



zink
for life & work



ANNUAL REPORT

1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025

Chair's Report

As I sat at my laptop to start my report for this AGM I thought that I should read Paul's report first. Are you, like me, flabbergasted? What an incredible organisation he manages and you serve! Paul certainly left me with a challenge – *follow that!*

However, Paul did not mention the **National Charity of the Year** award (my terminology) because, quite accurately, it was in the year following. However, what we did in 2024/25 had a massive impact on gaining the award, so here goes:

WE WON, INCREDIBLE, WELL DONE EVERYONE, FEEL VERY PROUD TO BE PART OF THE ZINK PROJECT CIO, ALL OF YOU, **CUE APPLAUSE.**

To say 2024/25 was an excellent year seems an understatement. However, **this is not a year in isolation**, it has been building from its roots in two rooms in a church. The brave decision to purchase, then find money to kit out Zink HQ, has enabled the success you see today. Not just the property but the explosion in services Zink now offers to a client base not served by any other organisation on such a wide front – witness Paul's report.

This has been recognised by the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ). Let's remind ourselves Zink was runner-up in 2024/25. From a base of 600 charities, CSJ looked closely at 400 charities throughout GB and awarded Zink the Charity Oscar, the best Charity in Britain at a celebration in front of, and applauded by, the "great and good", at the heart of government in London, three days ago.

A brief comment about sustainability

The net income for the year 2024/25 was £215,448. Our net assets were £931,171, with property accounting for £835,000. **That means** Zink has a sound base from which to build a great future, something we all look forward to.

From whatever angle you look Zink is helping a lot of people - Food Bank, Café, Employability, Family Welfare, Wellbeing, Leisure, Socialising and Friendship, Physical Exercise and Personal Recovery. Not only does Zink have a lot of guitars (one of our early wellbeing projects), Zink even has a piano.

Putting it simply, Zink helps people find and enjoy a better life.

Finally – Paul even stole my end lines, but it is worth repeating - Zink would not be able to operate without its 130 volunteers and trustees alongside the staff team. It is not just your time that is important to Zink but ideas and enthusiasm that enable Zink to develop innovative solutions.

I wish I had said that.

I wish you well

Alan Thompson

A very happy, retiring, Chair of The Zink Project CIO



CEO's Report

2024/25 saw Zink take strides towards sustaining the charity in the long term. We already had five flats, we added another three this year and saw income from accommodation stabilise to now generate around 10% of our income. Not only does this mean less reliance on grant funding but also that we can provide decent homes for formerly homeless people with support to help them get back on their feet and move into work.

153 new clients started to attend activities at Zink in addition to the 221 who had started in the previous year and existing clients. Of these 199 were supported by work coaches with 63 moving into jobs and 46 into training or education. A further 44 had a positive outcome that will help them get work in the future. This could be skills gained through volunteering. It could be improved mental or physical health or a financial outcome e.g. they are no longer in debt or they have somewhere stable and safe to live.

The Neuro Hub at Zink had its 200th client during the year and, as a result of the huge positive impact it has had on families, the contract has been extended until March 2027. Similarly, Zink's Ukrainian Support Coordinator for the High Peak had funding extended. An English class takes place weekly and support is available to refugees to navigate UK life. To support social interaction, Zink worked with Buxton Friends of Ukraine to organise trips to Blackpool and York, and events at Christmas and Ukraine Independence Day.

The Community Eco-Café at Zink has been serving delicious, nourishing meals to a growing number of clients. It's saved nearly 10,000 kg of surplus food from going to landfill, instead feeding vulnerable and impoverished people as well as anyone else who drops in to enjoy the friendly welcome.

Nearly 1800 emergency food parcels were issued by High Peak Foodbank at Zink, a total of 38,000 meals.

Zink plans to expand its residential portfolio to provide more decent housing with support for formerly homeless and poorly housed families. This could include providing housing that expert partners use to support mutual beneficiaries.

Zink would not be able to operate without its 130 volunteers and trustees alongside the staff team. It is not just their time that's important to Zink but ideas and enthusiasm that enable Zink to develop innovative solutions. Donations from the local community and larger UK funders are absolutely key to the outcomes above. Thank you to all who give to Zink in whatever format. Your help keeps this special place and charity an energetic hub of positivity.

Paul Bohan



Treasurer's Report


2024/25 saw Zink take strides towards sustaining the charity in the long term. We already The trustees have again been touched and inspired by the way local fund-raisers, groups and individuals have rallied to support the charity's services, as well as by the way national and local charitable trusts have helped. We are also very grateful for the generous donations of food that the charity receives, from individuals, local organisations and companies.

Grants received by the charity:

DCC	106,580
Derbyshire Environment	9,885
Derbyshire Warm Space	3,000
ESC Lottery	8,830
Foundation Derbyshire	18,500
Groundwork	2,000
High Peak Borough Council	45,388
National Lottery	83,650
Meals and More	1,882
Music for All	100
Peak District Connect	142
Police and Crime Commission	2,500
Sainsbury's	1,500
The Travel Chapter	3,000

Donations from groups and organisations:


Action funder	1,000
Ashford PCC	200
Bakewell Methodists	1,670
Bollington Festival	1,010
Buxton College	100
Buxton Methodist Church	200
Charlesworth and Chisworth Carnival	100
Centre for Social Justice	10,071
Derby RCC	2,340
Derbyshire Voluntary	500
Emerson Christie Charity	2,000
Erewash Voluntary	1,450
Eyam PCC	912
Fountain Square Church	100
Hathersage Horticultural Soc	2,061
Hayfield Apple Fair	58
Hedley Foundation	2,000
High Peak Community Arts	70
High Peak CVS	5,000
High Peak Green Party	270
Hope Rotary Club	1,500
Hope Valley Probus Club	175
Kettleshume WI	700
Lindley Educational Trust	500
Phoenix Lodge	525
Soroptomists	30
The Big Give	4,930



There were a large number of donations from individuals, directly and through internet giving. Some are anonymous, and some are without contact details, so the charity does not list individuals, but assures them all of the deep appreciation of the trustees and staff, as their invaluable support helps make our services possible. There are many who are registered to allow us to claim Gift Aid, and this also helps us substantially.

We now own a property of 5 flats, and a property of 3 flats, all of which are let out at affordable rents. We are supporting some of the tenants through Zink's other services.

We also act as an advocate for ACTS 435. This is a charity which enables donors to give specific help to people in need. Our advocate posts requests, and once the money is raised, the specific item or bill is paid for via Zink.



Independent Examiner's report to the Directors of The Zink Project CIO

I report on the accounts of the Association for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 1 to 5 of the annual accounts.

Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Examiner

The Directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Directors 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 company's gross income has not exceeded £250,000. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ICAEW.

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 2011 Act
- To following the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- To 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 directors 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 matter have come to my attention:

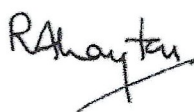
(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

Have not been met; or

(2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name:



Robert Layton

Laytons CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS
6 Manchester Road, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 6SB
PHONE: 01298 77997 FAX: 01298 72803

Relevant Professional qualification or body: ICAEW

Address: Laytons Chartered Accountants, 6 Manchester Road, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 9SB

Date: 22-12-2025

THE ZINK PROJECT CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Zink Incoming resources					
<i>Voluntary income:</i>					
Donations and Grants	1	17,382	470,790	488,171	386,190
<i>Investment income:</i>					
Bank interest		4,022		4,022	5,576
<i>Other incoming resources</i>					
Income from services		24,702		24,702	14,094
<i>Property income</i>					
Rental income	2	44,289		44,289	1,340
Total incoming resources		90,395	470,790	561,184	405,860
Resources expended					
<i>Charitable Activities</i>	3	65,377	242,710	308,088	236,219
<i>Building Costs</i>	4	32,530	0	32,530	18,309
<i>Other Expenses</i>	5	2,316	930	3,246	3,058
<i>Depreciation</i>	6	0	1,872	1,872	1,872
Total resources expended		100,223	245,512	345,736	259,457
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for year		(9,829)	225,277	215,448	146,403
Total funds brought forward		386,366	329,357	715,723	567,980
Total funds carried forward		376,537	554,634	931,171	715,723

THE ZINK PROJECT CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 £	£	31.3.24 £	£
FIXED ASSETS	7				
Plant & machinery		33,701		35,573	
Freehold property		<u>835,000</u>		<u>530,000</u>	
			868,701		565,573
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand	8	250,728		346,733	
		<u>250,728</u>		<u>346,733</u>	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	19,665		19,116	
		<u>19,665</u>		<u>19,116</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			231,062		327,617
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>1,099,763</u>		<u>893,190</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling on or after one year	10	168,592		177,467	
		<u>168,592</u>		<u>177,467</u>	
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)			<u><u>931,171</u></u>		<u><u>715,723</u></u>
INCOME FUNDS					
Surplus for the year			215,448		147,743
Funds brought forward			715,723		567,980
			<u><u>931,171</u></u>		<u><u>715,723</u></u>

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on *20th Nov 2025* and signed on their behalf by:


 ALAN THOMPSON

THE ZINK PROJECT CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. DONATIONS AND GRANTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	0	128,269	128,269	121,770
Grants	0	342,521	342,521	248,712
	0	470,790	470,790	370,482

2. PROPERTY INCOME

	Total	Total
	2025	2024
	£	£
Roulton Mews	35,421	1,340
Belmont Terrace	8,869	0
	44,289	1,340

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Total	Total
	2025	2024
	£	£
Insurance	4,448	4,150
Rent	4,672	2,078
Travelling	2,061	6,507
Telephone & Internet	3,226	2,546
Administration	384	760
Repairs & renewals	7,381	6,905
Consultancy	4,019	5,157
Pension costs	24,756	20,142
Recruitment	724	310
Training	2,441	503
Wages	214,789	173,266
Subscriptions	0	180
Petty Cash	1,437	0
Sundry Costs	2,857	4,242
Postage & Stationary	2,456	1,833
BBO	7,327	0
G52	4,240	6,800
Guitar lessons	0	840
Energy saving packs	1,932	0
Heat and Light	4,933	5,361
Rennovation costs	622	3,206
ACTS Movement	5,350	143
	300,057	244,928

THE ZINK PROJECT CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

4. BUILDING COSTS

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Roulton Mews purchase costs	0	0
Belmont Terrace purchase costs	12,210	0
Deposit Scheme	1,491	0
Repairs and maintenance	10,172	0
Insurance	630	0
HPBC/Utilities	443	0
Other costs	0	0
Mortgage costs	0	9,113
Mortgage interest	7,553	629
Bank charges	32	0
	32,530	9,742

5. OTHER EXPENSES

	Unrestricted 2025 £	Restricted 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Accountancy	1,645	930	2,575	2,371
Bank Charges	671		671	686
	2,316	930	3,246	3,058

6. DEPRECIATION CHARGES

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Plant and machinery	1,872	1,872
	1,872	1,872

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant & Machinery £	Zink Building	Flats £	Total £
Cost				
At 1st April 2024	37,446	145,000	385,000	567,446
Additions	-		305,000	305,000
			-	-
At 31st March 2025	37,446	145,000	690,000	872,446
Depreciation				
At 1st April 2024	1,872	-	-	1,872
Charge for the year	1,872	-	-	1,872
At 31st March 2025	3,745	0	0	3,745
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st March 2025	33,701	145,000	690,000	868,701
At 31st March 2024	4 35,573	145,000	385,000	565,573

THE ZINK PROJECT CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

8. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£
Zink current accounts	26,458	39,500
Zink deposit accounts	213,815	300,794
Property current accounts	6,594	0
ACTS*	90	2,706
Derbyshire Community Bank	955	955
Cash	2,815	2,778
	250,728	346,733

* During the year, the company administered money for ACTS which is an autonomous charitable fund for the benefit of local individuals.

9. CREDITORS LESS THAN ONE YEAR

	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£
Social security & other tax	2,926	2,377
Accruals	1,447	1,447
Mortgage	15,292	15,292
	19,665	19,116

10. CREDITORS MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£
Mortgage	168,592	177,467
	168,592	177,467

11. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS

The average number of employees during the year was 17 (2024 - 15)

12. TRUSTEES

No trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year.

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided at the following rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Plant & Machinery - 5% on reducing balance