

# Stobhill Link

Managed by: Northumberland Community Enterprise Limited  
**Trustees Annual Report and Accounts April 2024-March 2025**

## **Registered Office:**

37 Shields Road  
Morpeth  
Northumberland  
NE61 2PA

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of Northumberland Community Enterprise Limited for the year ended 31 March 2025.

## **Objectives and Activities**

Northumberland Community Enterprise Limited (NCEL) exists to improve the quality of life of people experiencing disadvantage across South East Northumberland, with a primary focus on the Stobhill area of Morpeth. The communities served experience persistent challenges linked to deprivation, including low income, poor health outcomes, unemployment, food insecurity and social isolation.

Operating from its community hub, known locally as **The Stobhill Link**, NCEL delivers accessible, community-led services for people of all ages. Activities aim to relieve financial hardship, promote social inclusion, improve health and wellbeing, support people into employment and develop individual and community capacity.

In planning activities during the year, the trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have ensured that services are available to those who seek support.

## **Public Benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when exercising powers or duties relevant to the charity's purposes.

## **Achievements and Performance**

During 2024–2025, demand for NCEL’s services remained consistently high, reflecting the ongoing impact of the cost-of-living crisis. The charity continued to prioritise the delivery of core services while responding flexibly to emerging needs within the community.

Work throughout the year focused on early intervention and practical support, addressing food and fuel poverty, low household income, unemployment, mental health challenges and social isolation. Strong partnerships with statutory agencies, voluntary organisations and faith groups enabled effective referrals, safeguarding responses and improved outcomes for beneficiaries.

## **Community Food and Food Waste Reduction**

NCEL continued to operate its community fridge model in partnership with Northumberland County Council, FareShare, The Bread and Butter Thing and local food distributors. The service promotes dignity, choice and sustainability, reducing reliance on crisis food provision while supporting long-term access to nutritious food.

Emergency foodbank referrals remain available where required; however, reliance on external foodbanks has reduced due to the availability of local, preventative solutions. The programme continues to divert significant quantities of surplus food from landfill, contributing to environmental sustainability.

## **Lunch Club and Social Support**

The Lunch Club remains a core preventative service, providing nutritious meals alongside social contact, advice and safeguarding support. Delivered by a committed team of volunteers, the Lunch Club acts as an early-intervention point for identifying hardship, deteriorating health and social isolation.

Throughout the year, staff and volunteers supported individuals to access health services, benefits advice, housing support and adult social care, with several safeguarding concerns successfully addressed.

## **Free School Uniform Bank**

NCEL continues to operate a well-established school uniform bank as part of Northumberland County Council’s regional network. The service supports families facing financial pressure while reducing textile waste. Demand remained high throughout the year, reflecting continued financial strain on households.

## **Paint Recycling Programme**

Through its partnership with Community RePaint, NCEL redistributed surplus household paint at low cost, prioritising low-income households, voluntary organisations and social care services. This programme supports environmental objectives while enabling households to maintain and improve their homes affordably.

## **Volunteering and Pre-Employment Support**

Volunteering remains central to NCEL's delivery model. Opportunities are offered across all projects, supported by tailored input including work experience, references, CV support and interview preparation. Several volunteers progressed into employment, training or education during the year.

## **Hardship and Crisis Support**

Working in collaboration with Northumberland County Council's Communities Together Hubs, NCEL provided targeted hardship support to individuals and families experiencing financial crisis. Support included identifying grant opportunities, access to essential household items and referrals to specialist services including mental health, domestic abuse and recovery services.

## **Community Garden, Allotments and Social Groups**

The Stobhill Community Garden, Gardening Club and community allotments in Morpeth and Bedlington continued to provide inclusive spaces for wellbeing, learning and social connection. Weekly social groups, including the cuppa club, remained an important gateway into wider support services.

## **Financial Review**

Total income for the year ended 31 March 2025 was **£79,251** (2024: £70,689). Total expenditure amounted to **£82,963** (2024: £76,486), resulting in a **net deficit of £3,712** (2024: deficit £5,797).

At 31 March 2025, total funds carried forward were **£10,457** (2024: £14,159), comprising:

- **Unrestricted funds:** £6,543
- **Restricted funds:** £3,914

The trustees consider the charity to be a going concern and remain confident that the charity is able to meet its obligations as they fall due.

### **Reserves Policy**

The trustees aim to maintain unrestricted reserves at a level sufficient to support continuity of services and manage financial risk. Reserves are reviewed regularly in light of forecast expenditure and funding commitments.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Northumberland Community Enterprise Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The trustees are responsible for strategic direction, governance, financial oversight and risk management.

Day-to-day operations are delegated to the Managing Director, supported by staff and volunteers. Trustees meet bi-monthly and receive regular financial and operational reports.

### **Trustees**

The trustees serving during the year were:

- **David Weatherhead** – Chair
- **Ann Purvis** – Secretary
- **Derek Thompson**
- **John Beynon** (Northumberland County Council)

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Page 1 of 12

**Registered number**  
**6537591**

**Charity number**  
**1174831**

**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**

**Reports and Accounts**

**31st March 2025**

**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**  
**Report and Accounts as at 31 March 2025**  
**Contents**

	<b>Page</b>
Company information	1
Contents	2
Company information	3
Directors' report	4
Statement of financial activities	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes to the accounts	7
Notes to the accounts continued	8
Notes to the accounts continued	9
Profit and loss account	10
Detailed profit and loss	11
Grants and donations received	12

**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**  
**Company Information**  
**At 31st March 2025**

**Directors**

J Beyon  
M Haswell  
A Purvis  
D Thompson  
D Weatherhead

**Registered office**

37 Shields Road  
Stobhill  
Morpeth  
Northumberland  
NE61 2SA

**Registered number**

6537591

**Charity number**

1174831

**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**

**Registered number:**

**6537591**

**Charity number**

**1174831**

**Directors' report**

**For the year ended 31st March 1925**

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 1925

**Principal activities**

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be that of an enterprise concern. The main aim of the company is to improve the life style of the disabled and disadvantaged people living in the area.

**Directors**

The following persons served as directors during the year:

J Beyon  
M Haswell  
A Purvis  
D Thompson  
D Weatherhead

**Small company provisions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

this report was approved by the board

17.12.2025



D Weatherhead  
Director



**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**  
**Statement of financial activities**  
**For the year ended 31st March 1925**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Incoming resources</b>	79,251	70,689
	<u>79,251</u>	<u>70,689</u>
Resources expended	-82,963	-76,486
Net incoming resources before transfers	<u>-3,712</u>	<u>-5,797</u>
Adjustments	10	0
Profit or loss for the financial	<u>-3,702</u>	<u>-5,797</u>
Total funds b/fwd	14,159	19,956
	<u><b>10,457</b></u>	<u><b>14,159</b></u>

**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**  
**Balance sheet**  
**at 31st March 1925**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	1	8,132	11,006
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors		2,435	317
Others		642	1,622
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>3,676</u>	<u>10,898</u>
		6,753	12,837
<b>Total current assets;</b>		<b>14,885</b>	<b>23,843</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amount falling due within one year	2	-477	-2,317
Loan -PSA		-1,223	-2,243
Other creditors		-2,728	-4,428
		-5,124	-9,684
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>10,457</b>	<b>14,159</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>10,457</b>	<b>14,159</b>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Called up share capital	3	14,159	19,945
Profit and loss account		-3,713	-5,797
Sharefolder's funds		11	11
	4	<b>10,457</b>	<b>14,159</b>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The member has not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.



M Haswell

Director

Approved by the board

17.12.2025

**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31st March 2025**

**1 Accounting policies**

***Basis of preparation***

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for smaller Entities (effective June 2002) and follow the recommendations in "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended practice" issued in October 2000.

***Incoming resources***

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated assets are included at cost value to the company where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. The value of the services provided by volunteers has not been included.

***Fund Accounting***

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the charity for partifulare purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific funds. The aim and use of each fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

***Resources expended***

Resources expended are recognised in the year in which they are incurred.

Management and administration costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constittional and statutory requirements.

<b>2 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>				<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
				<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors				477	2,317
Other creditors				<u>2,728</u>	<u>5,124</u>
				<b>3,205</b>	<b>7,441</b>
<b>3 Share capital</b>				<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	Nominal value	Number		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Allotted, called up and fully paid					
Ordinary shares		£1 each		<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>

**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**  
**Notes to the accounts continued**  
**For the year ended 31st March 1925**

<b>4 Analysis of net assets between funds</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Fund balances		
Fixed assets	8,132	11,006
Current assets	6,753	12,837
Current liabilities	-4,428	-9,684
	<b>10,457</b>	<b>14,159</b>

<b>5 Tangible assets</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2025</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>Building</b>	<b>Furniture &amp; Fittings</b>
<b>Cost</b>		<b>Total</b>
	15,250	6,882
		22,132
Additions		0
		0
Disposal		
	15,250	6,882
		22,132
Depreciation	-6,074	-5,052
		-11,126
Charge for year	-2712	-162
		-2,874
At the 31 March 2024	-8,786	-5,214
		-14,000
<b>Net book value as at the 31 March 2025</b>	<b>6,464</b>	<b>1,668</b>
		<b>8,132</b>

**Northumberland community Enterprise Ltd**  
**Notes to the accounts continued**  
**For the year ended 31st March 2025**

<b>8 Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>01-Apr-24</b>	<b>Incoming</b>	<b>Outgoing</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>31-Mar-25</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General fund	-4,513	24,549	-26,579	0	-6,543

**Purposes of unrestricted fund**

The purpose of the general fund is to further the aims and objectives of the charity

<b>9 Restricted funds</b>	<b>01-Apr-25</b>	<b>Incoming</b>	<b>Outgoing</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>31-Mar-25</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Restricted fund	11,031	54,702	-56,384	0	9,349

**Purposes of restricted funds**

The aim of the charity funds is to provide training for staff and volunteers and manage other service to benefit the local community.

	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,518</b>	<b>79,251</b>	<b>-82,963</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,806</b>

**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**  
**Profit and Loss account**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Sales	767	903
Donations	536	315
Grants	76,391	66,557
Other incoming resources	1,557	2,914
	<u>79,251</u>	<u>70,689</u>
 Resources expended	 -82,963	 -76,486
<b>Net resources</b>	<u><b>-3,712</b></u>	<u><b>-5,797</b></u>

**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**  
**Detailed profit and loss account**  
**For the year ended 31st March 2025**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>				
Sales	770		770	904
Donations	536		536	314
Grants	21,689	54,702	76,391	66,557
Other incoming resources	1,554		1,554	2,914
	<b>24,549</b>	<b>54,702</b>	<b>79,251</b>	<b>70,689</b>
	£	£	£	£
<b>Resources expended</b>				
Materials	118	288	406	379
Wages and national insurance	12,733	26,648	39,381	47,914
Rent and rates	413	1,010	1,423	490
Utilities	1,251	3,064	4,315	1,877
Vehicle costs	503	1,230	1,733	937
Travel expenses	797	1,951	2,748	2,996
Computer costs	157	385	542	1,914
Telephone and internet	904	2,214	3,118	1,956
Printing, postage and stationery	152	372	524	394
Leasing	1,606	3,932	5,538	3,866
Repairs, renewals and cleaning	188	460	648	1,442
Interest and bank charges	49	120	169	246
Administration costs	3,084	7,552	10,636	0
Accountancy costs	3,132	3,503	6,635	6,000
Depreciation	832	2,041	2,873	1,946
Insurance	613	1,503	2,116	2,035
Refreshments	2	6	8	60
Donations	0	0	0	1,037
Sundry expenses	17	37	54	944
Professional fees	28	68	96	53
	<b>26,579</b>	<b>56,384</b>	<b>82,963</b>	<b>76,486</b>
	£	£	£	£
<b>Profit or loss for current year</b>	<b>-2030</b>	<b>-1682</b>	<b>-3712</b>	<b>-5797</b>

**Northumberland Community Enterprise Ltd**  
**Appendix to the accounts**  
**For the year ended 31st March 2025**

			2025
Grants and donations received	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	
The Archer Trust	1,500		1,500
The Asda Foundation		1,000	1,000
The Ballinger Charity	12,500		12,500
The Barbour Foundation		1,000	1,000
The Percy Bilton		750	750
Charities - Coke	5,000		5,000
Arnold Clark		2,500	2,500
Co-operative Local Community		1,716	1,716
Hadrian Trust		1,700	1,700
Albert Hunt		3,000	3,000
Inner Wheel Club Morpeth	100		100
Karbon Homes Ltd		1,500	1,500
Allen Lane Foundation	1,462		1,462
Leech		5,000	5,000
Lions Club	150		150
Morpeth Garden Club	255		255
Morpeth Rotary Club	233		233
Morpeth Town Council		1,687	1,687
Morrisons Foundation		2,152	2,152
Northumberland County Council		23,981	23,981
North East Humanist	489		489
Rank Foundation		1,500	1,500
Sainsbury's Grant		3,216	3,216
The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust		4,000	4,000
Cash Donation	536		536
			-
	<b>22,225</b>	<b>54,702</b>	<b>76,927</b>



## **Independent Examiner's Report**

to the trustees/members of

### **Northumberland Community Enterprise Limited**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the **year ended 31 March 2025**, which are set out within this document.

## **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- follow the procedures laid down in the Charity Commission's General Directions given under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the Charity Commission's General Directions. 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 the 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. The report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## **Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of 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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and

- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006 have not been met; or
- 2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: David Weatherhead

Address: Fir Tree Cottage, Old Swarland, Northumberland, NE659HU

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> November 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Weatherhead', with a stylized, flowing script.