

**Charity registration number 1156630**

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**

**(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**  
**(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**  
**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

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<b>Trustees</b>	Rosemary Burke - Secretary Robert Packham William Seddon - Chair Nicolas Haigh Carollyn McDonald	(Appointed 27 September 2024)
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<b>Secretary</b>	Rosemary Burke
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**Senior Management**

The Trustees delegate aspects of the day-to-day operations of the charity to the following Overseers (senior staff members)

Catherine Askew  
Sarah Hay  
Sarah Pillar

<b>Key Advisors</b>	Neville Barnes Sue Pratt Frank White
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<b>Charity number</b>	1156630
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<b>Principal address</b>	Nether Springs Croft Cottage Acton Home Farm Felton, Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9NU
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<b>Independent examiner</b>	A K Dunn BA (Hons) ACA St Matthews House Haugh Lane Hexham Northumberland NE46 3PU
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<b>Bankers</b>	Unity Trust Bank 4 Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2JB
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**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
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**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005.

**Objectives and activities**

The charity's objects are to:

1. Advance the Christian religion in any part of the world for the benefit of the public through
  - Holding prayer meetings, lectures and seminars
  - Producing and/or distributing literature and providing places of retreat and worship to enlighten others about the Christian religion and to assist people in their spiritual growth; and
  - Such other means as the Trustees may determine
2. Further the religious and other charitable work of Christian churches in the United Kingdom
3. Promote any further charitable purpose for the benefit of the public as the Trustees may determine

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, "Charities and Public Benefit".

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, "Charities and Public Benefit".

The main activities undertaken for the public benefit are as follows:

- Facilitating and leading numerous online and in-person courses, seminars and events held in and from Northumberland, throughout UK, and in Australia, Europe and North America in furthering religious education.
- Providing a variety of resources online and through our Centre's activities (including its well-stocked library), which help to raise awareness of our Christian beliefs and practices.
- Encouraging and facilitating religious education and practice by providing and maintaining places of worship, chapels, prayer rooms and houses for retreats and courses.
- Involvement in conferences, festivals, gatherings and consultations in UK, Australia, Europe, and North America to promote spiritual, mental and physical well-being.
- Working ecumenically with churches of all denominations, theological colleges, and other diverse organisations in the private, public and voluntary/community sectors to help in addressing the spiritual, mental and social needs of the public.
- Running retreats, workshops (online and in-person) and pilgrimages to various Celtic Christian sites.
- Providing and promoting a Rule of Life as a moral and ethical framework for a way for living that is capable of influencing society in a beneficial way.
- Providing access to our facilities and activities to who all who wish to enjoy them.

### **Achievements and performance**

We are grateful for the sustained growth of participation by Companions, Novices and Friends in the life of the Northumbria Community. The financial year 2023-2024 has been one within which we have sought to steward effectively the resources with which we have been entrusted. We have continued to do this by looking towards God for ways of raising ongoing revenue, through plans directed at meeting our purposes and supporting the Community's financial viability.

We were able to live out of our objectives in the past year through a rhythm of retreats at Nether Springs and by developing connections across our dispersed Community network. We continued to observe the challenging effects of the pandemic on denominational churches and surrounding communities, and to note a greater need for the provision of safe spaces to explore spirituality, along with an opportunity to support exhausted clergy.

#### **Through the time of Lent and the celebration of Easter we:**

- Offered an online Lenten course open to all and with an emphasis on creativity.
- Explored the theme of 'How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land' through our Easter Workshop both in person and online.
- Provided resources to help Companions, Novices and Friends engage with their local communities and live out our Rule of Life.

#### **Through our online and hybrid platforms we:**

- Continued with individually guided retreats, Community Introduction weekends, Creative Saturdays and Companion 'Hang-out' weekends, including an online 'Rekindling' weekend that involved exploring themes of bridge-building and rebuilding communities for those not able to attend the camp (see below).
- Supported an increasing number of online small groups, meeting for prayer and fellowship, involving participants from all over the world.
- Promoted Andy Raine's 'Blessed are the Peacemakers' series.
- Continued to run several online groups to explore the 'Seven Sacred Spaces' materials and engage in monthly meet-ups.
- Continued with seasonal and Saints Days gatherings and livestreams.
- Ran an Advent small group.

#### **In our in-person, Dispersed Community Structures we:**

- Sent a team to Greenbelt '23 to partner again with Christian Aid in leading prayers in its tent.
- Ran a 'Rekindling' 4-day camp in Evesham which involved a creative sharing of story – of the Northumbrian saints who continue to inspire us, a harrowing of the North that cruelly destroyed their legacy and the subsequent focus on the 950<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a journey of three monks who travelled more than 250 miles to help re-found many of the monasteries in the Northeast of England and help restore broken communities. This involved a gathering round the themes of brokenness, bridge-building and re-building of communities through song, dance, drama and creative art.
- Continued to host small group co-ordinator network meetings to enable better listening and support and to provide more robust structures for communication and safeguarding.
- Hosted regional gatherings.
- USA and European groups met online at regular intervals. Brisbane had their annual regional gathering/retreat in October 2023.

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**Through our Mother House, 'Nether Springs' we:**

- Were a gathering place as the 'Mother House' for many Community events such as Easter Workshops, small group leaders' trainings, Community small groups on retreat, and working retreats for members to tend and improve the house and grounds.
- Hosted a monthly retreat for individual spiritual accompaniment.
- Held many facilitated teaching retreats on such themes as prayer, Celtic spirituality and developing one's inner life.
- Developed our local and residential hospitality volunteers and cultivated a volunteer team who work in the garden throughout the year, enabling community building and the garden to be very productive again.
- Hosted drop-in individuals and group from all over, like an unexpected day with a coach party of Texans.
- Hosted multiple Quiet Days for local groups and individuals.
- Fostered Creativity throughout the year through teaching and opportunities for individual and group drumming, singing, dancing and visual arts.
- Continued to strengthen connections with folk from a local 'Recovery Church', hosting them for several day visits and overnight stays, as they worked with the 12-step programme.

**Through our Novitiate Programme we:**

- Updated guidance for Novitiate Mentors.
- Kept under review and amended Novitiate material as and when deemed necessary.
- We approved 20 new Companions and celebrated an official 'Welcome into Companionship' of 14 new Companions with meaningful and individualised services of vow-taking.
- As of 31st March 2024, there were 478 Companions and 91 Novices.

**Through Resources and Publications we:**

- Produced more 'in-house' resources for purchase through our online shop.
- Introduced new product lines such as a tri-fold card version of an Advent Candle Liturgy; A4 prints and A6 cards featuring our Community questions and an extended range of labyrinth products.
- Began conversations with a designer/supplier around the production of T-shirts.

**Through staff development we:**

- Provided more robust supervision and support for day-to-day finance by appointing an experienced member of the office team for one extra day a week.
- Appointed an Assistant Welcome and Hospitality Lead who also enabled us to bridge the gap during the Welcome and Hospitality Lead's extended period of sickness and leave of absence.

**Through Communications we:**

- Continued to work with our Communications Lead to develop and improve our communication across the Community.
- Continued to collaborate in the production of key publications – a Community online magazine and a prayer guide

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**Financial review**

The financial result for the year is a surplus on Unrestricted Funds of £45,050 (2023: deficit of £74,306). As a result, the charity's Unrestricted Funds at March 2024 are £209,075 (2023: £164,025).

The Trustees would like to acknowledge the support provided via regular giving and donations and via the significant use of volunteers, each of which enables work to continue and the fulfilment of the charitable purpose.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

The charity seeks to retain sufficient Unrestricted Reserves, to cover all known liabilities and to provide for three months' running costs to cover the charity's operational costs in the event of an unforeseen reduction in income. This is estimated as a total requirement of approximately £90,000.

The statement of financial activities shows total unrestricted funds of £209,075 at 31 March 2024 (2023: £164,025). Free unrestricted reserves, defined as total Unrestricted Reserves excluding the value of Fixed Assets, are currently £206,701 (2023: £159,044). The Trustees are satisfied that this level of reserves should enable the charity to continue in operation for the foreseeable future.

This reserves policy is reviewed on an annual basis by the Trustees.

The Trustee Board reviews the major governance, operational and financial risks which the charity faces at its quarterly meetings and confirm that systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

The charity has a risk management strategy in place, which comprises:

- A quarterly review of the strategic risks the charity faces;
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified; and
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise

The Trustees consider the key risks facing the charity currently to be financial risks arising if the organisation is unable to attract sufficient income (most notably via giving/donations) to realise its planned projects to the scale and quality to which the organisation aspires.

The Trustees have managed the potential impact of these financial risks by ensuring that:

- Prudent budgets have been set for the next financial year, progress against which is reviewed on a regular basis.
- The charity maintains a relatively low-cost base.

**Plans for next year**

**Infrastructure Development:**

- We will review our leadership structure and organisational structures to ensure they meet the needs of the next generation.
- We will continue to gather key stories of Community to ensure our history is authentically told.

**Mother House Development:**

- We will increase our connection with local members by hosting one or more gatherings for them at the Mother House
- We will increase our training and learning about nurturing a Healthy culture through one or more onsite workshops
- We will continue with our 5-year maintenance plan, with a focus on decorating indoors and outdoors and on window repair and maintenance.
- We will reflect on the practices that developed during Covid and ask what needs to continue and what needs resetting. A possible 'pause' in retreats in the new year may be necessary whilst this reflection takes place
- We will engage in the ongoing work of developing the Mother House programme and the staff and volunteers who enable it.

**Online and Dispersed Community Development:**

- We will offer Lenten and Easter programmes at Nether Springs, online and in-person for local groups, with accessible resources to last for 12 months around the theme 'How then shall we live?'
- We will continue to develop ways to support and develop small group co-ordinators.
- We will continue to develop online open-house weekends, so that we might listen well and expand opportunities for those in dispersed Community to take much more of a lead in resource and retreat development.
- We will continue to develop themed small-group meet-ups and seasonal offerings as well as develop new 'teaching series' and creative expressions that address authentic experiences of living out our Rule of Life in our everyday lives.
- We will seek greater collaboration and participation in the development of Community activities.
- We will continue to be a presence at conferences and festivals when we are invited to contribute
- We will continue to resource in-person regional gatherings other potential collaborations - e.g. with Coventry Cathedral

**Novitiate Programme Development:**

- We will involve Mentors in the decision-making process about a suggested re-naming of the Novitiate material.
- Gauge whether there is interest from Mentors in having ongoing peer support for their role.
- We will make the Novitiate material more widely available to Companions
- We will evaluate new expressions of mentoring in small groups



**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**Communications Development:**

- A new website developer was appointed following the year end who will assist in the continued development of the website. This will enable us to support our identity and enhance our connection as a worldwide, network community

**Resources and Publications Development:**

- We will continue developing bespoke resources, with an openness to listen and respond to the needs of Community as well as actively seeking new contributors who could add to the rich diversity of resources in our growing archives, as a gift to the wider church. We will aim to commission writers for new material including: prayers and liturgy rooted in our vocational life in the vein of Celtic Daily Prayer books 1 and 2; a series of 'in-house' teaching booklets and liturgies and products designed by local artists or Companions/Friends in Community.
- We will support and enable new translations of Celtic Daily Prayer - e.g. in German - that are reimagined and expressed in relation to the context in which they are produced.
- We will continue to develop both the physical and online shop as the vision of Community crystallises for the next chapter.

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**Structure, governance and management**

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and, as such, is governed by its Constitution.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Phoebe Barber-Rowell	(Resigned 14 August 2024)
Rosemary Burke - Secretary	
Robert Packham	
William Seddon - Chair	
Caroline Taylor - Treasurer	(Resigned 14 February 2024)
Graham Wilson	(Resigned 17 March 2024)
Nicolas Haigh	
Carollyn McDonald	(Appointed 27 September 2024)

New Trustees are recruited from amongst the Community's membership. Prospective Trustees take part on a process of application and interview and observe a meeting of the Trustees before being invited to be a Trustee.

The Trustee Board typically meets four times per year face-to-face, and then online as needed.

A significant contribution to the life and work of the Community is made by the many volunteers who staff the retreat and administration centre, lead Community Groups, become part of Community Teams, and generally offer time, energy and resources to fulfil the many activities involved in meeting our charitable objectives.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

.....  
**William Seddon - Chair**  
Chair of Trustees  
Dated: .....

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

**TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Northumbria Community Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I 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.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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 that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do 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 financial statements to be reached.

**A K Dunn BA (Hons) ACA**

St Matthews House  
Haugh Lane  
Hexham  
Northumberland  
NE46 3PU

Dated: .....

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**  
**(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes				
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	365,189	282,558	120	282,678
Charitable activities	4	32,240	28,811	-	28,811
Investments	5	4,237	1,816	-	1,816
Other income	6	304	56	-	56
<b>Total income</b>		401,970	313,241	120	313,361
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	7	356,920	387,547	120	387,667
<b>Total expenditure</b>		356,920	387,547	120	387,667
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds</b>		45,050	(74,306)	-	(74,306)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		164,025	238,331	-	238,331
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2024</b>		209,075	164,025	-	164,025

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**  
**(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**  
**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		2,374		4,981
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stocks	13	15,643		14,874	
Debtors	14	13,344		14,897	
Cash at bank and in hand		186,369		143,086	
		<u>215,356</u>		<u>172,857</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	<u>(8,655)</u>		<u>(13,813)</u>	
Net current assets			206,701		159,044
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>209,075</u>		<u>164,025</u>
<b>Income funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds			209,075		164,025
			<u>209,075</u>		<u>164,025</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on .....

.....  
 William Seddon - Chair  
**Chair of Trustees**

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**  
**(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**1 Accounting policies**

**Charity information**

The Northumbria Community Trust is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and, as such, is governed by its Constitution.

**1.1 Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

**1.2 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**1.3 Charitable funds**

The charity has restricted income funds to account for situations in which a funder requires that a grant must be spent on a particular purpose or where funds have been raised for a specific purpose. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

All other funds are considered Unrestricted Funds and are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general activities of the charity.

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**1 Accounting policies**

**(Continued)**

**1.4 Income**

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Such income is only deferred when the donor or funder has specified that the grant or donation can only be used in future accounting periods or where the donor or funder has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Interest receivable on fixed interest securities and bank deposits is included on an accrual basis.



**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**1 Accounting policies**

**(Continued)**

**1.5 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and is recognised when a liability is incurred.

- Costs of Raising Funds are those costs of managing investments, seeking potential funders and applying for funding.
- Charitable Activities include expenditure associated with the provision of artistic projects and residencies. This includes both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.
- Support or Indirect costs are those costs incurred in support of the charitable objectives. These have been allocated to the resources expended on a consistent basis that fairly reflects the true use of those resources within the organisation, such as allocating staff costs by time spent and other costs by their usage.
- Governance costs are those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

**1.6 Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

IT equipment	33% per annum straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% per annum straight line
Motor vehicles	33% per annum straight line

Assets with a value below £100 are typically not capitalised.

A full year's depreciation charge is applied in the year of acquisition and no charge is made in the year of disposal.

THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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**1 Accounting policies**

**(Continued)**

**1.7 Impairment of fixed assets**

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

**1.8 Stocks**

Stocks represent materials and publications held for resale and are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

**1.9 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

**1.10 Financial instruments**

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

***Basic financial assets***

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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**1 Accounting policies**

**(Continued)**

***Basic financial liabilities***

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

***Derecognition of financial liabilities***

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

**1.11 Employee benefits**

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

**1.12 Retirement benefits**

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

**1.13 Taxation**

The Northumbria Community Trust is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and, therefore, is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income or gains derived from its activities as they fall within the exemptions available.

**1.14 Foreign Currencies**

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the surplus/deficit.

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**  
**(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements**

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

**3 Donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations - General Giving	285,156	226,002	120	226,122
Donations - Planned Giving	33,114	20,300	-	20,300
Corona Virus Job Retention Scheme	-	5,110	-	5,110
Gift Aid	46,919	31,146	-	31,146
	<u>365,189</u>	<u>282,558</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>282,678</u>

**4 Income from charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</b>
Resources Sales	32,236	28,804
Shipping/Postage Fees	4	7
	<u>32,240</u>	<u>28,811</u>

THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	4,237	1,816
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Other income	304	56
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**7 Charitable activities**

	Direct project costs	Overheads and Administration Costs	Total 2024	Direct project costs	Overheads and Administration Costs	Total 2023
	2024	2024		2023	2023	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	-	189,668	189,668	-	227,982	227,982
Depreciation and impairment	3,356	-	3,356	3,501	-	3,501
Direct project costs	124,052	-	124,052	111,494	-	111,494
	<u>127,408</u>	<u>189,668</u>	<u>317,076</u>	<u>114,995</u>	<u>227,982</u>	<u>342,977</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 8)	16,600	-	16,600	17,400	-	17,400
Support costs (Overheads and administration costs)	20,498	-	20,498	24,794	-	24,794
Governance costs	2,746	-	2,746	2,496	-	2,496
	<u>167,252</u>	<u>189,668</u>	<u>356,920</u>	<u>159,685</u>	<u>227,982</u>	<u>387,667</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>						
Unrestricted funds	167,252	189,668	356,920	159,565	227,982	387,547
Restricted funds	-	-	-	120	-	120
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120</u>

Governance costs includes payments in respect of the Independent Examination Fees of £2,630 (2023-£2,040).

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**8 Grants payable**

	Direct project costs 2024 £	Direct project costs 2023 £
Grants to individuals	16,600	17,400
	<u>16,600</u>	<u>17,400</u>

Included within Expenditure on Charitable Activities are grants to individuals in respect of Community Mission totalling £16,600 (2023: £17,400).

**9 Trustees**

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year, and one trustee was reimbursed travelling expenses of £116 (2023- £429).

**10 Employees**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Advancement of Christian Religion	12	12
	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>
<b>Employment costs</b>	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Wages and salaries (including Freelance Fees)	182,244	215,490
Social security costs	4,830	9,082
Other pension costs	2,594	3,410
	<u>189,668</u>	<u>227,982</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**11 Taxation**

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

**12 Tangible fixed assets**

	IT equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 April 2023	8,459	15,471	6,499	30,429
Additions	-	750	-	750
	<u>8,459</u>	<u>16,221</u>	<u>6,499</u>	<u>31,179</u>
At 31 March 2024	8,459	16,221	6,499	31,179
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>				
At 1 April 2023	5,797	13,152	6,499	25,448
Depreciation charged in the year	2,123	1,234	-	3,357
	<u>7,920</u>	<u>14,386</u>	<u>6,499</u>	<u>28,805</u>
At 31 March 2024	7,920	14,386	6,499	28,805
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
At 31 March 2024	539	1,835	-	2,374
	<u>539</u>	<u>1,835</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,374</u>
At 31 March 2023	2,663	2,318	-	4,981
	<u>2,663</u>	<u>2,318</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,981</u>

**13 Stocks**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Publications for resale	15,643	14,874
	<u>15,643</u>	<u>14,874</u>

**14 Debtors**

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	130	440
Other debtors	13,214	2,057
Prepayments and accrued income	-	12,400
	<u>13,344</u>	<u>14,897</u>



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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2024</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2023</b> <b>£</b>
Other taxation and social security		258	423
Deferred income	<b>16</b>	-	5,891
Trade creditors		1,064	1,953
Other creditors		-	375
Accruals and deferred income		7,333	5,171
		<u>8,655</u>	<u>13,813</u>

**16 Deferred income**

	<b>2024</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2023</b> <b>£</b>
Other deferred income	-	5,891
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,891</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	<b>2024</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2023</b> <b>£</b>
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	-	5,891
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,891</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2023	5,891	120
Released from previous periods	(5,891)	(120)
Resources deferred in the year	-	5,891
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,891</u>
Deferred income at 31 March 2024	-	5,891
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,891</u>

**THE NORTHUMBRIA COMMUNITY TRUST**  
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**17 Unrestricted funds**

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	<b>At 1 April 2023</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources expended</b>	<b>At 31 March 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General funds	164,025	401,970	(356,920)	209,075
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Previous year:</b>	<b>At 1 April 2022</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources expended</b>	<b>At 31 March 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General funds	238,331	313,241	(387,547)	164,025
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**18 Related party transactions**

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).