



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date

01 04 2024

Period end date

31 03 2025

To

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name Friends of Halesworth County Library

Other names charity is known by Friends of Halesworth Library

Registered charity number (if any) 1153765

Charity's principal address Halesworth Library

Bridge Street

Halesworth, Suffolk

Postcode

IP19 8AD

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	David Borer	Treasurer		
2	Sheila Freeman			
3	Nigel Frostick	Chair		
4	Elise Jeffries	Library Manager (ex-officio)	From 29 th April 2024	
5	Aubrey Alan Jones	Vice Chair		
6	Evelyn Lindqvist	Minutes secretary		
7	Natalie Lloyd-Evans			
8	Yvonne Sandison		To 28 th February 2025	
9	Jacqueline Williams			
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution (association)
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	By election

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

New trustees are inducted in line with the guidance for such procedures as laid down by Suffolk Libraries Industrial and Provident Society Limited which managed Suffolk's public libraries service throughout the period of this report.

Since it was established in 2013, the Friends of Halesworth County Library (like similar groups at all libraries in Suffolk) has been a member of Suffolk Libraries IPS Ltd. which is a member of Co-operatives UK.

Rules state that objects shall be carried out "for public benefit in a manner that is conducive to the spirit and ethos of Co-operation".

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

- To advance the education of the general public in Halesworth, Suffolk and the surrounding area, in particular but not exclusively, by the provision of a lending library.
- To advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreational leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

- Raising the profile of the Library through fundraising and by hosting educational and recreational events.
- Volunteer support of the Library helping to enable it to meet the needs of the community (see below for role of volunteers).
- The charity trustees have understood the guidance issued on public benefit and remain focused on what the charity was established to achieve as laid down in its objectives.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Contribution made by volunteers

This is an essential part of our functioning.

We have a large group (currently approximately 20) of volunteers from among the Friends of Halesworth Library. Collectively they contribute a great deal of time to the Library on a regular basis. The scope of the service has grown beyond the tasks which paid staff are able to accomplish, and volunteers take on routine library and administrative tasks. For example, they shelve the returned books; they tidy the shelves and items for sale; they locate requested books and do general stock work; they unpack new books and process withdrawn stock; they care for the garden and planters; they plan and arrange regular and special events.

Their contributions allow staff to run and promote the library and its services and to form local partnerships in the community.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The library has continued to become busier. Planning for events continued and a full programme was in place throughout the year. Fundraising took place throughout the period of this report.

During the year, the Friends received a gift from the will of one of our late members. This amounted to a sum in excess of £30,000 and the trustees have decided to support a series of children's art workshops to take place in the library in the autumn of this year (2025) and, if successful, in future years. The trustees believe that the workshops in her name will be a fitting memorial. Other plans for a more permanent memorial are on hold during the transitioning of the library to the control of Suffolk County Council which took place after the end of the reporting period.

Two regular events which continued were a monthly Board Games Café and fortnightly Sociable Sunday. The numbers attending both events have continued to grow and the trustees feel that these events provide a very useful social meeting place for members of the community.

Our series of regular book talks have generally been well attended with numbers of attendees approaching 40 on occasions. Speakers have been writers of fiction and non-fiction, poets and artists. During the year no charge was made to those attending.

As well as regular events we also hosted a couple of Library Quiz nights.

We also ran a Christmas sale in December 2024 and a Christmas raffle as our major fund raising initiatives in the year. We operate a 100 Club which provides a steady income. All these events were successful in raising funds and also importantly allowed us to interact with the Friends, customers and visitors to tell them about our work.

We are committed to supporting activities for children. In conjunction with Halesworth Bookshop we hosted an event on World Book Day in March 2025, which was successful and well attended.

Included in our support for children was payment for a series of events arranged by library staff which took place on a regular basis over the summer holidays in 2024. The events were effectively free of charge for those attending. The events were very successful and attracted large numbers of children. We also worked with staff on initiatives to attract visits from schools to bring pupils into the library.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We continue to retain reserves on deposit in a separate interest earning bank account for unexpected contingencies.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity's principal sources of funds

- Own fundraising, throughout the year
- Donations, grants and bequests

Section F

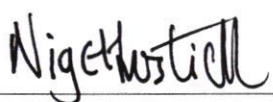
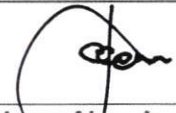
Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Nigel George Frostick	Aubrey Alan Jones
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Vice chair
Date	2 nd October 2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

**Independent examiner's report
on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

The Friends of Halesworth County Library

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1153765

Set out on pages

Following

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

22/5/2025

Name:

Norman Cullingford

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Institute of Chartered Management Accountants

Address:

Gate Farm The Street

Rumburgh Halesworth

Suffolk

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

None

Friends of Halesworth County Library
Registered Charity Number 1153765

Summary of Account for the year 1/4/2024 to 31/3/2025

Payments

Donations:			
	Daisy Project donation	£ 150.00	
	Dementia Carers donation	£ 100.00	
		£ 250.00	£ 250.00
Repairs & Fabric:			
	Kitchen refurbishment	£ 8,386.80	
	Pond pump replacement	£ 148.00	
	4 Door locker	£ 123.42	
		£ 8,658.22	£ 8,658.22
Activities			£ 931.10
Miscellaneous:			
	Staff Xmas meals	£ 140.00	
	Newspapers	£ 68.20	
	Miscellaneous items	£ 224.55	
		£ 432.75	£ 432.75
Crafter's payments			£ 769.31
Zettle card payment fees			£ 15.62
	Total payments		£ 11,057.00

Receipts

Savings account interest	£ 702.35	
Donations:		
	Donations	£ 2,871.04
	Edna Comport bequest	£ 30,074.44
		£ 32,945.48
Crafter's share	£ 769.31	£ 32,945.48
Craft commission	£ 258.14	
Book club memberships	£ 255.00	
Glasses	£ 240.69	
Pens	£ 30.00	
Quizes	£ 24.00	
Fundraising	£ 1,100.20	
Adverts	£ 36.00	
Poster display	£ 70.00	
HMRC Gift Aid	£ 518.62	
Other:		
	100 Club	£ 500.00
	Quiz prizes refund	£ 19.00
		£ 519.00
		£ 519.00
Total receipts	£ 37,468.79	
Plus opening balance	£ 50,198.96	
	£ 87,667.75	
Less payments	£ 11,057.00	
Closing balance	£ 76,610.75	