

Let's Get Growing Ltd.

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

1 December 2024 to 30 November 2025

Let's Get Growing Ltd.**Company Information****Directors**

Mrs Eileen Ewen
Mrs Elizabeth Hume
Ms Nuala O'Brien
Dr. Ruth Briel

Secretary

Katrina Padmore

Company Number

7287776

Charity Registration Number 1172662

Registered Office

Steel Farm Cottage
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Bankers

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Let's Get Growing Ltd.

Directors' Report

1 December 2024 – 30 November 2025

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for 1 December 2024 to 30 November 2025

Objectives and activities

Purposes

The purposes of Let's Get Growing, as set out in our Articles of Association are:-

- To assist in the treatment and care of persons suffering from physical and mental illness of any description or in need of rehabilitation as a result of such illness, in Hexham and the surrounding areas, by the provision of therapeutic gardening and horticulture.
- To advance the education of the public, in particular, but not exclusively, young people in the subject of horticulture and related practices.

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when setting our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities.

Activities

In the financial year ending 30 November 2025, Let's Get Growing provided the following services:-

- Our regular twice weekly gardening therapy sessions at Minsteracres Peace Garden (working with adults aged 20 – 80+ yrs experiencing a range of mental and physical health difficulties, including depression, anxiety, PTSD, bi-polar disorder, dementia and mild learning difficulties) remained open throughout the period.
- Additional one-off therapeutic garden workshops were provided for a diverse range of groups of all ages, including addicts in recovery, homeless people, carers, refugees and asylum seekers.

Achievements and Performance

- Our gardening therapy sessions thrived and we have continued to record positive feedback from our regular 1:1 sessions with all participants, as well as from their carers/families.
- We continued to focus on supporting mental health, with participants expressing that attending the project has had an important role in their recovery to mental well-being. It has been a joy to witness some notable improvements in some members of the group.
- We were sad to say goodbye to some longstanding participants with Alzheimer's, although confident that we had been able to support them really well through to the latter stages of their illness, providing mental stimulation, physical exercise and friendship which might otherwise have been absent.
- We were delighted to receive funding to install a new full-height accessible raised bed and large polytunnel. These will enable us provide activities that are more accessible for those with limited mobility, to extend our growing season and to grow a wider range of fruit and veg. We anticipate that the polytunnel, with its central circular work area with table and chairs, will provide a pleasant, dry, indoor workspace on rainy days.
- Despite the challenge of keeping the garden adequately watered through a dry growing season, the increased sunshine produced record crops of fruit and veg in 2025. We once again combined a small

subsidised veg box scheme, open to those attending gardening sessions, with selling produce to the Angel Inn in Corbridge. Next year, we plan to expand the veg box scheme within the local community, although we are aware that crop volumes are very weather-dependent and can vary from year to year.

- We ran a variety of nature-based arts and crafts sessions, making hand-painted signs for the vegetable and herb beds, willow sculptures, a large outdoor wall hanging, seasonal collages using leaves, seed heads and pine cones, decoupage glass candle jars and home-made wax candles.
- We once again used funds to put on some special summer and autumn barbeques. These are always popular and an excellent way to provide a treat in a familiar environment where we can comfortably meet everyone's support needs.
- We hosted our usual summer open day in the garden, which was a great way to showcase the project. Our pantomime – 'The Mystery of the Missing Carrots' – revealed some real acting talent amongst our participants and one member of the group has subsequently gone on to join a local drama group. We sang 'Naked in the Garden' (fully clothed) as a round for our guests! The youngest child in the audience cut the ribbon to open our newly installed polytunnel officially.
- As usual, we ran additional one-off sessions in the garden for a range of other beneficiary groups of all ages, from children to adults, including refugees, carers, addicts in recovery, homeless and mental health groups amongst others. Feedback from these sessions was very positive and heart-warming as ever. This work continues to challenge our imagination, skill and flexibility, in responding to the needs of these diverse groups.
- All of this was made possible by a skilled and committed team of staff and volunteers. During the year, we have been successful in attracting one young female and one older male volunteer to broaden our stable and highly skilled volunteer group. As well as formal volunteer meetings to explore a variety of safeguarding scenarios and the particular needs of individual participants in depth, there is always an informal space before gardening sessions, when volunteers can chat and raise concerns. In addition, the co-ordinators continued to provide one-to-one time for each volunteer to discuss how they are getting along and any further guidance or training needed.
- We continued to prioritise teaching organic growing skills and planting to create bio-diversity.
- The whole garden, including the extensive ornamental areas, continue to be maintained to provide a beautiful, therapeutic space, not just for those attending gardening therapy sessions, but also for the local community.
- The project is promoted through our website and we also maintain an ongoing instagram presence, with participants, volunteers and staff able to share photos of memorable moments in and around the garden, capturing something of the diversity and humour of what happens here. We appreciate the ability this provides to stay connected with all our friends and supporters, some of whom have made significant financial contributions to our work, for which we are very grateful.

Financial review

The principal income sources for Let's Get Growing are from participant contributions for regular gardening therapy sessions, produce sales and additional one-off therapeutic workshops, as well as from funding from charitable trusts and private donations. The breakdown by approximate percentage of all our income sources in this accounting period is shown below.

INCOME SOURCE	%
Participant contributions	56
Produce sales	7
Additional one-off workshops	6
Private donations and GiftAid	10
Charitable grants	21

We are grateful to the Truemark Trust, Shears Foundation, Community Foundation and Healey Parish Council Fund for charitable funding. We are also very grateful for the generosity of individual one-off and regular donors.

We remain committed to providing free or subsidised places to those who can benefit from the project, but who are unable to access statutory funding and do not have private means. Mostly this seems to be those with mental health difficulties, who are living on benefits and are not eligible for a personal budget/direct payment. We anticipate that we shall therefore require some charitable funding into the future to accommodate this aim, as well as to support the work of the organisation as a whole.

At the end of the reporting period, Let's Get Growing carried forward £20,170 restricted charitable funding allocated to the Minsteracres gardening therapy project, to be spent during the next financial year.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 17 June 2010 and registered as a charity on 20 April 2017. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

During the accounting period, there were four directors on the board. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and, under the company's Articles, are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, one third of the members of the Management Committee must retire at each Annual General Meeting and may stand for re-election if desired.

The Management Committee seeks to ensure that the needs of this group are appropriately reflected through the diversity of the trustee body, which included a retired head teacher, retired social worker, retired communications manager and retired psychiatrist. All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

The directors who served during the year are as stated below:-

Mrs Eileen Ewen Ms Nuala O'Brien
Mrs Elizabeth Hume Dr. Ruth Briel

This report was approved by the Board on 6 February 2026 and signed on its behalf by

E. Hume

Elizabeth Hume (Chair)

E. M. Ewen

Eileen Ewen (Director)

Let's Get Growing Ltd.

**Statement of Financial Activities
From 1 December 2024 to 30 November 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024/2025	2023/2024
INCOME	4,317	62,441	66,758	78,896
Direct expenditure	4,633	71,469	76,102	64,124
	-316	-9,028	-9,344	14,772
Administrative Expenses	0	6,932	6,932	6,693
	-316	-15,960	-16,276	8,079
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Unpaid wages	0	0	0	0
Net income	-316	-15,960	-16,276	8,079
Funds b/f as at 1 Dec 2024	1,316	36,130	37,446	29,366
Total funds carried forward	1,000	20,170	21,170	37,445

Let's Get Growing Ltd.
Balance Sheet as at 30 November 2025

	2024/2025 £	2023/2024 £
Current assets		
Bank Current Account	21,170	37,446
Total current assets	<u>21,170</u>	<u>37,446</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	0	0
Total net assets	<u>21,170</u>	<u>37,446</u>

Capital and reserves

	2024/2025	2023/2024
Called up share capital	0	0
Income and expenditure account	21,170	37,446
Total members funds	<u>21,170</u>	<u>37,446</u>

Directors' Statements

For the accounting period ended 30 November 2023, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

.....*E. Hume*.....
Elizabeth Hume
Chair

.....*E. M. Ewen*.....
Eileen Ewen
Director

Let's Get Growing Ltd.**Notes to the financial statements
For the period 1 December 2024 to 30 November 2025****1. Accounting policies****1.1. Accounting convention**

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities 2015.

1.2. Turnover

Turnover represents the total invoice value, excluding value added tax, of sales made during the year and derives from the provision of services falling within the company's ordinary activities, wholly undertaken within the UK.

2. Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee. Every member of the Company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required (not exceeding £10) to the Company's assets if it should be wound up while they are a member, or within one year after ceasing to be a member, for payment of the Company's debts and liabilities contracted before ceasing to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves. If the Company is wound up or dissolved and after all its debts and liabilities have been satisfied there remains any property it shall not be paid to, or distributed among the members of the Company, but shall be given or transferred to some other Company or charities having similar objects which prohibit the distribution of its income and property, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit, to members of the Company

3. Controlling interest

In the opinion of the directors the company is under no controlling interest.

Let's Get Growing Ltd.

4. Detailed income and expenditure account for the period 1 December 2024 to 30 November 2025

Income	1 Dec 2024 - 30 Nov 2025		
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Grants:			
Truemark Trust	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
Shears Foundation	5,428.00	0.00	5,428.00
Community Foundation	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Healey Parish Council	300.00	0.00	300.00
Total Grants	13,728.00	0.00	13,728.00
Donations	6,036.75	0.00	6,036.75
Participant contributions	37,336.73	0.00	37,336.73
Produce sales:			
Veg box scheme	905.00	0.00	905.00
Other produce sales	3,241.86	0.00	3,241.86
Total Produce sales	4,146.86	0.00	4,146.86
Garden project fees	0.00	4,260.00	4,260.00
Building rental	150.00	0.00	150.00
Sundry	196.83	56.80	253.63
GiftAid	846.03	0.00	846.03
TOTAL INCOME	62,441.20	4,316.80	66,758.00
Expenditure			
Direct Expenditure:			
Project management fees	48,023.40	4,404.10	52,427.50
Garden materials	7,448.69	229.28	7,677.97
Participant transport	6,660.00	0.00	6,660.00
Participant outings/BBQ's	0.00	0.00	0.00
New polytunnel and raised bed	9,336.74	0.00	9,336.74
	71,468.83	4,633.38	76,102.21
Administration Expenses :			
Admin/accounting fees	5,751.30	0.00	5,751.30
Printing	248.00	0.00	248.00
Stationery/Postage	52.90	0.00	52.90
Companies House	34.00	0.00	34.00
Insurance	772.59	0.00	772.59
Sundry	72.90	0.00	72.90
	6,931.69	0.00	6,931.69
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	78,400.52	4,633.38	83,033.90
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	0.00	0.00	0.00
Retained surplus from period	-15,959.32	-316.58	-16,275.90
Funds b/f as at 1 Dec 2024	36,129.66	1,316.05	37,445.71
Total funds carried forward	20,170.34	999.47	21,169.81

P. Leathley
23/2/2026