

**BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE**



**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

**Charity Number 1157255**

**BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended 31 March 2025

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# BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2022, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and 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 October 2019).

### 1. Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Charity are to develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Bensham and Saltwell in Gateshead in such a way that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs and to participate more fully in society.

- Continued to support the work of local foods cooperatives.
- Continued to develop a community hub at 108 Rawling Road.

### 2. Achievements and Performance

The charity regularly reviews its objectives and performance. During the year to March 24, issues with the lease at 108 Rawling Road resulted in some funding opportunities having been declined or voluntarily returned to the funder. The charity continues to be financially stable, due to spending reducing in 23/24 and this has continued into 24/25 and 25/26 to date.

### 3. Regards to Public Benefit

When exercising any powers or duties in the running of Bensham and Saltwell Alive, the Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

### 4. Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

Charity Name	Bensham and Saltwell Alive	
Registered Charity Number	1157255	
Operational address	108 Rawling Road Gateshead NE8 4QR	
Trustees	Eileen McMaster Callum McPake Catherine Donovan Hugo Fearnley	
Independent Examiner	Connected Voice Business Services Limited One Strawberry Lane Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BX	
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 25 Gresham Street London	

# **BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE**

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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### **5. Structure, Governance and Management**

#### Governing documents

Bensham and Saltwell Alive is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. (CIO), first registered on 30 May 2014, and has a constitution as its governing document.

#### Organisation

The Trustees meet monthly and deal with the administration of the charity encompassing the strategic vision, financial accountability and risk management.

#### Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the risks to which the charitable company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charitable company and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate any risk.

#### Method of Recruitment of Trustees

The responsibilities of trustees are explained to potential new members who are invited to submit a written expression of interest. This contains a statement about their relevant skills and experience and reasons for wanting to be a trustee. The trustees consider the statement at a meeting of the board of trustees. The position of Chair and other officers is agreed by members.

#### Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Bensham and Saltwell Alive has adopted a range of appropriate policies to govern the conduct of its Trustees and any activities associated with the charity.

The Secretary provides new trustees with the Charity Commission Welcome Pack and supplementary materials specific to role as officers, if appropriate. Trustees have one or more Trustee Development Sessions each year, led by an external facilitator.

### **6. Financial Review**

Bensham and Saltwell Alive is primarily funded by grants. The total receipts for the year were £28,224 (2024: £81,303) of which £28,224 is restricted (2024: £77,503) and payments £29,115 (2024: £78,042) of which £29,090 is restricted (2024: £74,494).

The Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2025, shows a deficit of £891 (2024: surplus of £3,261) of which a deficit of £866 is restricted (2024: surplus of £3,009)

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 March 2025 shows total cash fund carried forward of £18,406 (2024: £19,297) of which £16,012 is restricted (2024: £16,878)

## **7. Statement of Trustee Responsibilities**

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

The charity trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of incoming resources and application of resources. In preparing financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and 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.
- 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 proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. 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.

Approved by the Trustees on 30.01.2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Callum McPake - Trustee and Treasurer.

## **BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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I report on the financial statements of Bensham and Saltwell Alive for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 5 to 11.

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

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2022 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

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

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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.

However, not all future events or conditions can be predicted. The COVID-19 viral pandemic is one of the most significant economic events for the UK with unprecedented levels of uncertainty of outcomes. It is therefore difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the charitable company's trade, customers, suppliers and wider economy. The trustees' view on the impact of COVID-19 is disclosed in the accounting

I 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.

Doug Maltman FMAAT  
Fellow Member of the Association of Accountancy Technicians  
Connected Voice Business Services  
One Strawberry Lane  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE1 4BX  
Date: 30.01.2026

**BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE****RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>					
Donations and grants	3	-	28,224	<b>28,224</b>	81,303
<b>Total income</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>28,224</b>	<b>28,224</b>	<b>81,303</b>
<b><u>Payments</u></b>					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	4	25	29,090	<b>29,115</b>	78,042
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>29,090</b>	<b>29,115</b>	<b>78,042</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>( 25 )</b>	<b>( 866 )</b>	<b>( 891 )</b>	<b>3,261</b>
<b><u>Reconciliation of funds</u></b>					
Total funds brought forward		2,419	16,878	<b>19,297</b>	16,036
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>2,394</b>	<b>16,012</b>	<b>18,406</b>	<b>19,297</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 7 to 11 form an integral part of these accounts.

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b><u>Cash funds</u></b>					
Cash at bank		2,379	16,012	18,391	19,282
Cash in hand		15	-	15	15
<b>Total cash funds</b>		<b>2,394</b>	<b>16,012</b>	<b>18,406</b>	<b>19,297</b>
<b><u>Assets</u></b>					
Gateshead Council - Corpus Christie				-	10,700
<b>Total assets</b>				<b>-</b>	<b>10,700</b>
<b><u>Assets in use</u></b>					
Cinema equipment				533	533
<b>Total assets</b>				<b>533</b>	<b>533</b>
<b><u>Liabilities</u></b>					
Accountancy and independent examination				756	732
Grants to be refunded				-	10,705
<b>Total liabilities</b>				<b>-</b>	<b>11,437</b>

The notes on pages 7 to 11 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 30.01.2026

and are signed on its behalf by: Callum McPake  
Trustee and Treasurer



# **BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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### **1 Accounting Policies**

The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis. An audit is not required by the charity's constitution and has not been requested by the trustees.

### **2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees have reviewed and considered relevant information, including the annual budget and future cash flows in making their assessment. The Trustees have concluded that they can continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

## BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### Analysis of receipts

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>3 Donations and grants</b>				
Grants				
Gateshead Council - Bensham Court Food CO-OP	-	-	-	10,500
Gateshead Council - Corpus Christie Food CO-OP	-	10,700	<b>10,700</b>	10,000
Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner	-	-	-	2,000
Awards for All	-	-	-	9,705
Lobley Hill Primary School	-	-	-	1,200
NTCA	-	-	-	1,600
HSF	-	-	-	500
Personal Hygiene Match Funding	-	-	-	500
Gateshead Council - Resilience and Growth	-	-	-	6,000
Access Reach Fund	-	-	-	14,901
Gateshead Council - 108 Rawlings Road	-	12,000	<b>12,000</b>	23,397
Tesco Community Fund	-	-	-	1,000
Other receipts				
Other income	-	5,524	<b>5,524</b>	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>28,224</u>	<u><b>28,224</b></u>	<u>81,303</u>

Income was £28,224 (2024: £81,303) of which £0 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £3,800) and £28,224 was restricted (2024: £77,503)

# BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

### Analysis of payments on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>4 Charitable payments</b>				
<u>Direct costs</u>				
Direct Project costs	-	7,408	<b>7,408</b>	36,969
Sundry Project costs	-	-	-	588
<u>Support costs</u>				
Premises	-	6,000	<b>6,000</b>	13,380
Premises - Building maintenance	25	3,049	<b>3,074</b>	3,576
Premises - Electricity	-	843	<b>843</b>	2,441
Premises - Gas	-	353	<b>353</b>	5,748
Premises - Waste Collections	-	-	-	264
Support costs	-	-	-	8,185
Support costs - IT software	-	-	-	173
Grant refunds:				
Northumbria PCC	-	-	-	2,000
HSF	-	-	-	3,510
National Lottery	-	9,705	<b>9,705</b>	-
TESCO Community Foundation	-	1,000	<b>1,000</b>	-
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	-	732	<b>732</b>	708
Legal fees	-	-	-	500
	<u>25</u>	<u>29,090</u>	<u><b>29,115</b></u>	<u>78,042</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £29,115 (2024: £78,042) of which £25 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £3,548) and £29,090 was restricted (2024: £74,494)

### 5 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	<b>732</b>	708
	<u><b>732</b></u>	<u>708</u>

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2024: £nil).

### 6 Analysis of staff costs and the cost of key management personnel

The charity currently does not employ staff as it subcontracts the development of the charity to a consultant. No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2024: nil).

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the charity manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £nil, (2024: £nil).

## BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 7 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

#### Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

#### Transaction(s) with related parties

As detailed in note 6, the charity does not employ staff and as a result subcontracts the development of the charity to a consultant. Consultancy is conducted through a firm operated by a trustee and their spouse. The total expenditure due to consulting is £nil (2024: £nil) paid for the work carried out in the period. The rate that of which consultancy is charged is of non market activity for the firm, at a reduced rate of 35% of the actual rate chargeable. But is within the acceptable market activity of the wider market. All trustees are in agreement of this process to continue.

#### 8 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

#### 9 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

#### 10 Analysis of charitable funds

##### Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General unrestricted fund	419	-	( 25 )	-	394
Designated funds					
Redundancy	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,419</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>( 25 )</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,394</b>

##### Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund

The 'free reserves' of the charity

Designated funds:

    Redundancy

Funds to cover potential loss of income.

## BENSHAM AND SALTWELL ALIVE

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### Analysis of charitable funds

#### Analysis of movement in restricted funds

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
108 Rawlings Road	8,350	12,000	( 10,450 )	-	<b>9,900</b>
Gateshead Council - Corpus Christie Food CO-OP	( 5,787 )	10,700	( 4,906 )	-	<b>7</b>
Gateshead Council - Resilience and Growth	1,669	5,524	( 3,029 )	-	<b>4,164</b>
Access Reach Fund	1,941	-	-	-	<b>1,941</b>
Tesco Community Fund	1,000	-	( 1,000 )	-	-
Awards for All	9,705	-	( 9,705 )	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16,878</b>	<b>28,224</b>	<b>( 29,090 )</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,012</b>

#### Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.

108 Rawlings Road	Renovation of kitchen at 108 Rawlings Road.
Gateshead Council - Corpus Christie Food CO-OP	Corpus Chrisiti Food Coop.
Gateshead Council - Resilience and Growth	Funding to support community consultations.
Access Reach Fund	Held for Gateshead Active - Re-opening of Gateshead Leisure Centre.
Tesco Community Fund	Youth Work Sessions.
Awards for All	Health Project including mental health staffing.

**Gateshead Council - Corpus Christie received £10,700 further funding in April 2024.**

#### 12 Guarantee

There have been no guarantees given by the charity at 31 March 2025.

#### 13 Debt

There is no debt outstanding which is owed by the charity and which is secured by an excess charge on any of the assets of the charity at 31 March 2025.

#### 14 Governing document

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Foundation registered on 30 May 2014 as a body corporate under part 11 of the Charities Act 2022.