

# **THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Charity number 1167723

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2025**



Greater Merseyside Community  
Accountancy Service

# **THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2025**

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**Prepared by the Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service**

# THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Trustees' report

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The Trustees during the year were:

Name	Position
Jillian Fairclough	Treasurer
Samantha Gill	Secretary
Martin Murray	Trustee

### Method of appointment

Election annually by AGM, or interim appointment by trustees until next AGM.

### Principal address

Derbyshire Hill Road  
St Helens  
Merseyside  
WA9 2LH

### Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland  
Ormskirk Street  
St Helens  
Merseyside  
WA10

### Governing document

CiO Registered 20th June 2016 as amended on 11th December 2018.

### Objects of the organisation

To further or benefit the residents of Parr and surrounding area of St. Helens without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents. In furtherance of these objects but not otherwise, the trustees shall have power: to establish or secure the establishment of a community centre and to maintain or manage or co-operate with any statutory authority in the maintenance and management of such a centre for activities promoted by the charity in furtherance of the above objects

### Independent examiner

on behalf of:

#### Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service

St Marie's  
Lugsdale Road  
Widnes  
WA8 6DB

# THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Trustees' report continued

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### Objectives and activities

Parr Sports and Community Centre (PSCC) provides an accessible community, recreational, and sporting facility for local residents and the surrounding areas. The Centre's mission is to promote health, well-being, and social inclusion through sport, recreational activities, and community engagement. PSCC supports people of all ages and backgrounds, offering opportunities to participate in physical, social, and educational programmes while providing a welcoming hub that strengthens community connections.

To achieve these aims, PSCC provides:

**Affordable access to indoor and outdoor sports facilities** for children, adults, and older residents.

**Regular well-being, fitness activities** to support health, personal development, and social engagement.

**Space for community groups, clubs, and events**, including the Centre's café, now open to the public, fostering social interaction and cohesion.

### Governance and Management

Part way through the financial year, Parr Sports and Community Centre strengthened its governance arrangements through the appointment of new trustees. The charity is now governed by a Board of Trustees comprising five volunteers, led by a volunteer Chair. The Board includes a Secretary, Treasurer, and three additional trustees.

A part-time employed Centre Co-ordinator has also been appointed to support the day-to-day operation of the Centre. The current Board was formed in August 2024 and meets on a monthly basis.

Trustee meetings focus on the strategic development of Parr Sports and Community Centre, including governance and management of the centre, safeguarding, fundraising, and oversight of current activities, while ensuring the effective and smooth running of the Centre.

### Objectives

The objectives of PSCC are:

#### **Provide Facilities for Sport and Recreation**

To offer access to sports, games, and recreational activities for all members of the local community.

To promote healthy lifestyles, fitness, and physical activity among children, young people, adults, and older adults.

#### **Advance Education and Skills**

To provide opportunities for learning, personal development, and skill-building through structured activities and community programmes.

To support educational initiatives linked to sport, wellbeing, and social development.

#### **Promote Social Inclusion and Community Cohesion**

To create a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for everyone, including vulnerable groups, people with disabilities, and the elderly.

To foster strong relationships among community members, volunteers, and service users.

#### **Support Sustainable and Effective Community Management**

To ensure good governance, financial stability, and responsible use of resources for long-term sustainability.

To strengthen the Centre's capacity to continue providing public benefit through effective management, fundraising, and partnerships.

#### **Increase Access and Participation**

To improve affordability, accessibility, and availability of facilities and activities.

To remove barriers that prevent local people, especially underserved groups, from participating in Centre activities.



# THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Trustees' report continued

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### Initial Challenges

The current Chair, Chris Honey, was appointed in August 2024 at the request of committee members who had significant concerns regarding the future sustainability of the Centre, primarily due to weaknesses in governance arrangements.

During this period, the National Lottery had suspended monthly grant instalments and instructed the Centre not to spend an underspend of £50,000 from previously released funds. This action was taken due to a lack of evidence demonstrating that expenditure to date was aligned with the approved funding application. In addition, the full-time Centre Manager had resigned approximately one year earlier, followed shortly thereafter by the resignation of the previous Chair.

Financially, during the calendar year January to December 2024, the Centre operated at an average monthly loss of approximately £1,400 and relied heavily on income generated from the hire of the outdoor floodlit Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) to remain operational.

The trustees acknowledge that the Centre's continued operation during this period was largely due to the commitment and resilience of three key volunteer anchor tenants and the part-time Centre Co-ordinator, who was employed on minimum wage. Despite these efforts, the Centre remained vulnerable and was adversely affected by external Community Interest Companies whose funded activities, although regular, negatively impacted the Centre's reputation.

Overall, the trustees identified governance as the primary issue requiring urgent attention, and strengthening governance arrangements has since become a central focus of the Board.

### Successes

Despite the challenges we faced this year we have pulled through and achieved some growth and increased community engagement, with an increased number of individuals using the Centre across sports, fitness, and community activities, when compared to the previous year. We have over 300 per week attending the centre and its services.

The Centre delivers a range of weekly and regular sessions for children, young people, adults, and older residents, with a focus on promoting health, well-being, social inclusion, and diversity. Key activities include:

**Boxing sessions** for participants aged 5–70, including those with disabilities and individuals experiencing social isolation.

**Football sessions** for participants aged 5–70, also including disabled and isolated groups.

**Half-term activity programmes** targeting young people eligible for free school meals or experiencing financial hardship.

**Knitting and craft clubs** for participants aged 10–75, fostering creativity, social interaction, and skills development.

**Education and training programmes** for young people aged 14–19 who are at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training), supporting personal development and employability.

These activities are designed to ensure that all members of the local community have access to inclusive, engaging, and supportive programmes that contribute to their physical, mental, and social well-being.

Parr Sports and Community Centre (PSCC) has also successfully hosted a variety of community events and school holiday programmes that engage residents, raise awareness, and promote positive social outcomes. These have included:

**"Knifesavers" Life-Saving Event** – An educational initiative aimed at raising awareness about the dangers of knife crime and teaching basic life-saving and first aid skills to the community.

**Fundraising Football Tournament** – Held on the Centre's outdoor Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs), this event brought together local teams while raising funds to support Centre activities.

**Boxing Shows** – Hosted in the indoor sports hall, providing entertainment, promoting fitness, and engaging participants across different age groups.

These events demonstrate the Centre's commitment to community engagement, public safety, health, and well-being, while providing opportunities for residents of all ages to participate in meaningful and inclusive activities.



# THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Trustees' report continued

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All of these events not only generated revenue for the centre, but a large 'foot fall' of new people using the centre. Helping us to build community relationships and increase awareness of, and accessibility to, the centre.

We have strengthened partnerships with local schools, sports clubs, health providers, and voluntary organisations and continue to be a hub for a wide range of community groups.

The Centre achieved significant progress in strengthening its governance and leadership arrangements. Governance structures were successfully re-established, resulting in a single, effective Board of Trustees that now meets regularly and provides clear strategic direction. The Centre's constitution was revised, and key policies and procedures were reviewed and implemented, improving accountability, transparency, and risk management. These changes have helped to restore confidence among funders and stakeholders.

The Centre also made substantial improvements to its financial position and long-term sustainability. All historic debts were cleared, and the organisation moved from operating at a monthly loss to achieving a monthly surplus. Financial controls were strengthened, with regular monitoring and oversight supported by St Helens & Halton VCFSE. A more sustainable income model has been developed, reducing reliance on short-term or emergency funding.

Community engagement was a key focus during the year. Relationships with service user groups were rebuilt through regular consultation meetings, ensuring open communication and shared understanding of the Centre's challenges and priorities. A fair and transparent pricing structure was introduced to support the Centre's financial sustainability while enabling continued access for a wide range of community groups and their service users. During the reporting period, the Centre achieved positive outcomes in terms of community impact and engagement. Participation in Centre activities increased, reflecting renewed confidence in the Centre and the relevance of the services provided to the local community. The Centre also strengthened relationships with service users and volunteers through improved communication and engagement, fostering a more collaborative and supportive environment.

In addition, steps were taken to improve accessibility, inclusion, and affordability, ensuring that the Centre remains welcoming and accessible to a wide range of community groups and individuals. These measures have helped to widen participation and ensure that the Centre continues to deliver meaningful public benefit.

The Centre's reputation and external relationships also improved. The Board introduced clearer oversight of funding applications and external organisations operating at the Centre, ensuring all activity aligns with the Centre's charitable objectives. Funding bids are now submitted in the Centre's own name, strengthening accountability and improving the Centre's standing with funders and partners.

Safeguarding and risk management arrangements were reviewed and strengthened to ensure a safe environment for all users. Updated safeguarding, health and safety, and risk management procedures are now in place and applied consistently across all activities delivered at the Centre.

Despite a period of significant organisational change, the Centre remained fully operational throughout the year. Essential community services continued to be delivered, supported by the dedication of volunteers, anchor tenants, and the Centre Co-ordinator. Their commitment ensured the Centre remained a safe, inclusive, and accessible facility for the local community.



# THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Trustees' report continued

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### Future Plans and Strategic Development

The Centre's improved financial position and positive future outlook prompted the Board to invite representatives from The National Lottery to visit the Centre and review its operations. The purpose of the visit was to provide full transparency, seek renewed collaboration, release previously ring-fenced funds, and revise the original funding bid to align with the Centre's updated objectives. During the visit, representatives observed service user group activities and met with both service users and trustees. They were impressed with the progress made and subsequently approved the release of £50,000 of previously restricted funds. The Centre was also supported in revising the funding bid, which is scheduled for submission in the upcoming financial year.

If the revised bid is successful, the funding will be used to strengthen the Centre's operations and long-term sustainability. Planned initiatives include:

- **Employing a full-time Centre Manager** to oversee funding applications, enabling the Centre to become financially self-sustaining. This role will also allow the current Centre Co-ordinator to focus on day-to-day operations, improving overall efficiency and effectiveness.
- **Increasing the hours of the part-time Centre Co-ordinator** from 20 to 30 per week, paid at the Living Wage, to support the recruitment and retention of service user groups.
- **Employing a part-time caretaker/maintenance worker**, also paid at the Living Wage, to extend opening hours, reduce maintenance costs, and enhance the cleanliness and appearance of the Centre.
- **Recruiting additional trustees** to strengthen the Board's skills, better reflect the diversity of the local community, and support the Centre's long-term growth and sustainability.
- **Improving accessibility** by utilising a donated minibus to help older people and individuals with disabilities travel to the Centre and participate in existing and new activities.
- **Developing our long-term business plan** to support discussions with the local authority regarding a long-term lease of the building through the Community Asset Transfer Scheme (CATS), securing the Centre's future operations.

These initiatives are designed to ensure that Parr Sports and Community Centre continues to provide high-quality services, meets its charitable objectives, and remains sustainable and accessible to the local community.

### Conclusions

Parr Sports and Community Centre is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all users. Safeguarding policies are reviewed and updated regularly, and all staff and volunteers receive appropriate training to ensure the safety and wellbeing of service users.

The Centre actively promotes equality of access and seeks to reduce barriers to participation. Reasonable adjustments are made to improve accessibility, particularly for elderly residents, young people who are not in education, employment, or training (NEET), and neurodiverse service users.

PSCC continues to serve as a vital community hub, with feedback from service users highlighting the importance of affordable access to sports, a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, and the positive impact on wellbeing and social connections.

Despite pressures from rising operational costs, the Centre has managed resources prudently. Reserves are maintained at a level deemed appropriate to ensure sustainability and to cover unforeseen expenses. Trustees continue to explore funding opportunities and income generation to refurbish the Centre, purchase necessary equipment, and support long-term sustainability.

Trustees, staff, and user group leaders actively assess and manage risks, completing risk assessments throughout the year and identifying areas for improvement. It is anticipated that future non-conformance monitoring and risk management will form a key part of the responsibilities of the proposed Centre Manager, should the National Lottery funding bid be successful.

# **THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

## **Trustees' report continued**

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### **Financial Review**

The Charities revenue, comes from its 3 anchor tenants and Rental of the MUGA's and meeting room and the Community Café

### **Policies & Procedures**

The Trustees have strict policies and procedures in Place and a clear Theory of change.

Trustees Conflict of interest. Financial Procedures Equal Opportunity's Policy Staff training handbook including health and safety Disciplinary Procedure Safeguarding Policy and code of conduct.

All staff are DBS certified. With safeguarding and 1<sup>st</sup> aid certificates.

These Policies are periodically checked and updated as appropriate.

We hold monthly Trustee meetings and the minutes of these meetings are recorded.

### **Reserves Policy**

The Parr Sports & Community Centre's Reserves Policy is to maintain sufficient level of reserves to enable normal operating activities to continue over a period of up to 12 months should a shortfall in income occur and to take account of potential risks and contingencies that may arise from time to time.

The Charity has no funds in deficit

### **Public Benefit Statement**

The Trustees of The Parr Sports and Community Centre hereby confirm that they have taken full regard of the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant. In particular, the Trustees believe that the list of activities detailed above show complete accordance and compliance with such guidance and are all examples of furthering the charity's purpose (as defined in its objects described above) for the public benefit.



# **THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of**

# **THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

### **for the year ending 31 March 2025**

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 2025.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the Management Committee and the examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

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 Commissioner 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 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 matter has 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 130 of the Act; and
  - ☐ to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
- 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.

Jane Williams  
MAAT  
**Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service**  
St Marie's  
Lugsdale Road  
Widnes  
WA8 6DB

# THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ending 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025	2025	2025	2024
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds	funds
		£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
Rental Income		43,591	-	43,591	15,798
Café Income		951	-	951	-
Grant funding	(2)	-	-	-	54,920
Donations		390	-	390	-
Other Income		-	-	-	23,773
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u>44,932</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,932</u>	<u>94,491</u>
<b>Payments</b>					
Salaries & Wages		-	14,716	14,716	27,128
Coaching fees		-	-	-	8,454
Café Purchases		312	-	312	7,431
Volunteers		1,067	-	1,067	-
Premises		12,568	-	12,568	12,957
Repairs and renewals		5,875	-	5,875	5,313
Waste disposal and cleaning		-	-	-	204
Equipment expense		17	-	17	2,130
Office costs		2,600	-	2,600	3,560
Licenses and fees		173	-	173	211
Business development costs		2,459	-	2,459	-
Insurance		5,736	-	5,736	5,661
Travel		72	-	72	-
Health & Safety		-	-	-	182
Other expenses		-	-	-	1,910
Governance		-	-	-	295
<b>Total payments</b>		<u>30,879</u>	<u>14,716</u>	<u>45,595</u>	<u>75,436</u>
<b>Net receipts / (payments)</b>		<u>14,053</u>	<u>(14,716)</u>	<u>(663)</u>	<u>19,055</u>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		-	-	-	-
<b>Cash fund balances brought forward</b>		<u>25,233</u>	<u>23,104</u>	<u>48,337</u>	<u>29,282</u>
<b>Cash fund balances carried forward</b>		<u>39,446</u>	<u>8,388</u>	<u>47,834</u>	<u>48,337</u>



# THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2025

		2025	2025	2025	2024
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets	(5)	-	-	-	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		-	-	-	-
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors and prepayments	(6)	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	(7)	46,598	8,388	54,986	67,837
<b>Total current assets</b>		46,598	8,388	54,986	67,837
<b>Current liabilities:</b>					
<b>amounts falling due within one year</b>					
Creditors and accruals	(8)	7,153	-	7,153	19,500
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		7,153	-	7,153	19,500
<b>Net current assets / (liabilities)</b>		39,446	8,388	47,834	48,337
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		39,446	8,388	47,834	48,337
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b>		-	-	-	-
<b>Net assets</b>		39,446	8,388	47,834	48,337
<b>Funds</b>					
Restricted Funds			8,388	8,388	23,104
Unrestricted funds		39,446		39,446	25,233
<b>Total Funds</b>		39,446	8,388	47,834	48,337

The financial statements were approved at a meeting of the trustees held on  
and signed on its behalf by:



Samantha Gill  
Trustee



Jillian Fairclough  
Trustee

# THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Notes to the accounts

for the year ending 31 March 2025

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### 1 Accounting Policies

#### a Basis of accounting

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

#### b Taxation

As a registered charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

#### c Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

##### **Unrestricted general funds**

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

##### **Restricted funds**

These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

##### **Designated funds**

These are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.



# THE PARR SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ending 31 March 2025

### 2 Grants and Donations

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
St Helens MBC: HAF	-	-	-	7,920
The National Lottery	-	-	-	45,000
VIBE Charitable	-	-	-	2,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,920</u>

### 2a Restricted fund summary

	Balance b/fwd £	Income £	Expend £	Transfers £	balance c/fwd £
The National Lottery	23,104	-	14,716	-	8,388
	<u>23,104</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,716</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,388</u>

### Purpose of restricted funds

National Lottery £328,000 over 4 years - This is for Parr Sports first 4 paid members of staff.

### 3 Cash at Bank and in hand

	£	£
Current account	54,986	67,837
	<u>54,986</u>	<u>67,837</u>

### 4 Salaries & Wages

	£	£
Salaries	14,690	26,214
Pension	26	914
	<u>14,716</u>	<u>27,128</u>

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes in respect of its employees. These contributions are made to externally administered pension schemes. The pension cost represents the contributions payable by the organisation to the fund.

### 5 Trustee remuneration and expenses

During the period no trustees received any remuneration or expenses

### 6 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions to report during the accounting period.