

Ackworth Community Library

Charity number 1152172

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025



WYCAS
COMMUNITY ACCOUNTING
WEST YORKSHIRE

Ackworth Community Library

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Ackworth Community Library

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2025

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Sharon Pickering	Chair	
Wendy Bell		
Geoff Robinson		
Harry Malkin		
Emily Coburn-Hall		Resigned 18 March 2025
Matthew Lister		

Charity number	1152172	Registered in England and Wales
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Registered and principal address	Bankers
Parish Council Community Centre	CAF Bank Ltd
Bell Lane	25 Kings Hill Avenue
Ackworth	West Malling
Pontefract	Kent
WF7 7JH	ME19 4JQ

Independent examiner

Katy Sargeant

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) foundation formed on 23 May 2013 and is governed by a constitution as amended on 6 December 2017.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Ackworth Community Library

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

To advance education of the public in the Parish of Ackworth in West Yorkshire and its environs, by the running and management of a community library for the benefit of the said residents.

To promote for the benefit of the residents of Ackworth and its environs the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the life of the said inhabitants.

The charity's main activities

We provide free access to our members to over 12,000 books. These include adult, teenage and children's books. They cover a wide range of genres including fiction, non-fiction, reference, talking books and large print books.

Members have access to a range of computers and the internet for a minimal charge. Unwaged and job seekers have free access and advice on preparing CVs and job hunting.

We support a wide range of community events and organisations across the village throughout the year.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit and in particular the advancement of education. In addition, we are committed to enabling as many people as possible to gain access to information for knowledge and pleasure through the provision of books and online access. We provide free and open access for everyone to become part of our village community.

We have provided a warm space over the winters months and offered free hot drinks and newspapers to read. The library is a welcoming and homely place, that both benefits the community and is valued by the community.

Achievements and performance

A Year of Growth and Resilience

The past year has been one of continued growth for the charity, marked by impactful projects and the ongoing strengthening of community ties. Despite staff changes, the charity has not only maintained momentum but has broadened its reach and deepened its local impact.

Staff Changes and Development

In March 2025, we said farewell to Debbie, whose creativity and enthusiasm enriched our Storytime sessions and children's programming. We sincerely thank her for her valuable contributions and wish her every success in the future.

Volunteer Contributions

Volunteers remain the backbone of our operations, with a team of 12 supporting both in-library work and outreach events. Their efforts have enabled work experience placements for students from local high schools and New College, helping young people build confidence and skills. The consistent weekly support and enthusiastic participation in weekend activities are invaluable, and we are always pleased to welcome new volunteers.

Community Engagement and Support

The library has firmly established itself as a cornerstone of the community. A key initiative this year was the continuation of our Warm Space offering throughout the colder months—made possible by generous contributions from local businesses. This project provided vital support during a time of widespread need.

Our membership continues to grow steadily, and the popularity of our children's programmes and seasonal celebrations remains high. The lively Friday morning Storytime sessions and weekly coffee mornings continue to embody the spirit of community that defines our library.

Ackworth Community Library

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance continued

Community Partnerships and Training

Our partnerships with local schools have grown stronger, with regular book loans, library visits, and Duke of Edinburgh placements offered.

Fundraising and Social Events

Fundraising has been a highlight again this year. We have participation in local galas, and weekly coffee mornings continue to serve as both a social and fundraising cornerstone. Other initiatives—including seasonal raffles, literary evenings and craft sessions .

Impact on Beneficiaries and Society

Our charity's impact over the year has been deeply felt. From offering educational opportunities to creating inclusive spaces, from building partnerships to meeting social needs—the work we do continues to enrich lives. The Warm Space project, growing school collaborations, and thriving events calendar demonstrate our lasting commitment to serving the community.

Membership growth and increased participation reflect the real, positive difference we're making. Through our diverse programmes and ongoing innovation, we remain dedicated to social, cultural, and educational enrichment for all.

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £4,626, comprising net receipts of £4,626 on unrestricted funds.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, at the year end were £33,885.

The calculation of reserves has been based on the following considerations:

1. Annual salaries – the trustees will be able to reduce this figure and reserves going forward.
2. Essential costs. For example, public liability and contents insurance.
3. Scarcity of grants in the current economic climate.
4. Closure costs. This would include estimates of redundancy payments and disposal of assets.

We are required to produce two figures for reserves:

Minimum: If it seems likely that the reserves would fall below this figure in any future three month period, an emergency meeting will be convened with trustees and staff to discuss alternatives. However, should the reserves fall below this figure the trustees will be asked to close the library. The liabilities to cover a three-month closure period have been estimated as follows:

Salaries: £3,800

Closure Costs: £5,000

Total: £8,800

Maximum: Should the reserves rise above this figure, the trustees will be asked to sanction disposal of the excess income, either with the inception of new projects, suspending further grant applications, passing the excess to another charity or any combination of these three options.

Salaries: £18,000

Essential Costs: £5,000

Closure Costs: £5,000

Total: £28,000

The trustees recognise that the free reserves at year end are currently in excess of the maximum stated in the policy, and will therefore review the policy, and if they decide this is still an appropriate figure they will look at ways to expend these excess funds in the coming year.

Approved by the board of trustees on 6/11/25

Wendy Bell (Trustee)

Ackworth Community Library

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Ackworth Community Library

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 9.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act;
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Katy Sargeant

12/11/25

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

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Ackworth Community Library

Receipts and payments account

for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Receipts					
Grants and donations	(2)	13,133	4,836	17,969	24,912
Sales		11,822	-	11,822	10,391
Bank interest		264	-	264	229
Other income		446	-	446	165
Total receipts		25,665	4,836	30,501	35,697
Payments					
Staff costs		17,540	4,836	22,376	20,168
IT expense		340	-	340	265
Insurance		96	-	96	96
Miscellaneous		165	-	165	192
Phone and broadband		568	-	568	915
Printing and advertising		417	-	417	397
Bank charges		78	-	78	81
Events		493	-	493	1,506
Raffle tickets		-	-	-	-
Independent examination		454	-	454	454
Subscriptions		114	-	114	114
Supplies		553	-	553	203
Repairs and maintenance		160	-	160	-
Professional fees		-	-	-	800
Platform fees		61	-	61	-
Total payments		21,039	4,836	25,875	25,191
Net receipts / (payments)		4,626	-	4,626	10,506
Fund balances brought forward		29,259	-	29,259	18,753
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	33,885	-	33,885	29,259

Ackworth Community Library

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 31 March 2025

	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	33,885	-	33,885	29,259
Total cash funds	<u>33,885</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,885</u>	<u>29,259</u>

Debtors and prepayments

	2025
	£
Prepayments	1,271
	<u>1,271</u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

Approximately 12,000 books

6 computers

Chairs, tables and bookshelves

Water boiler

Till

2 printers

Shed

(The charity retains a full register of assets)

Liabilities

	2025
	£
Accruals	528
Taxation and social security	165
	<u>693</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 6/11/25

Wendy Bell (Trustee)

Ackworth Community Library

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Ackworth Community Library

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2025

2 Grants and donations	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
The Brelms Trust	-	4,836	4,836	4,836
The Co-op	500	-	500	3,155
Sir George Martin	2,000	-	2,000	-
Other donations	10,633	-	10,633	16,921
	<u>13,133</u>	<u>4,836</u>	<u>17,969</u>	<u>24,912</u>

3 Restricted funds	Balance b/f £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
The Brelms Trust	-	4,836	4,836	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,836</u>	<u>4,836</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Fund name

The Brelms Trust

Purpose of restriction

Towards the salary costs of the library assistant.

4 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.