help improve fitness levels, sustain creativity and encourage healthy eating.

Fund balance £25,635 at 30 September 2024.

Emergency Assistance

The Emergency Assistance grant continued to help Lightwaves foodbank restock much needed food supplies so we could continue supporting our local community.

Fund balance £1,500 at 30 September 2024.

WF Connect Cafés

The WF Connect Cafés grant was received from Wakefield Council, to provide IT and internet access and support members of the community and public, to help with education, employment and other online services.

Fund balance £7,000 at 30 September 2024.

Warm Spaces

A successful funding application allowed continuation of the Warm Space initiative for the community over the winter period. This provided a warm and welcoming space as well as contributing to people's quality of life and supporting positive social interactions.

Fund balance £1,695 at 30 September 2024.

Household Support Fund

Funding continued into this year providing a vital tool to help families and individuals in desperate circumstances.

Fund balance £1,500 at 30 September 2024.

Help at Hubs Fund

The Help at Hubs grant received from NOVA Wakefield District Limited in the year, has enabled the trust to provide debt and financial advice from a range of organisations (such as Wakefield Citizens Advice Bureau and Leeds Credit Union) as well as staff's assistance in helping clients to navigate the welfare benefits' system and employment help.

Fund balance £4,026 at 30 September 2024.

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, remuneration of £24,638 (2023: £22,743) was paid to one of the community centre managers, who is also a trustee and employee of Next Generation.

In 2020 Next Generation provided an interest free loan with no specific repayment terms. The balance of this is shown in creditors; amounts falling due in less than one year - £11,250 (2023: £17,250).

During the financial year, grant funding for the 'Help at Hubs' fund was received from NOVA Wakefield District Limited in the sum of £15,450, an entity in which a trustee of Lightwaves Community Trust is also a director and trustee.

No trustee received any remuneration in their capacity as trustee.

No trustee claimed out of pocket expenses for travelling to meetings (2023: £nil)

The Trust has arranged Charity Trust Assurance at a cost of £266 (2023: £266)



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