

Cross Green - Growing Together

Charity number 1178267

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025



Cross Green - Growing Together

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Cross Green - Growing Together

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2025

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Father Jonathan Fleury	Appointed as Chair 1 July 2025	Appointed 25 March 2025
Cn. Darren Percival	Chair	Resigned 25 March 2025
Jean Copley		
Mary Brennan		
Paul Boyce		
Pamela Boyce		

Charity number 1178267 Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address	Bankers
9 Cross Green Crescent	Cooperative Bank
Leeds	PO Box 250
LS9 0DD	Skelmerdale
	WN8 6WT

Independent examiner

Sarah Coates MAAT

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) association formed on 8th May 2018 and is governed by a constitution.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

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Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

To further or benefit the residents of Cross Green and neighbouring wards in the metropolitan district of Leeds, 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.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular both 'Advancement of Education' and 'Other Purposes Beneficial To Society', specifically improvement and engagement with the local environment.

Achievements and performance

We completed our work using the National Lottery Platinum Jubilee Grant and were delighted to be able to continue to build on this thanks to a £19,715 grant from National Lottery Community Fund to enable us to trial the secondment of a part-time Community Development Worker. We have an agreement in place with Hyde Park Source for this and Kelly Ramsden has been seconded to take on this role during the year.

This meant we were able to further develop the 'cook and eat' afterschool sessions into a more traditional Afterschool Club to increase the numbers able to attend (to meet demand) and also to broaden the activities (in line with feedback from children). This launched in May 2024 and runs weekly during term time, providing a hot meal and a safe, engaging environment for primary-aged children. Over the course of the year 24 children participated, with attendance between 12 and 15 each week. The group represents a diverse mix of ethnic backgrounds and includes children from asylum-seeking families, those in emergency housing, and families experiencing complex challenges.

Our priorities changed somewhat during this year as we were faced with the challenge of Hyde Park Source having their funding bid rejected for Healthy Holidays provision at Cross Green Community Hub. We worked closely together to secure enough funding from a variety of sources, including in the end 50% from Healthy Holidays themselves – to enable this key provision to run.

A core purpose of the seconded development worker is to work to improve the sustainability of the Cross Green Growing Together Community Garden and Hub by identifying and supporting volunteers to be involved in the delivery of services and activities and to identify other services and activities to meet community needs. Below are just some of their achievements towards this this year:

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Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance continued

- Successfully achieved funding to establish Digital Skill Group - 13 weekly sessions were delivered called 'Ctrl Alt & Eat', each lasting two hours and including a hot lunch. Initial sessions focused on understanding digital needs and priorities. Early topics included setting up mobile phones for ease of use, using YouTube, voice searches via the Google mic, and initial conversations about online banking and grocery shopping. There was strong resistance to online transactions due to distrust of the internet. Midway through the programme, we focused on supporting families to sign up for the Healthy Holidays database, which had previously caused confusion and resulted in families missing sessions at the garden. This practical support helped improve digital confidence and community engagement. The final sessions included a digital cooking activity where we accessed recipes online, followed video tutorials, made food to take home and with support, placed an online food order. Notably, this included participants who were initially hesitant about online shopping, marking a positive shift in trust and skills. The sessions fostered digital confidence, built trust, and addressed practical needs. This funding enabled us to purchase 10 tablets for community use.
- Successfully recruited new volunteers for both the Gardening Group and Afterschool Club using Be Collective, an online volunteer management platform – the afterschool club now has 2 dedicated volunteers.
- Developed relationships with local parents, one of whom now supports Digital Inclusion sessions and has expressed interest in leading an adult cooking group with a digital element.
- Worked closely with Hyde Park Source to recruit volunteers, including one who now provides SEND-related peer support.
- Actively refined our volunteer registration process, and supported several lead volunteers to complete Safeguarding and First Aid training.
- Participation in the Leeds Piano Competition Planter Trail – growing medicinal herbs and taking a trip into Leeds City Centre to plant them in a decorated piano planter, which is now displayed in our community garden.
- Creating stop motion animations using tablets provided through our Digital Inclusion Grant. Although we assumed most children would already be confident using tablets, we found several required support. This presented a valuable opportunity to build new digital skills in a fun and creative way.
- A Bonfire Night event– families were invited to enjoy jacket potatoes around the fire, sing songs, and watch a puppet show performed by the children.
- We also delivered willow lantern-making sessions, inviting parents to join in the creative process. This intergenerational activity encouraged family engagement and fostered a strong sense of community.
- Collaborated with Multiply Leeds to deliver cooking sessions (participants received slow cookers) and Junkyard Garden family activities. One Multiply Leeds project worker is now interested in becoming a Cross Green Growing Together trustee.
- Partnered with Space2 to host a successful six-week Homemade Herbals course at the hub.
- Provided support to the local community through welcome spaces sessions and Household Support Funding.

We have hosted several Open Days and events throughout the year to strengthen local engagement, celebrate our shared achievements, and invite feedback on future plans.

- In June, we held a vibrant Open Day to showcase our on-going work and future plans, while gathering input from the local community. Together with the Gardening Group and using fresh produce from our community garden, we prepared and shared - Homemade elderflower cordial, Rhubarb and custard bars and a selection of hot food to nourish and welcome attendees. Families enjoyed a variety of hands-on activities, including den building and leather jewellery-making, led by a volunteer who helped build the garden we now use as a central community space. The day was full of energy, creativity, and conversation.

Cross Green - Growing Together

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance continued

- Our Harvest Festival included an apple pressing machine and we created plenty of delicious fresh apple juice using fruit from our local orchard. We were also joined by Space 2, who offered a taster session and a chance to sign-up for their Homemade Herbals course, which we later co-delivered at the hub. Harvested produce from the garden was transformed into a communal meal, including - Veggie sausage stew, Honey-roasted cherry tomato soup and Homemade bread. Local councillors attended the event, giving them an opportunity to learn more about our work and connect with residents in a relaxed and welcoming environment.
- We held a Winter Lantern Parade through the local area. Families, staff, and volunteers took part in this celebratory event, which ended back at the hub with hot food and a display of the beautiful handmade lanterns. A selection of the lanterns was then loaned to Meanwood Farm to feature in their Wassail – Winter Apple Celebration Event, extending the impact and visibility of the children's creative work within the wider community.

Our gardening volunteers enjoyed a trip to Harlow Carr; 37 individuals have been involved in volunteering to look after the garden this year, with a weekly average of 13 attendees.

In total 214 individuals took part in activities at Cross Green Growing Together during this year.

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £7,370, including net receipts of £1,044 on unrestricted funds and net receipts of £6,326 on restricted funds.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, at the year end were £4,234.

A minimum of 6 months running costs and a budget to remove building on site if lease/licence ends. A target of £3,000 in unrestricted funds will be kept in reserves. Any other unrestricted funds above the £3,000 amount will be allocated into an annual budget.

A target of between £1,500 - £3,000 in unrestricted funds will be kept in reserves.

Any other unrestricted funds above the £3,000 amount will be allocated in to an annual budget.

Approved by the board of trustees on 09/10/2025

Father Jonathan Fleury (Trustee)

Cross Green - Growing Together

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Cross Green - Growing Together

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 7 to 11.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. 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 material 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 Charities Act;
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Sarah Coates MAAT

13/10/2025

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Cross Green - Growing Together **Receipts and payments account** **for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	2025	2025	2025	2024
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds	funds
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Grants and donations	(2)	300	38,353	38,653	29,846
Facilities hire		2,365	-	2,365	435
Total receipts		<u>2,665</u>	<u>38,353</u>	<u>41,018</u>	<u>30,281</u>
Payments					
Garden landscaping and redevelopment		-	853	853	3,700
Garden plants and shrubs		-	267	267	365
Garden repairs and maintenance		-	-	-	566
Food purchased		-	-	-	213
Hub repairs and maintenance		329	83	412	1,120
Volunteers costs		86	494	580	161
Insurance		144	-	144	144
Administration and minor equipment		48	127	175	205
Equipment		-	2,456	2,456	-
Utilities		-	465	465	500
Events and activities		-	13,962	13,962	97
Marketing and website		-	-	-	139
Project management costs		-	-	-	275
Programme resources costs		11	2,249	2,260	1,975
Programme delivery costs		541	11,071	11,612	15,731
Independent examination		462	-	462	368
Total payments		<u>1,621</u>	<u>32,027</u>	<u>33,648</u>	<u>25,559</u>
Net receipts / (payments)		<u>1,044</u>	<u>6,326</u>	<u>7,370</u>	<u>4,722</u>
Fund balances brought forward		<u>3,190</u>	<u>6,273</u>	<u>9,463</u>	<u>4,741</u>
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	<u>4,234</u>	<u>12,599</u>	<u>16,833</u>	<u>9,463</u>

Cross Green - Growing Together
Statement of assets and liabilities
as at 31 March 2025

	2025	2025	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	4,229	12,599	16,828	9,458
Cash in hand	5	-	5	5
Total cash funds	<u>4,234</u>	<u>12,599</u>	<u>16,833</u>	<u>9,463</u>

Debtors and prepayments

	2025
	£
Prepayments	<u>72</u>
	<u>72</u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

Zanussi electric cooker x2
Under counter fridge
Gala Gazebo Tent
Fridge Freezer
Ramp
Mud Kitchen
TV and stand
10 x tablets

Liabilities

	2025
	£
Creditors	99
Accruals	<u>792</u>
	<u>891</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 09/10/2025

Father Jonathan Fleury (Trustee)

Cross Green - Growing Together

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a 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.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

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

Cross Green - Growing Together
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2025

2 Grants and donations	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
National Lottery Community Fund	-	19,715	19,715	-
Leeds Community Foundation	-	9,126	9,126	-
Leeds City Council (LCC)	-	5,250	5,250	-
Enfinium Skelton Grange	-	1,250	1,250	-
LCC Welcome Space	-	1,140	1,140	500
Society of St Francis	-	1,000	1,000	-
Windmill Community Transport Trust	-	600	600	-
The Royal Horticultural Society	-	272	272	-
Platinum Jubilee Grant	-	-	-	19,750
LCC Wellbeing Grant	-	-	-	5,000
Veolia	-	-	-	1,166
HATCH	-	-	-	2,500
Windmill Community Transport	-	-	-	650
Together for Peace	-	-	-	250
Other donations	300	-	300	30
	<u>300</u>	<u>38,353</u>	<u>38,653</u>	<u>29,846</u>

3 Restricted funds	Balance b/f £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
Platinum Jubilee Grant	6,624	-	6,624	-	-
Enfinium Fund	-	1,250	1,250	-	-
Windmill Community Transport F	-	600	410	-	190
LCC Welcome Space	(351)	1,140	685	-	104
LCC Household Support Fund	-	750	143	-	607
Youth Activities Fund	-	4,500	4,500	-	-
Tithe Fund	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Leeds Digital Inclusion Fund	-	5,050	4,226	-	824
Awards for All	-	19,715	13,917	-	5,798
The Royal Horticultural Society	-	272	272	-	-
Healthy Holidays 2025	-	4,076	-	-	4,076
	<u>6,273</u>	<u>38,353</u>	<u>32,027</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,599</u>

Cross Green - Growing Together

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2025

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
Platinum Jubilee Grant	Towards a development programme for garden facilities and a part-time project officer.
Enfinium Fund	Gardening volunteer expenses; garden plants, shrubs, seeds and materials and sundry items for maintaining the community garden at Cross Green.
Windmill Community Transport Fund	Transport costs for trips.
LCC Welcome Space	Towards the additional costs related to providing an inclusive Welcome Space.
LCC Household Support Fund	To provide support to those affected by the cost of living crisis.
Youth Activities Fund	To fund Hyde Park Source to run Holiday provision for local children at Cross Green Growing Together Community Garden and Hub.
Tithe Fund	Donation to support activities for local children.
Leeds Digital Inclusion Fund	IT equipment and digital skills support.
Awards for All	To fund the secondment of a Community Development Worker and expand an After School Club for local primary aged children.
The Royal Horticultural Society	To pay for travel for group to visit RHS Harlow Carr.
Healthy Holidays 2025	To fund holiday provision for young people in the 2025 Easter and Summer Holidays period.

4 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.