

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple

**Report and financial statements
For the year ended 31st March 2025**

Registered Charity No:1167910

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple
Reference and Administrative information
for the year ended 31st March 2025

Status	A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered as a charity with the Charity Commission in England and Wales on 28 th June 2016	
Charity Registration Number	1167910	
Principal Address	7 Chadderton Close Leicester LE2 6GZ	
Trustees	Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows: Rev. Aiden Hall Chair and Secretary Rev. Alicia Rowe Rev. Berwyn Watson Kevin Commons Doug Golding Ruth Jobson (retired 6th December 2024) Tim C. Pearce	
Key Management	Rev. Aiden Hall	Resident Monk and Administration
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank p.l.c. PO Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP	
Independent Examiner	James Gore-Langton FCCA, DChA Garth Outertown Stromness Orkney KW16 3JP	

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple

Trustees' Annual Report

for the year ended 31st March 2025

The Board of Trustees present their report and unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 2 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Charity's constitution and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reports by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by its Constitution.

Organisation and structure

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered as a charity on 28th June 2016 in England and Wales. The Charity's governing document is its Constitution, dated 28th June 2016. The management of the Charity is vested in a Committee of Trustees, whose members during the past year were Rev. Aiden Hall, Rev. Alicia Rowe, Rev. Berwyn Watson, Kevin Commons, Doug Golding, Ruth Jobson (retired 6th December 2024), and Tim C. Pearce.

Rev. Aiden Hall is a senior monk of the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives (OBC) and is resident at the temple. Rev. Alicia Rowe and Rev. Berwyn Watson are also senior monks of the OBC and are resident at other temples of the Order in the UK. The remaining trustees are members of the lay congregation who live near the temple and visit regularly to take part in its activities. All trustees are consulted regularly on matters concerning the Charity, either by email, by phone, or in person.

Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees are appointed by a resolution passed at the AGM of the Members of the Charity.

Those trustees who are monastic members of the OBC are potential beneficiaries of the Charity but have no personal financial interest in it. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity other than repayment of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, such as travel to and from trustee meetings, as set out in the Charity's *Expenses Policy*. Any expenses reclaimed from the Charity are set out in note 7 to the accounts. Trustees who are monks of the OBC and are resident at the Charity's property are entitled to receive the same benefits of board and lodging etc. as any other monk of the Order, as provided for in the Charity's Constitution, without this being construed as remuneration as a Trustee.

The Charity's Centre

The centre of the Charity is Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple in Leicester, which is a Buddhist temple where people from any background can meet to practise in the Serene Reflection Meditation tradition (Japanese: Sōtō Zen). Anyone who would like to learn about meditation, or deepen and broaden their Buddhist practice, is welcome to visit. They can join in with the temple's regular schedule of meditation, day retreats, festivals and other activities, and individual guidance is also offered. The Resident Monk serves as an example of committed practice, and a source of teaching, spiritual help and encouragement to the congregation throughout the East Midlands and beyond.

Establishing the Temple

In September 2014, the Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple fund was established as a restricted fund within Throssel Hole Buddhist Abbey (Registered Charity No. 506094). In December 2014 the temple started to rent a three bedroom semi-detached property in the south of Leicester, in order to give a base for its activities.

After 18 months of steady growth, the temple was registered as a CIO in June 2016. A new bank account was opened for the Charity in December 2016, and on the 31st of March 2017 the balance on the restricted fund within the Throssel Hole Buddhist Abbey charity was transferred to the new charity, and the fund closed. From the 1st of April 2017 the administration of the temple was taken over by the Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple charity.

In April 2017 the trustees agreed to establish a restricted fund, called the Building Fund, the purpose of which was to accumulate funds towards the purchase of a property to give the temple a long-term home. In September 2017 a suitable property was found at 7 Chadderton Close, Leicester, and the purchase of the property was completed in March 2018. The Building Fund was then closed.

During the winter of 2020-2021 a number of alterations were carried out to the property in order to enable it to function better as a temple. The total project cost was £74,950, and it was completed on budget and on time by the end of March 2021. The main benefit of the work is that the layout of the temple has been changed so that we don't need to go through the Meditation Hall in order to get to other parts of the property. This gives the Meditation Hall a much more contemplative feel. In addition we now have a much larger entryway which is very useful for temple events. The alterations have also provided two additional downstairs rooms and a utility room, as well as downstairs WCs for visitors.

The Order of Buddhist Contemplatives:

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple is part of a larger organisation called the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives (OBC). The Order was founded in the early 1980s by Rev. Master Jiyu-Kennett (1924-1996), an Englishwoman who was ordained as a Buddhist monk in Malaysia, and subsequently trained at Dai Hon Zan Sōjiji Temple in Yokohama, one of the two head temples of the Sōtō Zen Church in Japan. After qualifying as a Master and a Teacher she was requested by her western disciples and the Sōtō Zen organisation in Japan to spread the Buddha's teaching in the West. She established Shasta Abbey in northern California and Throssel Hole Buddhist Abbey in Northumberland (Registered Charity No. 506094), as well as many smaller temples.

The Order serves to unify its members and congregation, helping to support the spiritual practice of them all. The Order endeavours to assure that the teachings and practice offered by its members remain true to the Buddha's teachings. It does this through shared rules of governance, conduct and ethics, which are maintained through established procedures including those that deal with disciplinary matters. The rules of the Order are available to read at the temple. The Order has offices at both Throssel Hole Buddhist Abbey in Northumberland and Shasta Abbey in California, USA.

As a temple of the OBC, Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple is governed by its rules and ethical standards, whilst being financially and administratively independent. The temple works with other charities within the OBC to make teaching and help available to anyone interested in practising Sōtō Zen Buddhism.

The Sōtō Zen tradition

This tradition developed as a distinct school in China in the ninth century as *Ts'ao-tung Chan* and was brought to Japan in the 13th Century, where it became known as *Sōtō Zen*. The Sōtō Zen tradition emphasises the practice of meditation (zazen), living by the Buddhist Precepts, and acting from the heart of compassion, love and wisdom in daily life. In zazen, we sit still in the present moment with an alert and all-accepting mind, allowing feelings and thoughts to arise and pass naturally without holding on to them or trying to push them away. Within the Sōtō Zen school there are many teaching lines and each has its own particular flavour. Serene Reflection Meditation is a name used for this practice by those who follow the Sōtō Zen lineage which was brought from Japan by Rev. Master Jiyu-Kennett.

Management of the Charity

The Resident Monk, Rev. Aiden Hall, is responsible for the day-to-day management of the temple. Four of the other trustees live locally and visit the temple regularly, taking an active role in the life of the temple and being available to support and advise the Resident Monk. All trustees are regularly updated with information about the temple and its running, and formal decisions of the trustees are made as needed “by resolution in writing or electronic form” as provided for in the Charity’s Constitution. Meetings of the trustees are also called and arranged as required, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

The members of the Charity meet annually for an AGM, and additionally as required.

Risk management

The Charity trustees have given consideration to the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems and procedures are established to manage those risks. A summary of many of these systems and procedures, taken from our *Risk Management Policy*, is presented below.

Our governance adheres to the constitution of Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple and the rules of the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives. These rules keep the aims and objectives of the Charity clearly in mind and are upheld and exhibited by the Resident Monk and the board of trustees, as well as by the community of senior monks in the wider Order. Governance of the Charity is reviewed on a regular basis and within the context of the wider Order through periodic conclaves and monastic gatherings. Three of the trustees are senior members of the Order, and so train within monastic and temple settings. As a result they are intimately and continuously working within the governance framework and are directly able to see how it is working, and if and when any issues need to be addressed. There is also regular contact between those trustees and other senior members of the Order, either through visits between temples, or through phone calls, video calls and emails.

Relative to operational risks, the Resident Monk regularly updates members of the lay congregation regarding temple finances and any other issues relating to the temple and its running. Weekly emails and monthly newsletters maintain contact with those who support the temple, both local congregation and those more distant from the temple, and those who attend temple events have ample opportunity to discuss together anything related to the running of the temple and how things are going. As well as possible new projects and repair and maintenance of Charity buildings, there is always the opportunity to discuss the events that the temple is currently holding, and how well they are meeting the needs of the congregation. The board of trustees, and the wider congregation as needed, are consulted on any significant expenditures, including how they fit within our charitable purpose and governance, and within the Charity's structure and function.

Relative to financial risks, the Resident Monk provides regular financial updates to the board of trustees, including information on the status of our cash flow and reserves, so that these can be seen in a timely and accurate way and any concerns discussed and appropriate actions taken. These regular updates contain many graphs to help understand the financial information that is presented. We currently maintain a £5,000 cash reserve, as set out in our *Reserves Policy*, and regularly review this policy. Monthly cash flow information is used to control regular expenditures and to budget for future projects for the Charity. The Charity has an *Authorisation of Expenditures Policy* in place, and all expenditures over £1,000 require the full consent of the board of trustees. On-line banking (direct credit) and cheque expenditures always require two signatures for approval.

In the area of public perception we interact regularly with our supporters and beneficiaries through the offerings of events at the temple, as well as through monthly visits by the Resident Monk to the Nottingham meditation group. We keep in regular contact with the local community of lay Buddhist supporters via weekly emails and our monthly email newsletter. Congregation members can also keep in contact with the wider Order through the on-line quarterly issue of the Newsletter of the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives. There is also the opportunity for any lay person to talk individually about their practice, or anything that concerns them, with the Resident Monk. All of these interactions help ensure good quality

reporting of the Charity's activities and financial situation. Recent financial reports are also available for anyone to look at on the Charity Commission website.

Relative to compliance with various laws and regulations, the Charity has a *Health and Safety Policy* detailing the various areas of focus, people responsible, and procedures that are currently being followed. Areas of concern include accidents and first aid; fire, electrical and gas safety; and hazardous substances safety. Many of these areas need to meet specific government standards and are regularly checked by the Resident Monk. Some are inspected on a regular basis by outside organisations.

With regard to safeguarding, the Charity has a Safeguarding Children Policy and a Safeguarding Adults Policy, and two of the trustees serve as Child Safeguarding Officer and Safeguarding Officer. In addition, the Resident Monk is DBS-checked, and during the year attended an online safeguarding training course which was arranged by the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives and run by the organisation Thirtyone:eight. The Resident Monk is also governed by the rules of the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives. These rules contain a number of provisions relating to the safeguarding of children, including the rule that monks of the Order “should not be alone with unrelated minors.” In conjunction with our insurers we continue to keep up to date with pertinent laws and regulations.

Policy Changes

There were no changes to policies during the year. In keeping with the recommendations of the Charity Commission, the Trustees reviewed the Charity's policies during the year, and decided to continue with them unchanged. All policies are regularly reviewed, and updated as necessary.

Objects and activities

The purposes of the Charity as set out in its governing document

To advance the Buddhist religion for the public benefit in accordance with the doctrines and principles of the Buddhist faith, in particular the Serene Reflection Meditation school of Buddhism (also known as Sōtō Zen Buddhism).

To advance the education of the public in the subject of meditation and the teachings of Buddhism, in particular (but not exclusively) by supporting and encouraging the study and practice of Buddhist meditation.

The main way that the Charity achieves its purpose is by running a centre called Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple, which is open to anyone who is interested in learning about Buddhism and meditation, and how to put them into practice in their lives. The temple provides a place of Buddhist practice and teaching, both for the Resident Monk and for any lay Buddhists who wish to practise with us.

We have found, based upon personal experience and a twenty-five hundred year tradition, that the primary way in which Buddhism is spread is through individuals doing the finest job they can of practising the Buddhist Way. This is true whether a person is training as a monk or as a lay person. The lay congregation is a vital part of the temple, and there is a mutual interdependence and respect between the lay and monastic branches. Lay practitioners, through their commitment, can be a real inspiration to those around them.

Summary of the Charity's main activities undertaken for the public benefit, and its achievements.

The temple

Over the past year, the benefit that the Charity provides came most obviously from the programme of events held throughout the year at Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple, for the lay congregation and the wider public.

The focal point of the temple is its meditation room, which is a quiet place for meditation practice, and the temple also offers Buddhist ceremonies, retreats, talks/lectures and discussions. The temple is located in Leicester, in an area which is easily accessible to people living in Leicester and the surrounding area.

Meditation and Buddhist practice help individuals to understand themselves better, and to find greater peace and harmony within their lives. In teaching this, and providing facilities for its practice, the Charity aims to benefit all who come to practise with us. However, this benefit is not limited just to those who themselves come to the temple and practise meditation; when those who follow the Buddhist way put this into practice in their daily lives, and try to live in harmony with meditation, refraining from causing harm and benefiting others, this also has a positive impact on all those with whom they come into contact.

Many people struggle to find a still centre within their busy lives. In providing the opportunity for regular retreats incorporating Buddhist teaching, the Charity helps people find the space and time for meditation and contemplation within the demands of busy lives and the pressures of jobs, families and relationships.

We continue to hold all of our events, except for introductions, via the video-conferencing program Zoom, with the majority of temple events being 'hybrid' meetings, in which people can either visit the temple in person or join online. One benefit of holding meetings online has been that people who live at some distance from the temple, and would not have been able to join in person for evening meetings, for example, can now easily do so. As a result, many of our more distant supporters feel more closely connected with the temple, and have been attending online far more often than they would have been able to in person.

There has also been quite a bit of interest from people wanting to come to the temple for the first time, and the Resident Monk has given an introduction to meditation to a steady stream of people during the year, and some of them now regularly attend temple events.

During the year we held 46 Dharma Evenings, 48 Basic Buddhism Evenings, 43 Meditation Mornings, 14 Buddhist Festivals and 12 Renewing the Precepts mornings, as well as giving an introduction to our practice to 15 new enquirers. In addition the Resident Monk visited the Nottingham group for their regular monthly in-person meeting on a Monday evening, a total of 11 visits, as well as joining their regular online meetings an additional 4 times. The Resident Monk also led two day retreats in Nottingham during the year, as well as one in Hull.

On five mornings per week the temple also offers Morning Meditation and Morning Service (via zoom only), and during the year this was held on 200 days. In addition to our calendar of scheduled events, people can also arrange to visit the temple in order to meditate, or to talk with the Resident Monk.

The Resident Monk

Central to running the temple and achieving the Charity's purpose is the fact that there is a senior Buddhist Monk resident at the temple. In order to practise Buddhism, it is extremely helpful to have someone who has studied it in detail, has been practising it for many years and is qualified to explain the teaching and practice to others. To achieve this the Charity supports a teacher of the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives, a monastic order within the Sōtō Zen School of Buddhism. The Resident Monk is a qualified senior monk who has a solid foundation of experience in the practice of Sōtō Zen Buddhism and is regulated by a wider Order and governed by its rules of conduct. The Resident Monk is based full-time at the temple and is available to the public to explain Buddhism and discuss Buddhist practice. There is also the opportunity for people to talk individually with the Resident Monk about their own practice. The Resident Monk does not have any paid employment, and dedicates himself to the practice and the life of the temple, and the Charity supports him in this by providing food, accommodation and other basic necessities.

Other resources

The Charity also provides a wider resource for organisations and individuals to find out about Buddhism. Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple provides a library of Buddhist books that people can borrow, and makes Dharma talks and articles available via its website. As well as making the teaching and ceremonial of the

Sōtō Zen school of Buddhism available at Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple's premises, part of the Resident Monk's role is to take up invitations to talk about Buddhism and meditation at outside events, including educational and interfaith events.

School visits

The temple does not run any events specifically for children, but the Resident Monk does take part in visits to and from school groups, at the schools' request, to talk about Buddhism and meditation. During these visits the children are under the supervision of the school teaching staff at all times. During the year the Resident Monk took part in 1 visit to a school, taking part in an interfaith event that was attended by a large number of primary school students from several different schools and colleges.

Interfaith events

The Resident Monk also takes part in Interfaith meetings and visits, and during the year attended the Bishop of Leicester's Faith Leaders Forum on one occasion, as well as attending an interfaith discussion on assisted suicide. He has also offered talks on Buddhism to a number of church groups.

Support of meditation groups

The temple also supports meditation groups in the area that follow the Sōtō Zen School of Buddhism (there is currently one in Nottingham). These groups have been formed by lay people who follow the practice, and meet regularly in their local area to meditate together. These groups provide mutual help and encouragement, and also serve as a valuable first contact for members of the general public who are interested in our practice. During the year the Resident Monk joined the Nottingham group for their regular monthly in-person meeting on a Monday evening, a total of 11 visits, as well as joining their weekly online meetings an additional 4 times. The Resident Monk also led two day retreats in Nottingham during the year, and members of the group have also regularly joined the temple's events, both online and in person.

Supporting interest in Buddhism within prisons

The temple supports the work of 'Angulimala', the Buddhist Prison Chaplaincy organisation that provides chaplains and advice to prisons in the UK, and during the year the Resident Monk was the Buddhist chaplain for three prisons in the region.

Guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

In planning the activities of the Charity, the trustees have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit, as detailed in guidance published by the Charity Commission, in particular its supplementary guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit.

Financial Review

Review of the Charity's financial position at the end of the period

The Charity's financial position is stable. Since it was established, the temple's annual income has always been greater than its expenditure, and this has continued to be the case during the year being reported on. The purchase of a property in March 2018 significantly increased the temple's monthly outgoings, but during the past year it has continued to cover these outgoings, and it is not expected that this situation will change in the foreseeable future. Any large projects will be balanced with the income needed to facilitate them.

During the year the Charity received a substantial donation from Reading Buddhist Priory, a long-established temple of our order which closed in early 2024. The trustees of Reading Buddhist Priory sold the priory's property, and in November 2024 distributed the assets amongst other temples of the order in the UK. We were very grateful to receive a donation of £100,000, which has enabled us to pay off some of the capital of our mortgage and to consider some projects to improve the Charity's property, so that it can provide more benefit to members of the public. Both of these uses of the funds are discussed further below.

Principal sources of funds

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple follows the traditional Buddhist practice of offering the Dharma freely to all, and so we don't charge any fees for attending temple events. There are of course many costs involved in running the temple, and to meet these costs the temple is dependent on donations. We “hold out our alms bowl” and invite people to help support both the Resident Monk and the temple facilities, so that everyone can come and share in the life of practice.

Donations can be anonymous, and if someone is unable to make donations to support the temple they are still welcome to attend.

The two main ways in which the temple receives donations are Regular Donations by standing order, and individual contributions which are either placed in the temple's donation bowl (Guest Donations) or made via online banking. Where donors authorise us to, we are able to reclaim the tax they have paid on their donations under the Gift Aid scheme. We can also claim a similar payment on anonymous cash donations of £30 or less under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS).

As a result of the generosity of its many donors, the Charity has continued to cover its costs during the year, and the trustees have no reason to think that this situation will change in the coming months. The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

At the end of the period, regular standing orders stood at £1,344 per month, including Gift Aid where applicable. This was just over 6% lower than the 2024 figure of £1,436, as a couple of people stopped their standing orders during the year, whilst several donors reduced their donations, perhaps in response to the increased cost of living during this period. Standing order donations have increased again during the current financial year, and it is anticipated that this figure will increase over time as the established congregation of the temple grows.

During the year the Charity received a total of £16,195 in Regular Donations by standing order (2024: £16,304), £1,581 in Guest Donations (2024: £1,692), a £100,000 General Donation from Reading Buddhist Priory (2024: £Nil) and £4,385 in other General Donations, including donations received through the post, online, or for outside events (2024: £5,188). All these figures include Gift Aid or GASDS where applicable.

A further £934 was received as gifts in kind (2024: £6,447, which included a large donation of Buddhist items from Reading Buddhist Priory). Just over half of this year's gifts in kind consisted of food, with the remainder including household, maintenance, library and sacristy items. The Charity was also paid £10,167 for providing prison chaplaincy services (2024: £9,514), and received £20 from the sale of Buddhist books (2024: £84).

During the year the Charity opened an Instant Access Savings Account with the Co-operative Bank, and the portion of the donation from Reading Buddhist Priory which was not used to pay off some of the mortgage capital was moved to this account, together with other funds that the Charity had in its current account. At the end of the year the balance in the Instant Access Savings Account was £50,000, and we received interest on this of £130.

How expenditure has supported the key objectives of the Charity

The Charity's main expenditure this year was £10,597 in mortgage interest payments (32% of total expenditure - 2024: £12,337, 2023: £8,461). After several years of increasing interest rates, rates started to decrease during the year, leading to a modest reduction in our monthly payments. In November 2024 we used £60,000 of the donation from Reading Buddhist Priory to pay off some of the capital of the mortgage, and this resulted in a much more significant reduction, reducing our monthly payments from over £1,400 to about £800 from January 2025 onwards.

Equipment and Maintenance expenditure to improve the property was second highest at £7,530 (2024: £581). This included £6,240 for significant repairs to the single-storey roof at the rear of the property, which we think had been leaking since before we bought the property. The remaining Equipment and Maintenance expenditure of £1,290 included £384 for a replacement fridge-freezer. Annual Depreciation of the temple building was third highest at £5,770 (17% - 2024: £5,646). Most of the remaining expenditure was on regular bills to run the temple as follows:

	2025	2024
Insurance	1,540	1,565
Council Tax	1,146	1,093
Utilities	2,134	1,876
Food	579	471
Household	264	241
Office	250	107
Servicing and Testing	65	65
Travel	1,447	1,881
IT	278	36
Sacristy	78	122
Library	10	-
Garden	318	76
Medical & Dental	73	97
Robes & Clothing	152	143

Together with gifts in kind of £934 (2024:£6,387), and cost of goods sold of £8 (2024:£39), total expenditure for the year was £33,043 (2024: £32,764).

Expenditure to improve the temple

There had been an issue at one end of the back roof of the single-storey extension since before we purchased the property, with the surveyor pointing out water marks on the wall there. In recent years significant amounts of water had been getting into the 'soffit box' behind the gutter, and coming out through the air vents and around the downlights. Fortunately nothing had been coming into the building, but this needed attention as the ends of some of the roof timbers had become discoloured and rotten. In September 2024 we employed the builders who we had used previously to rectify the problems with the roof. This involved taking off several rows of tiles at the bottom of the roof in order to allow the slope of the roof to be made less shallow there, as well as constructing a parapet wall at the end of the roof to stop water ingress through the verge. The cost of these repairs was £6,240.

In October 2024 we employed a local company to replace the fencing on all sides of the temple property's back garden, at a cost of £2,974. Almost all of the wooden posts of the previous fencing had broken, and it needed to be supported with ropes and timbers to stop it blowing down in strong winds. The replacement fence has concrete posts and gravel boards, so should last much longer. The new fence was accounted for as a fixed asset.

Following the successful completion of the building work in March 2021, we have also been steadily redecorating areas that were affected by the work, and during the period being reported on we bought plumbing and related supplies to continue the ongoing refurbishment of the kitchen. There is still some more redecorating work to do, and we plan to continue with that over the coming months.

Contribution made by volunteers and the monastic community

Salaries are not paid by the Charity to anyone. The Resident Monk dedicates himself to the practice and the life of the temple, for the benefit of both the local congregation and the wider community, and the Charity supports him in this by providing food, accommodation and other basic necessities. In a similar spirit of offering, those who visit the temple can assist in the daily work of the temple. Generosity of spirit is of fundamental importance in our religious practice.

Reserves policy

The Charity's policy is to hold sufficient free reserves to allow the Charity to continue to operate during periods of fluctuating income and to cover unexpected large expenses. In order to achieve this we try to maintain a minimum cash balance of £5,000 in the Charity's current account. On the 31st of March 2025 the amount of cash held in our bank accounts and in petty cash was £53,250 (2024: £15,383). This amount included £40,000 of the donation from Reading Buddhist Priory; this was received in November 2024, and we hope to put it to use during the coming year.

Funds in deficit

There are no funds in deficit.

Other information

It is felt that the financial position of the Charity at the balance sheet date (together with donations and other income that are expected to be received during the coming year) will be sufficient to cover the Charity's daily running costs and obligations currently existing.

The Charity considers all expenditures incurred in the running of Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple as a temple, and the support of the Resident Monk, as part of its Direct Charitable Expenditure.

The Charity's assets are held for charitable purposes and the trustees have no reason to believe that the current values of the Charity's assets are materially different from that shown in the accounts.

Plans for the future

The generous donation from Reading Buddhist Priory means that we can consider carrying out some projects to improve the Charity's property, so that it can provide more benefit to members of the public. During the year the trustees agreed to have a conservatory built at the rear of the property, which would give us some very useful extra space, particularly when we have festival days at the temple. We received seven different quotes for the work from local companies, and selected a well-established supplier who impressed with the time they spent at the temple getting the details correct, and yet were one of the cheapest. At the time of writing we are waiting for a decision on the planning application which we were required to submit, and we hope that the work will be completed in the coming months.

If funds allow we would also like to make improvements to the temple's garden, by constructing a paved path to the garden shed and having the existing patio relaid, as many of the slabs are broken or uneven.

There is still some more redecorating work to do, and we plan to continue with that over the coming months. In particular we hope to continue to redecorate and bring into use the property's other bedrooms, so that visitors from further away can stay at the temple overnight. Once we have sufficient accommodation we would also hope to be able to offer residential retreats.

Investment policy and objectives

The Charity has not made any financial investments. Should there come a time when the board of trustees felt it was good to make any financial investments, they would follow the appropriate guidance provided by the Charity Commission to ensure their compliance with legal requirements and duties and to follow matters of good practice.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple does not hold any funds as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, 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 UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice 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 and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the organisational and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The trustees confirm that the financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

The current trustees are Rev. Aiden Hall, Rev. Alicia Rowe, Rev. Berwyn Watson, Kevin Commons, Doug Golding and Tim C. Pearce.

Risks

Consistent with the size of the Charity, the trustees review any major risks to which the Charity might be exposed, and establish systems and procedures to mitigate those risks.

Approved by the Trustees on 14th November 2025

and signed on their behalf by :

Tim C. Pearce (Trustee)

**Independent examiner's report
to the trustees of
Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025 which are set out on pages 14 to 22.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

James Gore-Langton FCCA DChA
Garth
Outertown
Stromness
Orkney
KW16 3JP

Date: 17th November 2025

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31st March 2025

	Note	2025 £	£	2024 £
Income				
Donations and grants	3	22,161		23,159
Donation from Reading Buddhist Priory	3	100,000		-
Gifts in kind		934		6,447
Bank interest		130		-
Charitable activities	4	10,187		9,598
Total Income			133,412	39,204
Expenditure				
	5	33,043		32,764
Total Expenditure			33,043	32,764
Net income/(expenditure) for the year			100,369	6,440
Transfer between funds			-	-
Net movement in funds for the year			100,369	6,440
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward			116,618	110,178
Total funds carried forward			216,987	116,618

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

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple

Balance Sheet

as at 31st March 2025

		2025		2024	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		358,726		361,522
			358,726		361,522
Current assets					
Debtors, Prepayments and Stock	10	2,273		3,245	
Cash at bank and in hand		53,250		15,383	
Total current assets		55,523		18,628	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	11	(12,795)		(5,567)	
Net current assets			42,728		13,061
Total assets less current liabilities			401,454		374,583
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	11,12	(184,467)		(257,966)	
Net assets			216,987		116,618
Funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted Funds	13		216,987		116,618
Total Charity funds			216,987		116,618

The notes on pages 16 to 22 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 14th November 2025

and signed on their behalf by :

Rev. Aiden Hall (Trustee)

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple

Notes To The Accounts

for the year ended 31st March 2025

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

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 (FRS 102), second edition - October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a 'true and fair view' and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following 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), second edition - October 2019, rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Turning Wheel Buddhist Temple meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably. Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when received.

d) Gift Aid

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

e) Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind are included in the Statement of Financial Activity when received, at a value equal to the estimated cost to the donor. A corresponding amount is included in expenditure. Donated services and facilities are included in the Statement of Financial Activity when received at the value of the gift to the Charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SOFA.

f) Prison Chaplaincy

One of the Charity's trustees provides Buddhist Chaplaincy services to a local prison and the remuneration for this is paid directly to the Charity.

g) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the general charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the Charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted Funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

The Charity currently has no Designated Funds or Restricted Funds; all funds are Unrestricted.

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs to further the purposes of the Charity.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

i) Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets (excluding investments) are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Individual items costing less than £1,000 are not capitalised.

Fixed assets are initially recorded at cost or, if donated, they are given a value based on the estimated cost to the donor at the time of receipt. Thereafter, they are depreciated over their expected useful lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

<i>Asset Category</i>	<i>Expected lifetime</i>
Buildings	5 to 100 years
Fixtures and Fittings	4 to 10 years
Equipment	3 to 10 years
Vehicles	4 to 10 years

j) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

k) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

l) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

m) Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. Legal status of the Charity

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered as a charity in England & Wales. The Charity received registration with the Charity Commission in June 2016.

3. Income from donations and grants

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations and gifts	18,157	19,576
Gift Aid	4,004	3,583
Donation from Reading Buddhist Priory	100,000	-
Gifts in kind	934	6,447
Total	123,095	29,606

4. Income from charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Prison Chaplaincy	10,167	9,514
Shop Sales	20	84
Total	10,187	9,598

5. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Temple buildings and equipment	29,378	23,377
Community living and religious practice	2,210	7,467
Community travel	1,447	1,881
Shop: cost of goods sold	8	39
Total	33,043	32,764

6. Staff costs

The Charity has no employees and hence there are no staff costs.

7. Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

The Charity did not pay any remuneration to its trustees. One (2024: one) trustee was reimbursed expenses of £50 (2024: £268) for sacrists items. Any expenses incurred on the Charity's behalf by trustees who are members of the monastic community were reimbursed at cost. Trustees who are members of the resident monastic community receive the same support in terms of accommodation, food and other support as any other member of the community, as permitted by the Charity's constitution, and receive no additional benefits from being a trustee.

During the year the Charity received a donation of £100,000 from Reading Buddhist Priory, a long-established temple of our order which closed in early 2024.

In the prior year the Charity received a large donation of Buddhist items from Reading Buddhist Priory, the total value of which was estimated at £5,450.

During the current year the Charity purchased books and CDs with a total value of £19, as stock to sell, from Throssel Hole Buddhist Abbey (2024:£74).

During the financial year ending 31st March 2018, the Charity received interest-free loans from other charities in the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives, and from the Charity's trustees. An additional interest-free loan of £35,000 was received from one of the trustees during the year ending 31st March 2021, and the balance outstanding on these loans at the end of the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Throssel Hole Buddhist Abbey	25,000	25,000
Rev. Aiden Hall	76,800	76,800
Rev. Alicia Rowe	8,000	9,000

Donations from the Charity's trustees during the year were £2,950 (2024: £2,964).

8. Corporation tax

The Charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation

Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity.

9. Fixed Assets: tangible assets

	Land & Buildings	Vehicles	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2024	374,732	5,000	5,491	385,223
Additions	-	-	2,974	2,974
Transfers	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>374,732</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>8,465</u>	<u>388,197</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024	18,584	3,750	1,367	23,701
Charge for the year	3,847	1,250	673	5,770
At 31 March 2025	<u>22,431</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>2,040</u>	<u>29,471</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2025	<u>352,301</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,425</u>	<u>358,726</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>356,148</u>	<u>1,250</u>	<u>4,124</u>	<u>361,522</u>

10. Debtors, Prepayments and Stock

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income tax recoverable	288	306
Prepayments	1,244	1,192
Other Debtors	549	1,566
Shop Stock	192	181
	<u>2,273</u>	<u>3,245</u>

11. Creditors and Accruals

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	3,624	5,461	74,667	137,766
Interest-free loans	9,000	-	109,800	120,200
Sundry Creditors and Accruals	171	106	-	-
Total	<u>12,795</u>	<u>5,567</u>	<u>184,467</u>	<u>267,966</u>

The total amount of loans due in greater than five years is £166,761 (2024: £221,271). This is made up of £109,800 for interest free loans (2024: £110,800), and £56,962 for the mortgage (2024: £110,471). The mortgage is repayable in instalments.

12. Creditors: terms of loans

	Amounts outstanding at 31 st March 2025	Period of loan remaining (years)	Interest Rate	Security provided
	£		£	£
Mortgage from Triodos Bank	78,292	14	base rate + 3.75%	property valued at £295,000
Interest-free loans:	4,000	1	-	none
	5,000	1	-	none
	8,000	8	-	none
	20,000	23	-	none
	21,800	23	-	none
	25,000	18	-	none
	35,000	26	-	none
Total	<u>197,092</u>			

13. Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	116,618	133,412	(33,043)	-	216,987
Total	116,618	133,412	(33,043)	-	216,987

<i>Prior year</i>	<i>Balance at 1 April 2023</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Balance at 31 March 2024</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>General Fund</i>	<i>110,178</i>	<i>39,204</i>	<i>(32,764)</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>116,618</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>110,178</i>	<i>39,204</i>	<i>(32,764)</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>116,618</i>

Name of unrestricted fund Description, nature and purposes of the fund

General Fund	This unrestricted fund covers the costs of implementing the charitable objects, for example the direct support of the monastic community and the day to day running costs incurred in providing and maintaining the facilities of a temple. The fund also holds the fixed assets purchased for the purpose of running and maintaining the temple and other charitable objects.
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14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Fund	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	358,726	-	-	358,726
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	42,728	-	-	42,728
Other net assets/(liabilities)	(184,467)	-	-	(184,467)
Total	216,987	-	-	216,987

<i>Prior year</i>	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>Designated funds</i>	<i>Restricted funds</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£	£
<i>Tangible fixed assets</i>	<i>361,522</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>361,522</i>
<i>Other net current assets/(liabilities)</i>	<i>13,061</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>13,061</i>
<i>Other net assets/(liabilities)</i>	<i>(257,966)</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>(257,966)</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>116,618</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>116,618</i>