

BLUE BOX BELPER

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR

31 MARCH 2025

Charity Number 1178483

BLUE BOX BELPER

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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BLUE BOX BELPER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

The board of trustees

Thomas Wyke (Chair)
Sarah Thackeray (Treasurer)
John Nelson
Eleanor Wyke
Mary Dwyer
Daniel Dreese
Cllr Carol Angharad (Resigned on 8th October 2024)

Registered office

85 Mill Lane
Belper
Derbyshire
DE56 1LH

Independent examiners

Derby Community Accountancy Service
Babington Lodge
128 Green Lane
Derby
DE1 1RY

BLUE BOX BELPER

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To further or benefit the residents of Parks Estate (Belper) and the neighbourhood, 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.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Blue Box Belper supports residents of the Parks Estate in Belper to improve our community. We do this through the provision and support of a range of local community activities and the running of the Alder Road Community Centre.</p> <p>Having secured the majority of the funds (including a £499,950 grant from the National Lottery Community Fund), much of the focus during the last 12 months was spent trying to secure a lease agreement for the land on which to build a new Community Centre.</p> <p>Unfortunately, and despite our best efforts the local councils failed to support our plans within the necessary timeframe that our funders required. As such we were unable to claim £580,000 worth of pledged funds that</p>

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		<p>we had secured. Subsequently, we have had to explore a Plan B for the local provision of a Community Centre. We are deeply frustrated and feel extremely let down by the local councils and are currently requesting detailed answers to understand what went wrong.</p> <p>Whilst our focus has been on the construction project, Blue Box Belper has also continued to develop and deliver a range of community activities and initiatives, to increase community engagement. These have primarily taken place from the Alder Road Community Centre. This particular facility suddenly became available to us as a venue, just at the time our plans for constructing a new Community Centre were reaching a disappointing conclusion.</p> <p>As such we have entered an initial 12 month agreement with the owners (local social housing company) to run the facility, whilst at the same time exploring how investment from the funds that we have raised could be used to improve the facility.</p> <p>In the meantime the use of the venue has enabled us to continue our current activities over the last year, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Our Cuppa Cake Chat, as a fortnightly coffee morning space, continues to well attended. We're also seeing the impact of the connections made through the sessions, in what could be described as an increase in social capital.→ Our weekly Chair-o-bics session continues to be fully attended week on week, and due to demand another weekly session is being added.→ Our monthly Craft Group has continued to grow and attendees were once again involved in the traditional activities of Well-dressing and the Woollen Woods locally.→ Continued to support a successful detached youth provision (currently funded
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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		<p>by the Town Council), by funding complimentary activities to further include holiday activities, such as a climbing wall, as well as the space being used for 121 mentoring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Delivered a community newsletter three times during the year. ➔ Distributed Welcome Packs to welcome new residents to the Parks Estate. ➔ Supported fundraising activity within the local community.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>We are very pleased and proud that our community initiatives and associated activities are continuing to improve the quality of life of residents in several ways. For example, previously isolated residents are engaging with our activities, people are volunteering to help support our activities, and young people are engaging with local provision. This all builds a far greater sense of community cohesion.</p> <p>During the last 12 months, we have also completed a Values Project, to develop an agreed set of organisational values, that sit alongside our purpose. This involved a partnership with a local artist to explore with trustees, volunteers and those benefitting from our activities, what they felt Blue Box Belper's values are.</p> <p>These are the set of values by which we run the organisation by.</p> <p>Blue Box Belper is...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purposeful: We choose to be ambitious and reflective in everything we do, responding to opportunities and challenges with agility and creativity. • Welcoming: We seek to be inclusive, warm and compassionate to all, respecting diversity, challenging inequalities and building social cohesion by offering accessible activities across generations.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaborative: We partner with other organisations and individuals to help deliver our charity vision and a sustainable and accountable way.• Responsive: We actively listen to our community in order to understand needs and priorities, and where necessary act with social conscience to bring about positive change.
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Additional information

	SORP reference	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	In the last year, Blue Box Belper has received the support of over 25 volunteers that have helped in a variety of ways. This includes, but is not limited to: being trustees, sub-group members, running/coordinating community activities, designing and delivering quarterly newsletters, organising fundraising activity, and engaging in our Values Project.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Our achievements during the last 12 months have been to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Secure a temporary solution for a community centre venue to ensure that we can continue our community activities.2. Continue to offer a wide range of community activities in the limited community spaces we have available to us. Further to this, we have seen an increase in the number of people engaging in those community activities.3. Support fundraising activity within the local community, including another very successful Fell Race, as well as stalls at events. These activities have helped to put us in a strong position to continue our community activities, but also have a significant amount of funds available to redevelop a community facility in the future.4. Develop an agreed set of organisational values, that sit alongside our purpose.

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YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		5. Begin to hold the local councils to account around their decision making process following their failure to support the construction project.
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Additional information

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	<p>As it stands success is measured in several ways through several key themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Ongoing development of the charity, including the development of a set of organisational values.2) Progress with the Construction Project is measured through key landmarks being reached. The majority of these were reached (e.g. funding and planning permission), however we failed to secure the lease agreement and therefore the project ultimately failed in our plans to construct a new Community Centre. <p>Despite the failure, we have been able to secure the use of a venue on the Parks Estate, that has allowed us to continue to provide a range of activities. Within the next 12 months we expect to have secured a longer term arrangement for sole use of the Alder Road Centre.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3) Success of fundraising is measured by income secured to meet identified needs. It has been a very successful year in terms of fundraising both through grant
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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		<p>fundraising and community fundraising. However, due to the failure of the construction project we were unable to claim £580,000 in pledged funds.</p> <p>4) Success of community activities is based on numbers attending, but also qualitative feedback. We have certainly continued to have a positive impact with a strong attendance of our activities and stories of lives being impacted in positive ways.</p> <p>5) Effectiveness of our website and social media platforms is measured by numbers engaging. For example, we currently have over 800 likes and over 900 followers on our Facebook page, which represents a 9% increase during the year.</p>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	<p>In the last financial year we secured £11,903, from a range of sources. These funds have been allocated to our ongoing running costs, as well as towards the community building project.</p> <p>Unfortunately we had to decline the following pledged funds from grant-giving organisations because we could not secure a lease agreement in the timeframe required: £499,950 (The National Lottery Community Fund), £50,000 (Derbyshire County Council), £15,000 (Bernard Sunley Foundation), £15,000 (Garfield Weston Foundation).</p>

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>Blue Box Belper is in a very good financial position to continue to deliver its ongoing community activities. We also have a significant amount of designated funds set aside for the purposes of developing/redeveloping a community facility.</p> <p>The trustees have designated funds in the account (as of 31 March 2025) towards:</p>
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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ £3,775 for the running costs of the Alder Road Centre, including: energy costs, water costs, hiring fees, licenses and equipment costs. ➤ £3,000 for covering community activity costs, including: a community fun day and holiday youth activities. ➤ £2,420 for ongoing charity running costs, including: insurance, audited accounts, website, phone, printing and training. ➤ £70,974 for the building redevelopment project. ➤ £7,500 as reserves.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>As advised by the Charity Commission, Blue Box Belper reserves policy seeks to provide sufficient monies to enable the organisation to properly finance its own termination. The Board has agreed to provide (wherever possible) an amount which equates to at least three months' running costs.</p> <p>Last year we increased our reserves, to reflect both our increased activity, and the need to have a healthier reserves ready for the running of a Community Centre.</p> <p>At 31 March 2025 the charity has unrestricted reserves of £7,500.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£7,500
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	There is no uncertainty about the charity continuing, since we have a strong set of trustees and volunteers, as well as a strong set of finances.

Additional information

		In this last financial year, Blue Box Belper has
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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	secured funds into its account totalling £11,901, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- £1,303 grant from National Gas- £375 grant from Tesco Charitable Trust- £3,039 from local organisations and groups- £2,678 from community fundraising- £1,073 from individual donations- £1,593 from Interest- £1,840 from Gift Aid
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p>The trustees believe the main risks for the charity, alongside our measures to mitigate any impact, are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Failure to secure a long term lease for the Alder Road Community Centre. We are working towards this with the owners and our current effectiveness in running the facility and benefitting the local residents, means we are confident a resolution can be found.2) We have raised over £70,000 towards a community centre project, which we hope to spend on redeveloping the Alder Road Centre, but this requires a long term lease agreement being secured. If this does not happen then we will seek to spend the funds on either an alternative facility solution, or further to the benefit of the local community.3) Failure to secure the funds to continue our charitable activities.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The trustees continue to look ahead to ensure that the funds required to maintain our current provisions are in place. So far securing funds to support our ongoing community activities has been possible.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:

Type of governing document	Para 1.25	CIO - FOUNDATION Registered 22 May 2018
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	CIO

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>Every appointed trustee is appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity's trustees.</p> <p>Efforts are made to recruit trustees who meet the skill requirement. The overall composition of the trustee body aims to be as representative of the community as is possible.</p> <p>Due to the challenges we faced in agreeing a successor in title arrangement with Belper Town Council for the lease of land, we mutually decided to no longer have an elected councillor to be a trustee. We are currently seeking an alternative way of ensuring there is a clear point of contact between us and Belper Town Council.</p>
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Additional information

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<p>Policies are made available for viewing, including the Trustee Code of Conduct document. All new trustees are given a full update on the charity's activities and plans. Indeed, we have recently reviewed and updated all of our policies.</p>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>Blue Box Belper operates with trustees that manage the charity, supporting 4 main volunteer-run, task-focussed sub-groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Community Centre Management Committee; b) Funding and Grant Applications; c) Community Activities and Fundraising; d) Media, Communication and Marketing. <p>As the charity develops we may seek to increase the number of trustees, and the nature of the sub-groups will adapt for the needs of the charity's activities and initiatives.</p> <p>Annual priorities and roles are set at our AGM against the charity's mission and objectives.</p>

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Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Blue Box Belper is currently on a 12 month agreement with Futures Housing Group (from on 1 st October 2024) to be the sole hirer of the Alder Road Centre. We are in negotiations around a longer term lease agreement and potential redevelopment of the Centre.
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Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Blue Box Belper
Other name the charity uses	Blue Box Community Organisation
Registered charity number	1178483
Charity's principal address	85 Mill Lane, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 1LH



Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Thomas Wyke	Chairperson		
2	Sarah Thackeray	Treasurer		
3	John Nelson	N/A		
4	Eleanor Wyke	N/A		
5	Mary Dwyer	N/A		
7	Daniel Dreese	N/A		
8	Cllr Carol Angharad	N/A	Until 8/10/2024	Belper Town Council

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Thomas Wyke	Sarah Thackeray
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairperson	Treasurer
Date	27/09/2025	

BLUE BOX BELPER

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Blue Box Belper

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 13 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, as amended); and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 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.

Mark Newey ACMA
Derby Community Accountancy Service
Babington Lodge
128 Grteen Lane
Derby

Date

BLUE BOX BELPER

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2024			Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	2025
Total			Fund	Fund	Fund	Total
£			£	£	£	£
62435	Opening Balance		0	84712	0	84712
	Receipts					
15250	Grants	note 1	1678	0	0	1678
4263	Fundraising		3576	0	0	3576
7319	Donations		3214	0	0	3214
287	Interest		1593	0	0	1593
282	Gift Aid		1840	0	0	1840
27401			11901	0	0	11901
	Payments					
80	Room hire		1097	0	0	1097
221	Insurance		922	0	0	922
1159	Printing, stationery and website		380	0	0	380
350	Fees		350	0	0	350
1628	Sports, Youth and other activity		1457	0	0	1457
1440	Building costs		3985	0	0	3985
47	Equipment		0	0	0	0
200	Sundry		754	0	0	754
5124			8944	0	0	8944
22277	Net Movement of Funds		2957	0	0	2957
0	Transfer between funds		-2957	2957	0	0
84712	Closing Balance		0	87669	0	87669

BLUE BOX BELPER

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

2024		2025
£		£
0	Fixed Assets	0
<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
	Monetary assets	
84712	Bank balance	87485
0	Cash	184
<u>84712</u>		<u>87669</u>
0	Less liabilities	0
<u>84712</u>	Net Assets	<u>87669</u>

Chair

Date

Treasurer

Date

BLUE BOX BELPER

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Note 1

Grants

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Derbyshire County Council	0	0	0	0	2000
Duke of Devonshire Charitable Trust	0	0	0	0	5000
Ryklow Trust	0	0	0	0	7500
Belper Town Council	0	0	0	0	750
National Gas	1303	0	0	1303	0
Tesco Charitable Trust	375	0	0	375	0
	1678	0	0	1678	15250

Note 2

Breakdown of income through donations , fundraising band other income in 2024/25.

Amount £	Origin	Purpose of funds
£1,073	Individual donations	Community Activities
£2,678	Community Fundraising	Community Activities
£902	Belper Early Years	Alder Road Centre running costs
£500	Derbyshire Voluntary Services	Alder Road Centre running costs
£450	St Swithuns Church	Alder Road Centre running costs
£402	Cyber 1st	Alder Road Centre running costs
£300	Belper Open Gardens	Alder Road Centre running costs
£250	Fleet Arts	Towards Craft Group
£215	Belper Quiz League	Alder Road Centre running costs
£20	Hiring Fees	Alder Road Centre running costs
£1,593	Interest	Charity running costs
£1,840	Gift Aid	Building Project
£10,223		

BLUE BOX BELPER

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Note 3

Designated Funds

Description	Source	£
Alder Road Centre	Running costs of the centre	3775
Building project	Various sources	70974
Community Activities	Various sources	3000
Charity Running costs	Ongoing costs including account auditing and insurance	2220
Petty Cash	Small Expenditure	200
Reserves	From unrestricted funds, designated as reserves	7500
Total in account		87669