

Registered Charity No: 1159861

BARNSLEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

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BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

Full Name:	BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
Registered Charity Number:	1159861
Correspondence Address:	11 Bradshaw Close Barnsley S75 2JN
Artistic Director:	Mathew Wright
Honorary Artistic Patrons:	Dr. Michael Barrett Laszlo Duranyik
Honorary Artistic Partners:	Jake Runestad Prof. Paul Mealor
Honorary Patrons:	Dan Jarvis MP Mel Dyke Nick Bowen Matthew Milburn Edna Sutton John Parkinson Linda Parkinson Sir Nicholas Hewitt Andrew Harrod Carl Firth Kathy McCardle Yiannis Koursis Sally Steadman Ann Wroe Yvonne Worsley Cllr Tim Shepherd
Trustees:	Ann Wroe (Chair) Karen Davis Charles Brammer Nicola Ellet (Appointed September 2024) Debbie Hobson (Appointed September 2024) Neil Sexton (Appointed September 2024) Matthew Milburn (Appointed March 2025)
Chair:	Ann Wroe
Bankers:	HSBC 5 Market Hill Barnsley S70 2PY
Independent Examiner:	Steph Tolson, Community Accountant Barnsley CVS, 23 Queens Road Barnsley S71 1AN

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

The Trustees present their annual report, together with the financial statements of Barnsley Youth Choir (the charity) for the year ended 31 January 2025. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and charity law.

Structure, governance and management

Barnsley Youth Choir CIO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered with the Charity Commission and governed by its constitution, adopted 08 January 2015.

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the constitution.

Appointment of Trustees

In accordance with the terms of the constitution, there must be at least three charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustees can act only to call a meeting of the trustees or appoint a new trustee. There is no maximum number of trustees.

One third of the trustees will retire at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees each year but may be reappointed.

Each new trustee is given a copy of the constitution and the latest trustees' annual report and accounts, on or before appointment. The trustees who served during the year are shown on page 3 of this report.

Organisational structure and decision making

In October 2014, Mathew Wright, co-founder of the Barnsley Youth Choir with Keith Norton, was appointed Trustee and Musical Director (voluntary). Mat Wright resigned as trustee on 2 September 2018 and was appointed as Artistic Director for BYC.

The organisational structure of the choir is divided into four distinct sections:

1. Board of Trustees: those with legal accountability who are final decision makers
2. Leadership Team including Extended Leadership Team members by invitation: those who direct, shape and lead the operational work of the choir
3. Dedicated Music Team: plan and deliver all music activities and lead on the artistic work of the choir
4. Volunteer Team: those who contribute to the running of the choir

Related parties

The trustees consider that there are no related parties to the charity.

Risk management

The Trustees review the major risks to which the charity is exposed, having regard to its size and current scale of operations. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks. These risks and procedures are regularly reviewed.

Charitable aims and objectives

The objectives of Barnsley Youth Choir CIO are to advance education and training of young people living or educated in Barnsley and the surrounding areas in the subject of music and the performing arts, in particular choral music.

The charity will achieve this by:

1. Providing a world-class choral training programme for young people
2. Promoting and supporting musical and choral education to young people regardless of their financial or social background
3. Delivering open-access workshops for young people, irrespective of their training or experience; and
4. Financially supporting talented young people to enable them to receive musical education of the highest standard and to achieve their potential

The Musical Directors are highly skilled, experienced and qualified musicians.

Activities undertaken for the public benefit

In shaping the objectives for the year, the trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Barnsley Youth Choir (BYC) has continued to expand its family of choirs in the period with the introduction of BYC Children's Choir South. There are now 10 BYC Choirs for children and young people ranging in ages from 0 to 24 years across 5 stages of development, incorporating:

- Little Singers: Little Singers (Central), BYC Little Singers West;
- Junior Choirs: BYC Junior Choir (Central), BYC Junior Choir West,
- Children's Choirs: BYC Children's Choir Central and BYC Children's Choir East, BYC Children's Choir West, BYC Children's Choir South,
- Intermediate Choir; and
- Senior Choir

All members, apart from Little Singers and Junior Choirs, have to attend an audition before being accepted, and many of them are now being re-auditioned in order to move up into the next choir, demonstrating one of the principal aims of BYC which is to give young people clear choral progression routes.

All choirs meet for weekly rehearsals during term time, which are all led by top quality choral trainers, conductors and workshops leaders.

Each term, apart from Little Singers, the remaining 8 choirs take part in a number of concerts and prestigious events either in Barnsley or across the UK.

Achievements and performance

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Risk Assessment

The trustees have reviewed the activities of the choir and are aware of the following risks, and have taken the following steps to reduce these risks:

Child Protection

A Safeguarding Policy for Musical Directors and Volunteers working with and Chaperoning Children and Young People is in place and we have a designated Safeguarding Lead who is also a member of the Leadership Team of the choir. Appropriately trained staff are allocated responsibility for child protection and all volunteers are given training in child protection.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding Officers with appropriate safeguarding training are in place, together with robust safeguarding policies. All volunteers have enhanced DBS checks before undertaking activities, and all undergo 1-2-1 safeguarding training with our DSL. A significant number of volunteers are now fully accredited chaperones via Barnsley MBC and this training is being extended to new volunteers who join the organisation. A number of our volunteers are also Emergency First Aid trained, and this programme of training is constantly reviewed to ensure that the choir has appropriate coverage. Mental Health has become a significant issue due to the long-term impact of Covid and the challenges that isolation brought for many of our young people. A number of our volunteers and leaders are trained in Youth Mental Health First to ensure that we are more able to meet the needs of our young people.

GDPR and Data Protection

BYC has a Data Protection policy in place and leaders constantly review the choirs' processes to ensure that it remains compliant. For the purposes of the charity, the Data Controller is Barnsley Youth Choir CIO and will determine what data is collected, and how it is used. A Data Protection Officer is not required and the overall responsibility for securing data on behalf of all stakeholders and users associated with Barnsley Youth Choir CIO is the full responsibility of the Trustees.

Financial Risk

The choir generates its own income through member subscriptions, concert tickets and private sponsorships. Therefore, the financial risk is reduced as the Choir controls its own income.

Activities are planned in light of this and the choir does not undertake activities that would exceed projected income. Financial controls are in place and are regularly and rigorously reviewed by the trustees.

Operational

All freelance musicians and volunteers devote a great deal of energy and commitment to the choir. As the scale and reach of the choir grows, so does the amount of operational work that needs to be done. The choir tries to ensure that there is operational efficiency by allocating roles, responsibilities and tasks clearly. There is a clear volunteer structure organised and led by our Volunteer Manager, to ensure that all tasks are carried out and that the choir runs effectively.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

Review of activities

Barnsley Youth Choir (BYC) has continued with its ambitious development plans throughout the 2024-25 season, and we are proud of the fabulous progress that has taken place. The choir continues to grow and develop at pace. Even with the limited resources that we have at our disposal, we have increased the number of children and young people who are benefitting from the work of the organisation.

At the heart of all this great work are the volunteers and musical team, who continue to work tirelessly and selflessly. They are truly extraordinary and give so much to ensure that young people in Barnsley have the best possible opportunities. The BYC team is stronger than ever.

Choir Development and Musical Team

BYC had approximately 700 members involved during the 2024-25 period across all choirs with more joining the ranks since. In November 2024, BYC hailed a milestone with the creation of its fourth Children's Choir and 10th choir in total, to support younger children in the South of Barnsley. The new Children's Choir South, based at Hoyland Common Primary School, has already made a wonderful start with around 50 children rehearsing each week on Wednesdays, alongside similar Children's Choirs (7-12 yrs) in Penistone, The Dearne and our Town Centre. These 4 area bases in and around Barnsley ensure that geographical barriers for younger children and their families are removed and there is an equity of opportunity for children in the East, South and West of our borough.

Whilst we are always keen to recruit skilled music leaders from outside the organisation, we have also made a commitment to provide members with opportunities to develop their skills as musical leaders by providing leadership roles. To further these aims we now have 10 Senior Choir members (all over 20 years old) with significant volunteer roles supporting younger choirs, and an additional 13 now playing key roles as part of the music team, leading rehearsals with our Children's and Junior Choirs. 23 members also have mentor roles with the younger choirs, supporting and guiding children in rehearsals. This means that during the period 46 young people involved in the Senior Choir have helped to lead younger children, and pass on their skill, experience and expertise. Seeing these young people lead with such assurance and skill is fantastic and they bring so much to the work that we do and help to develop a self-driving culture.

We continue to engage with outstanding organisations, and 2024 provided some wonderful opportunities for our children.

Choir experiences, performances and overseas tour

During the 2024-25 season, BYC has continued to offer exceptional experiences across all choirs through development workshops with world class choral leaders, performance opportunities with visiting choirs and an incredible overseas tour to South Africa. Highlights of this year include:-

In March 24 we took 160 of our 10-16 year olds on a residential weekend away at an outward bounds centre. It was a weekend packed with fun and great activities such as abseiling and archery, and highlights included some of the singing sessions, a dancing competition across the teams and bad taste fancy dress! Weekends like this take a huge amount of organisation and support from a large team, but create life-long memories and closer bonds between our children which impacts on not only their welfare, but the collective sound that they make when they sing. Thanks goes to all the volunteers that gave up their weekend, yet again, unpaid to support our children.

March also saw 4 fantastic Spring Concerts featuring over 500 children and a whole host of other special events including patron's evenings and a performance at the newly refurbished Dearne Playhouse by Children's Choir East.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

In May 24 we welcomed the outstanding Soprano, Claire Herzog, from Missouri, USA to deliver workshops, masterclasses and to lead a recital with some of our most able singers. Later that month we welcomed Harry Christophers and his superb group, The Sixteen, to Barnsley for a development weekend that had a profound impact on everyone that took part. It was such a special weekend, and we received generous feedback from Harry and his team about our young people and their experience in Barnsley.

In June 24 we welcomed the wonderful Dr. Darius Lim and the Voices of Singapore Choir to Barnsley for a series of workshops, rehearsals and concerts in addition to the legendary Soprano, Charlotte Mobbs for workshops in September.

In July 24 we held our first ever 'Barnsley Sings' festival and celebrated 15 years of BYC in style. The partnership work with Primary Schools culminated in a 5-day festival including 3 performances by 900+ children from Primary Schools across Barnsley, and a fantastic BYC 15th Anniversary Gala Concert by around 600 BYC members. The weekend ended with a special 15th Anniversary Party attended by around 1000 people from the BYC community with some great live music by members of the choir. All of this took place at the Metrodome Arena and we are indebted to Barnsley Council Pride of Place and The Arts Council for their support in helping to fund this really special event. To see 900 children performing in such a professional way with a live band, videography, fantastic quality sound and lighting and brilliant soloists was really moving. For many, this will have been the first time that they will have ever performed in public, certainly in an event on this scale, and we are so indebted to Eleanor Wright, Luke Mather and project manager Jude Wright as well as the wider volunteer team and our fabulous partner schools for making this happen.

In August 24 we took part in the 10th and, possibly, final ever 'Underneath the Stars Festival' where our Children's Choirs and some members of the Senior Choir performed in the main tent to over 2000 people. It was a wonderful platform for our children to share their talent, and the audience really loved listening to them and enthusiastically joined in with some of the songs. We would like to thank Kate Rusby, Alison Povey and Eddie Barcan for providing such wonderful opportunities for children from BYC to perform on such a professional and spectacular stage over the years. Hosting 150+ children and young people is daunting for any venue or event, and they couldn't have worked harder to make this possible for us. We only hope that this is a temporary pause and that the festival will resume again in the future.

Later in September 24 the Drakensberg Boys Choir from South Africa arrived for a series of superb concerts and workshops with our choirs ahead of a reciprocal visit by members of the Senior Choir on an 11-day tour of South Africa in October.

It was our great privilege to welcome His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh to Barnsley in October 24 for a private performance with the Senior and Intermediate Choirs in St. Mary's Church, following a tour of our wonderful new town centre. He provided such kind and generous feedback to the choir and it was a really special day for BYC. We are grateful to Dame Hilary Chapman DBE, Lord Lieutenant and Philip Barraclough, Clerk, for facilitating and supporting this visit so wonderfully.

The end of October 24 saw a team of 90 undertake an 11-day tour to South Africa, a project that was 18 months in the making funded by tour members themselves and a significant portion of dedicating fundraising. This was also a huge investment in terms of time, energy and effort but was a truly life-changing experience for all that went. We cannot possibly do justice to the tour in this short summary but performing with 7 world class choirs (4 of them previous World Champions), working with world class choral leaders and visiting places such as the Apartheid Museum had a huge impact on our young people.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

The tour focused on Johannesburg, Pretoria, the Drakensberg Mountains and Durban with fabulous opportunities to learn from world class leaders and understand about the complex history and rich heritage and culture of this vibrant country. The selected members performed superbly throughout the tour and were such a credit to our town and their families. I must thank and pay tribute to those that worked tirelessly to raise money, including the members themselves, and made this possible. Without the support of the community, it really wouldn't have been possible and the whole team at BYC, led brilliantly by Ann Wroe and Debbie Hobson, made the seemingly impossible, possible.

In November our Intermediate and Senior Choirs took part in the 'Proud of Barnsley Awards'; always a highlight of the year and such an important event for the town.

Finally, in December 24 we performed 4 Christmas Concerts at Horizon Theatre, featuring around 500 children aged 4 – 24 years old and a 9-piece professional band. They were fabulous and we were so proud of all our singers. The concerts were more popular than ever, with one of them selling out in under 4 minutes! Our final Christmas concert was a charity 'Unplugged' Concert with the Senior Choir at St. Mary's Church, raising money for the homeless and vulnerable in Barnsley. There was a high-quality a cappella repertoire, singing by candlelight and plenty of home-made mulled wine and mince pies for audience members. It was a really special evening that not only supports the community, but also celebrates Christmas in a traditional and very authentic way. Over £1,700 was raised for the church and we are so grateful for the generosity of audience members that evening.

We also held a 'Family Christmas' event earlier that day, where our younger members met Father Christmas, watched performances and took part in activities with their parents and carers. The Family Christmas event is always such a wonderful opportunity to relax with our younger members and their families and have some fun.

BYC Primary School Partnership Project

Luke Mather and Eleanor Wright lead our *Primary Partnership Project* and delivered over 100 workshops in schools across Barnsley during the period, free of charge, and provided resource packs for them all. This has been a significant project fuelled by both moral purpose and our aim of providing open access workshops to young people, by ensuring that many thousands of children were exposed to high quality singing experiences and it's been wonderful to develop partnerships with great schools. Further support and materials were provided for teachers to continue this work in their schools which have been used extensively. We're so pleased that many of the schools have subsequently established school choirs and have used the resource pack as an important part of their music curriculum.

Trustee Charlie Brammer developed a specific programme in The Dearne with several Primary Schools from the Astrea Academy Trust, which involved sharing resources, workshops and performances for parents. This was yet another example of the innovative ways that BYC has strived to develop pertinent and meaningful relationships with schools and communities across Barnsley and we are grateful to Astrea for working so closely with us. BYC funded the entire Primary Partnership programme, and Eleanor Wright and Luke Mather could not have worked harder to ensure that as many children as possible in Barnsley were exposed to great singing opportunities.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

The Northern Academy of Vocal Excellence (NAVE)

Perhaps the biggest step change in BYC's history will be the development of the NAVE (Northern Academy of Vocal Excellence). We hope that this should be completed by the end of 2025. As with all capital projects of this nature, there are significant challenges, but the support and expertise of Barnsley Council and the wider professional team that is engaged will ensure that this is delivered for the town and the region. This development centre is a huge statement, and will bring a world-class facility to our town, enabling not only BYC to thrive but also many other community groups and organisations. It will attract the very best people to work in our town, and enable BYC to unlock so many more opportunities for its members and young people across Barnsley as well as regional and national beneficiaries. The NAVE will become a Hub of Excellence and we are so grateful to those who are working so hard to overcome inevitable challenges to make this happen.

Fundraising and support

2024 has indeed been a busy and exciting year and this has only been possible through the incredible support of so many organisations and ongoing fundraising activity. Special thanks and highlights include:

- the continued support of our major sponsor Barnsley College for continuing to offer sponsorship and a wonderful venue for our central choirs at Barnsley 6th Form College;
- our other amazing venues of Penistone Grammar School, Hoylandswaine Village Hall, St. John's Community Centre, Astrea Academy Dearne, Emmanuel Church, Hoyland Common Primary School, St. Mary's Church and Horizon Community College;
- the wonderful Gala Dinner led by Dan Jarvis MP and Christa Ackroyd including our charity auction of generously donated items and experiences, plus our grand raffle.
- the ongoing support of so many individual donors, Patrons, sponsor a child supporters; and
- the BYC 100 Club.

Volunteer Team and Safeguarding

The choir has created more capacity to manage the increased demands and risks associated with the growth of the organisation. Neil Sexton (Strategic Finance and Systems), Nicola Ellet (Safeguarding Lead and Welfare) and Debbie Hobson (Operations and Volunteers) have become trustees of BYC this year, joining Karen Davis (General Secretary), Ann Wroe (Chair and President) and Charlie Brammer (NAVE Project Lead). It's a really positive, skilled and supportive team, and they do so much behind the scenes in their roles as guardians of Barnsley Youth Choir.

Kirsty Harding and Yvonne Worsley work incredibly hard to manage finances and the vast administration that sits with this work, ensuring that the weight of responsibility and pressure does not fall at the feet of the already busy 70 strong team of volunteers.

We have great leadership at many levels, with volunteers taking a strong lead in general areas across all 10 choirs including Uniforms, Patrons, 100 Club, Library, Staging and Catering. Alongside this, all 10 choirs have Managers and Registrars who lead their teams, ensuring that dedicated groups of volunteers really know their choirs well and take a pivotal role in developing the choirs alongside the music teams. It is an ecosystem that is built on kindness and selflessness and is focused at all times on the welfare of young people. There's a culture that is really special and we are incredibly grateful to those who work tirelessly to ensure that our members have the best possible opportunities.

Future plans

2025-26 will continue to provide opportunities to develop relationships with fantastic organisations and individuals. We will work with more world class choral leaders and including the exciting young composer and choral leader Tracy Wong, from Canada, who is one of the world's finest talents. Harry Christophers and The Sixteen will work with BYC again and there are other UK based choirs and choral conductors that we hope to work with. We have Spring Concerts and the Gala Dinner on the calendar as well as welcoming the New Zealand Youth Choir who will really inspire our young people.

We are looking into an international competition for the Senior Choir and are in touch with many other organisations and individuals about how we can work together. A new Primary Partnership Programme is already underway, and Resource Pack 3 is almost ready for distribution. Around 40 workshops are already booked for Primary Schools, and we hope that many more will be delivered in the coming months. We have recruited an outstanding new Musical Director to lead the Intermediate Choir from January 2025, and will continue to add talent to the team, as well as nurture our own young leaders and provide them with leadership opportunities.

Summary

We continue to be very proud of BYC's continued expansion and development, providing such a breadth of interesting and valuable experiences to children and young people in Barnsley. This commitment comes at a significant cost and we are indebted to so many who continue to support our mission. We believe that children in Barnsley deserve the very best - whatever their background - and, with continued support, will do everything we can to continue this important work. We will strive to deliver world class experiences for our members and do everything in our power to ensure that children in Barnsley have access to great choral provision.

Thank you again for all that you continue to do to support BYC.

The Charity's policy on reserves

A formal reserves policy was approved by the trustees in July 2016. The trustees have decided that it is necessary to hold reserves for the following reasons:

- To meet contractual liabilities should the organisation have to close
- To meet unexpected costs
- To replace equipment as it wears out
- To ensure that the charity can continue to provide a stable and quality service to those who need them
- To provide working capital when funds are paid in arrears

Barnsley Youth Choir aims to have reserves in the band of 15% to 25% of current expenditure. If the charity were to close, the organisation would incur a number of winding up costs. These costs represent 10% of the current year's forecast expenditure.

In the event of reserves dipping below the target Barnsley Youth Choir will aim to restore the reserves to at least 15% of expenditure over the next four years. This could be achieved by increased fund raising, increasing earned income or reducing expenditure.

If reserves exceed 25% of expenditure the trustees will consider the likely expenditure over the next two years and aim for reserves to be less than 25% of turnover by the end of two years. This could be achieved by reducing fund raising, reducing prices, or increasing "free" activities and so increasing expenditure.

At the year end the unrestricted reserve stands at £90,146 which is 16% of annual expenditure. The trustees have also designated a total of £85,000 to the following planned projects:

- Premises Fund (NAVE) (£50,000)
- Development of the Satellite Junior Choirs (£5,000)
- Future performances and tours (£30,000)

Trustees responsibilities for the financial statements

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity at any time and enable the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that comply with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

Law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

Financial Position

The financial statements are set out in pages 14 to 24. The Statement of Financial Activities shows a deficit for the year of £29,364 (2024: surplus of £15,176) with total funds at the year-end standing at £189,912 (2024: £219,276).

The total reserves of the charity at year end, represented by unrestricted funds, stand at £90,146 (2024 £68,598).

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed: a wroe

Date: 13 November 2025

Ann Wroe, Chair of the Trustees

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

I report on the accounts of the charity, which are set out on pages 14 to 24.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year, under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 in this financial year. I am qualified to undertake the examination, being a qualified member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts, under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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 matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable 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.
 - or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed  Date: 13 November 2025

Steph Tolson, ACMA
Barnsley CVS
23 Queens Road, Barnsley, S71 1AN

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 Total Funds	2024
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
Income:						
Donations and legacies	2a	126,565	-	750	127,315	55,369
Income from charitable activities	2b	187,157	-	43,923	231,080	137,120
Income from other trading activities	2c	159,588	-	-	159,588	120,124
Investment income	2d	2,619	-	-	2,619	1,871
Total income		475,929	-	44,673	520,602	314,484
Expenditure						
Cost of raising funds	3a	50,007	-	35,677	85,684	43,222
Expenditure on charitable activities	3b	418,410	9,835	33,996	462,241	253,810
Other expenditure	3c	2,041	-	-	2,041	2,276
Total expenditure		470,458	9,835	69,673	549,966	299,308
Net income/expenditure for the year		5,471	(9,835)	(25,000)	(29,364)	15,176
Transfers between funds	13	16,077	(16,077)	-	-	-
Total funds brought forward		68,598	125,678	25,000	219,276	204,100
Total funds carried forward	12	90,146	99,766	-	189,912	219,276

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing.
The designated funds are fixed assets held for the charity's own use.
The comparative figures for each fund are shown in notes to the accounts.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JANUARY 2025

	Note	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible Fixed Assets	4		14,766		20,678
Current assets					
Debtors	5	1,751		20,274	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>189,407</u>		<u>200,452</u>	
Total current assets		191,158		220,726	
Current liabilities					
Creditors	6				
Amounts falling due within one year		<u>(16,012)</u>		<u>(22,128)</u>	
Net current assets			175,146		198,598
Net assets			<u>189,912</u>		<u>219,276</u>
Funds of the charity	12				
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds (Fixed Assets)			90,146		68,598
Designated funds (Other)			14,766		20,678
Restricted funds			85,000		105,000
			-		25,000
Total funds			<u>189,912</u>		<u>219,276</u>

The trustees declare that they have approved the accounts above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Ann Wroe, Chair of the Trustees

Date: 13 November 2025

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

AS AT 31 JANUARY 2025

	Total Funds 2025 £	Prior Year Funds 2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(29,364)	15,176
Adjustments for:		
Investment Income	(2619)	(1871)
Depreciation	9,835	9,150
Purchase of property and equipment	(3,923)	(4,257)
(Profit)/Loss on disposal of property and equipment	-	-
(increase)/decrease in debtors	18,523	12,546
increase/(decrease) in creditors	(6,116)	1,776
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(13,664)	32,520
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest Received	2,619	1,871
Cash flows from financing activities	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(11,045)	34,391
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	200,452	166,061
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	189,407	200,452
Cash in hand and at bank	189,407	200,452
Notice deposits	-	-
Total cash and cash equivalents	189,407	200,452

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

1. Accounting policies

Basis of the preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

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

Barnsley Youth Choir CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going Concern note

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. After reviewing the charity's forecasts and projections and its reserves, the trustees have reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. There is a healthy reserve and funds have been designated to cover future project spend. There are no material uncertainties in the twelve-month period following the signing of these accounts.

Incoming resources

All material incoming resources have been included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income, when any performance conditions attached are met, when it is probable that the income will be received and when the amount can be measured reliably.

Donated goods and services

Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts, at the amount the charity would pay in the open market for a service equivalent to that being donated, when the charity would otherwise have purchased them and the value can be measured reliably.

Donated goods for the charity's own use are recognised as income, at their fair value.

The contribution of general volunteers is not recognised as income in the charity accounts.

Resources Expended

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised as a liability is incurred. The charity is not registered for VAT, therefore all expenditure is accounted for gross of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Support cost allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, and administrative payroll costs. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets, with a cost exceeding £1,000, are capitalised and depreciated over their expected useful lives. The following rates apply:

Equipment, Fixtures & Fittings -	15% on a straight line basis
Computer & IT Equipment -	33.33% on a straight line basis.

Taxation

Barnsley Youth Choir CIO is a registered charity and is exempt from UK corporation tax on income from its charitable activities.

Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. Pension costs charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represent contributions payable by the charity in the financial year.

Funds Structure

The charity maintains a general unrestricted fund which represents funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

Restricted funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes and may only be spent for the purposes for which they were given. Any balance remaining outstanding on a restricted fund at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund, unless permission has been given by the funder to remove the restriction on the balance outstanding.

Funds relating to capital expenditure are transferred to a designated fund against which depreciation is charged. Other designated funds are established by the trustees, as appropriate.

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

2. Analysis of Income

	2025			2024		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2a Donations & legacies:						
Grants received for Core Services:						
Shawlands Trust	-	750	750	-	750	750
Charlies Trust	1,000	-	1,000	-	-	-
Donations	71,975	-	71,975	24,063	-	24,063
Patrons Membership Fees	16,668	-	16,668	15,286	-	15,286
Gift Aid Refunds	5,922	-	5,922	-	-	-
Sponsorship	9,500	-	9,500	12,520	-	12,520
Sponsor a Child	21,500	-	21,500	2,750	-	2,750
	126,565	750	127,315	54,619	750	55,369
2b Charitable activities:						
Grants received for service delivery:						
SYMCA	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
ACE Lottery	-	22,193	22,193	-	-	-
BMBC Pride of Place	-	21,730	21,730	-	-	-
Subscriptions	84,293	-	84,293	65,757	-	65,757
Tour income	90,268	-	90,268	32,428	-	32,428
Uniform income	12,596	-	12,596	8,935	-	8,935
	187,157	43,923	231,080	137,120	-	137,120
2c Other trading activities:						
Fundraising:						
Singathon	-	-	-	14,230	-	14,230
BYC 100 Club	10,560	-	10,560	10,520	-	10,520
Other Fundraising events	57,287	-	57,287	32,024	-	32,024
Concert income	83,673	-	83,673	58,695	-	58,695
Catering income	5,044	-	5,044	1,362	-	1,362
Merchandise income	3,024	-	3,024	3,293	-	3,293
	159,588	-	159,588	120,124	-	120,124
2d Investment income:						
Bank interest	2,619	-	2,619	1,871	-	1,871
	2,619	-	2,619	1,871	-	1,871
Total Income	475,929	44,673	520,602	313,734	750	314,484

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

3. Analysis of Expenditure

	2025			2024		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
3a Cost of Raising funds:						
Staff costs	5,743	5,000	10,743	8,985	1,869	10,854
Project Management	-	4,500	4,500	-	-	-
Fundraising & Prizes	7,663	-	7,663	6,433	-	6,433
Concert Costs	8,364	7,681	16,045	13,719	-	13,719
Merchandise costs	7,230	-	7,230	3,832	-	3,832
Promotion & Publicity	16,633	4,017	20,650	6,929	-	6,929
Technical Hires & Freelance Fees	4,374	14,479	18,853	1,455	-	1,455
	50,007	35,677	85,684	41,353	1,869	43,222
3b Cost of Charitable Activities:						
<u>Direct costs of charitable activities:</u>						
Music Costs & Commissions	4,769	-	4,769	6,624	-	6,624
Accompanist costs	19,345	-	19,345	10,330	1,900	12,230
Staff costs	20,100	17,500	37,600	31,447	6,540	37,987
MD & Musical Assistants	69,835	7,980	77,815	48,633	3,600	52,233
Rehearsal Space Hire	12,773	-	12,773	6,155	-	6,155
Performance, Tours & events	229,563	-	229,563	58,016	-	58,016
Catering & Hospitality	-	1,000	1,000	12,363	-	12,363
Uniform Costs	22,031	5,016	27,047	19,830	-	19,830
Travel & Expenses	1,739	-	1,739	1,622	485	2,107
Insurance	7,475	-	7,475	2,016	-	2,016
Equipment & storage	3,872	-	3,872	6,380	-	6,380
Training	420	-	420	2,912	-	2,912
Depreciation (Designated Funds)	9,835	-	9,835	9,150	-	9,150
Miscellaneous & other expenses	1,812	-	1,812	3,437	-	3,437
	403,569	31,496	435,065	218,915	12,525	231,440
<u>Support Costs:</u>						
Salaries cost (admin & management)	17,901	2,500	20,401	16,456	934	17,390
Printing, admin & Office costs	4,541	-	4,541	3,132	-	3,132
Accountancy & payroll fees	2,234	-	2,234	1,848	-	1,848
	24,676	2,500	27,176	21,436	934	22,370
Total Cost of Charitable Activities	428,245	33,996	462,241	240,351	13,459	253,810
3c Other expenditure						
Bank Charges	639	-	639	576	-	576
Donations	1,402	-	1,402	1,700	-	1,700
	2,041	-	2,041	2,276	-	2,276
Total Expenditure	480,293	69,673	549,966	283,980	15,328	299,308

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

4. Fixed Assets

	Computer & IT Equipment £	Equipment, Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost			
Balance b/f - 01.02.2024	5,365	81,564	86,929
Additions in year	3,923	-	3,923
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance c/f at 31.01.2025	<u>9,288</u>	<u>81,564</u>	<u>90,852</u>
Depreciation			
Balance b/f - 01.02.2024	4,140	62,111	66,251
Disposals	-	-	-
Charge for the year	<u>2,328</u>	<u>7,507</u>	<u>9,835</u>
Balance c/f at 31.01.2025	<u>6,468</u>	<u>69,618</u>	<u>76,086</u>
Net Book Value at 31 January 2025	<u>2,820</u>	<u>11,946</u>	<u>14,766</u>
Net Book Value at 31 January 2024	<u>1,225</u>	<u>19,453</u>	<u>20,678</u>

All fixed assets are held for direct charitable purposes.

5. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments	300	20,274
Accrued Income	1,451	-
	<u>1,751</u>	<u>20,274</u>

6. Creditors

	2025 £	2024 £
PAYE Liability	1,010	1,424
Accruals	10,462	3,353
Creditors (Credit Card)	1,950	321
Donations held on behalf of the NAVE	750	-
Deferred Income	1,840	17,030
	<u>16,012</u>	<u>22,128</u>

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

7. Staff Costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross Salaries	65,736	62,574
Employer NIC	643	1,197
Employer Pensions	2,365	2,460
	68,744	66,231

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

The average number of employees during the year was 3 (2024: 2).

8. Trustee payments, benefits and expenses

There were no payments, remuneration or benefits made to trustees in this or the previous accounting period.

9. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions, in this or the previous financial year.

10. Independent Examination of accounts

The cost of the independent examination for the year was £1,500 (2024: £1,150).

11. Analysis of assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<u>31.01.2025</u>				
Fixed Assets	-	14,766	-	14,766
Current Assets	106,158	85,000	-	191,158
Current Liabilities	(16,012)	-	-	(16,012)
Total Funds	90,146	99,766	-	189,912
<u>31.01.2024</u>				
Fixed Assets	-	20,678	-	20,678
Current Assets	90,726	105,000	25,000	220,726
Current Liabilities	(22,128)	-	-	(22,128)
Total Funds	68,598	125,678	25,000	219,276

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

12. Movement in funds

	Opening balance £	Incoming resources £	(Resources expended) £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	68,598	475,929	(470,458)	16,077	90,146
	68,598	475,929	(470,458)	16,077	90,146
Designated funds					
Fixed Assets	20,678	-	(9,835)	3,923	14,766
Satellite Junior Choirs	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Premises Fund (NAVE)	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Little Singers	5,000	-	-	(5,000)	-
Future Performance & Tours	45,000	-	-	(15,000)	30,000
	125,678	-	(9,835)	(16,077)	99,766
Restricted funds					
South Yorkshire Mayoral Fund	25,000	-	(25,000)	-	-
Shaw Lands Trust	-	750	(750)	-	-
BMBC Pride of Place	-	22,193	(22,193)	-	-
ACE Lottery	-	21,730	(21,730)	-	-
	25,000	44,673	(69,673)	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS	219,276	520,602	(549,966)	-	189,912

13. Fund transfers

- The following amount was transferred to the designated Fixed Assets fund, to cover the capital expenditure listed below, in accordance with the Fixed Asset policy: Laptops £3,923 (from General Fund)
- A transfer of £5,000 was made from the Little Singers designated fund to the general fund.
- A transfer of £15,000 was made from the Future Performances & Tours fund to the general fund as the 2025 tours were less costly than the previous years.

14. Designated funds

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes.

The trustees have designated funds to support the charity's operational needs, future commitments and statutory obligations. Designated funds at the year end include:

Satellite Junior Choirs – a fund to reach under-represented groups and ensure their participation through the development of Satellite Junior Choirs. This fund has been re-purposed from the Satellite Children's Choir, as the Satellite Children's Choirs have now been expanded.

Premises Fund – a provision for future premises costs of the NAVE building.

Little Singers – this fund has now been closed.

Future Performances & Tours – a fund to support planned performances & tours.

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

15. Restricted funds

Restricted funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes and may only be spent for the purposes for which they were given. The charity held the following restricted funds in this financial year:

BMBC Pride of Place – A grant from the BMBC Pride of Place fund towards the 2024 Barnsley Sings project.

Arts Council England Lottery grant – A grant the national lottery project fund towards the Barnsley Sings Project. A final 10% instalment is due in 2025.

South Yorkshire Mayoral Capacity Fund A grant from the South Yorkshire Mayoral Capacity Fund towards Musical Director salary costs from December 2023 for 12 months.

Shaw Lands Trust A grant from the Shaw Lands Trust to support the Primary School Partnership in the Dearne area with four schools.