



## **Chorley FC Community Foundation**

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT

for the year to 31 March 2024

**Registered Charity Number 1183529**

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## **Administration Details**

**Registration number:** 1183529

**Address:** Chorley FC Community Foundation  
Victory Park  
Duke Street  
Chorley  
PR7 3DU

**Accountants:** Accounts Matters Ltd  
3-2-1 Storey House  
White Cross  
Lancaster  
Lancashire  
LA1 4XQ

## Report of the Trustees

### **Objectives, Activities, and Achievements**

The Trustees of Chorley FC Community Foundation are pleased to present the annual report for the year ending March 31, 2024. The Foundation's key objectives remain rooted in promoting community participation in sports, fostering social inclusion, and supporting physical and mental health. Through the power of football, the Foundation seeks to inspire individuals across Chorley and surrounding areas to lead healthier, more connected lives.

#### **Key Objectives:**

The principal activities of the organisation ('the charity's objectives') and Objectives of the Foundation are: "to benefit the inhabitants of Chorley and surrounding areas":

(1) The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation, for the benefit of the inhabitants of Chorley and surrounding areas, by the provision of facilities for playing football.

(2) To provide and assist in providing facilities for sport, recreation and other leisure time occupation of such persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances or for the benefit of the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Our range of programmes, including Walking Football, Social Inclusion Football, and Soccer Schools, aims to increase physical activity for all ages, especially targeting those facing barriers to participation. The Foundation's collaboration with local schools through PE supplements, after-school clubs, and educational activities instills life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and discipline, helping children and young people develop holistically.

Through inclusive programmes such as Sporting Memories and Blokes United, the Foundation ensures that those experiencing social isolation, mental health challenges, or physical limitations have opportunities to engage in community sports.

### **Key Achievements**

During 2023-2024, Chorley FC Community Foundation saw remarkable growth across all areas of its work, expanding its reach and impact on the local community.

**Walking Football:** Averaging 35 participants per week, the Walking Football programme catered to individuals over 50, offering them a structured yet low-impact form of exercise. Participants noted improvements in physical fitness and reported feeling more socially connected. One attendee shared, "This is the highlight of my week. I look forward to it because it's my main social interaction."

**Social Inclusion Football (Blokes United):** With three active strands, including Turn Up and Play sessions, a 5-a-side team, and 11-a-side matches, Blokes United continues to grow in popularity, averaging 50 participants weekly. The programme provides a crucial support network for men, promoting both physical health and mental well-being. A participant reflected, "Being part of Blokes United is the highlight of my week. Without it, I'd probably be at home feeling down."

**Sporting Memories:** With between 35-45 regular participants, this programme brought together older adults to share their love of sports, reminisce, and engage in light physical activity. Sporting Memories has proven effective in combating loneliness and enhancing mental well-being for those at risk of social isolation.

**Youth Engagement:** Through its school-based programmes and Holiday Soccer Schools, the Foundation reached over 600 children, providing opportunities for personal development, fitness, and inspiration. Feedback from both students and teachers was overwhelmingly positive, with many schools continuing to request after-school and PE supplement sessions.

### **Public Benefit**

In accordance with the Charities Act 2011, Chorley FC Community Foundation ensures that all of its activities provide demonstrable public benefit. The programmes are designed to address key social challenges in the Chorley area, including social isolation, lack of physical activity, and limited access to recreational facilities for disadvantaged groups.

Through the Walking Football initiative, the Foundation successfully combats loneliness and supports older individuals in maintaining their physical health. Similarly, Blokes United provides men in the community with a crucial space for both physical exercise and emotional support, helping to alleviate mental health challenges.

The Foundation's work with schools through PE supplements and after-school programmes fosters inclusivity and engagement, giving children from all backgrounds opportunities to develop their physical and social skills. This year, the Foundation saw a notable increase in participation from girls in football, with more mixed and girls-only teams involved in tournaments.

These projects highlight the Foundation's commitment to providing public benefit by supporting the health, well-being, and inclusion of all members of the Chorley community.

### **Achievement and Performance**

Chorley FC Community Foundation has made significant strides over the past year, achieving outstanding results across multiple areas of its work. This section details the Foundation's achievements, the performance of key programmes, and the tangible impact these initiatives have had on the local community.

## Sports Participation and Physical Activity

The Foundation continues to prioritise sports participation and physical activity as tools for promoting physical and mental health. Key initiatives such as Walking Football, Blokes United, and the Youth Soccer Schools saw considerable growth in participation and outcomes.

**Walking Football:** This programme has expanded significantly, with two weekly sessions now attracting an average of 35 participants, many of whom are over the age of 50. The programme offers structured physical activity and opportunities for social engagement. A participant shared, *"This is the highlight of my week. I look forward to it because it's my main social interaction."* Given its popularity, the Foundation is exploring the introduction of a competitive strand, which could include league training and inter-club competitions.

**Blokes United:** This social inclusion football initiative has seen consistent growth, with an average of 50 men attending weekly. The programme offers both recreational and competitive football, as well as emotional support and community-building activities. Many participants have commented on the positive impact the sessions have had on their mental health, with one participant noting, *"Honestly, just being there tonight has helped me mentally. I was nervous as anything, but the benefits are going to be huge for me in the coming months."* The programme's success has led to Chorley FC's involvement in a pilot 11-a-side Social Inclusion league, which will expand into a full league in the 2024/25 season.

**Holiday Soccer Schools and After-School Clubs:** These programmes reached over 600 children during the year, with participation steadily increasing due to high demand from local schools. The Foundation introduced multi-sport PE sessions to complement football coaching, providing broader access to physical activities. Feedback from schools has been overwhelmingly positive, with many praising the quality of coaching and its positive influence on student engagement and teamwork.

## Community Engagement

The Foundation has successfully strengthened its relationship with the local community by offering diverse programmes that cater to different demographic groups.

**Sporting Memories:** This programme continues to be a flagship initiative for the Foundation, attracting 35-45 participants weekly. Sporting Memories provides a welcoming environment where participants can reminisce about sports, engage in light exercises, and share stories. These sessions have been instrumental in combating loneliness, particularly for those dealing with dementia or Alzheimer's. One participant noted, *"If we lost this group, there would be a great void in our lives."* The programme has become a model for other similar groups across Lancashire, and its popularity continues to grow.

**Matchday Experiences and School Engagement:** The Foundation has worked closely with Chorley FC to offer free matchday experiences for school children, inspiring a new generation of football fans. The initiative allowed children to attend matches, interact with players, and feel more connected to their local team. Feedback from both students and teachers has highlighted the positive impact this has had on school engagement and students' connection to sport.

### **Mental Health and Well-being**

A core aim of the Foundation's work is improving the mental health and well-being of its participants. The programmes offered are designed not only to provide physical exercise but also to foster community, reduce social isolation, and support those struggling with mental health challenges.

**Blokes United:** This programme has been a cornerstone of the Foundation's efforts to address male mental health. Through football, the initiative creates a safe space for men to engage in physical activity and share their experiences. The strong sense of community fostered by Blokes United has been transformative for many participants, with numerous testimonials highlighting the programme's impact on improving mental health.

**Walking Football and Sporting Memories:** Both of these programmes have shown clear evidence of improving participants' well-being, providing opportunities for social interaction, physical activity, and community support. Feedback from participants has consistently indicated that these sessions are crucial in helping them maintain positive mental health and stay connected to their community.

### **Education and Skills Development**

The Foundation places a strong emphasis on using football as a medium for education, particularly in schools. The PE supplements and after-school clubs have become integral parts of the curriculum in several Chorley primary schools, with sessions focusing on teamwork, communication, and leadership.

**Primary School Engagement:** During the 2023/24 season, the Foundation expanded its focus to include Key Stage 1 students, offering free sessions and appearances by Chorley FC players who shared their personal journeys from school to professional football. This initiative has enhanced the Foundation's reach and strengthened its connection with local schools, ensuring that football and physical education remain accessible to all students.

**Skill Development through Football:** The Foundation's work with younger participants has demonstrated tangible improvements in both technical football skills and essential life skills such as resilience, leadership, and teamwork. Feedback from teachers and parents has been overwhelmingly positive, with many highlighting the programme's role in developing students' confidence and discipline.

### **Summary of Key Metrics and Outcomes:**

**Walking Football:** Average weekly attendance of 35 participants, with potential expansion into competitive play.

**Blokes United:** 50 men attending weekly, with ongoing expansion into a social inclusion league.

**Sporting Memories:** Consistent attendance of 35-45 participants, providing vital social and mental health support.

**Youth Programmes:** Over 600 children engaged through Soccer Schools and school-based initiatives.

### **Supporting the Wider Community**

In partnership with Chorley FC and The Magpies Trust, the Foundation has been committed to raising awareness of important causes within the local community. This year, we supported two major awareness days at Victory Park. The "Helping Hannah" campaign raised awareness of cancer, following the diagnosis of one of our player's wives, and highlighted the impact of the illness on families. Through this initiative, we were able to generate vital support for Hannah and her family, with funds raised making a meaningful impact on their journey.

Additionally, we marked World Down Syndrome Day by collaborating with local organisations to promote inclusivity and celebrate the lives of those with Down syndrome, raising awareness both on matchday and through community activities. Looking ahead, the Foundation is committed to trebling the number of awareness days held at the club and within the community over the next year, further enhancing our role in supporting those facing life-changing challenges.

### **Andy's Man Club at Victory Park**

We're proud to support the establishment of an Andy's Man Club at Victory Park, offering men a safe space to openly discuss their mental health. While the group runs independently, the Foundation provides volunteer support for setting up and, through our relationship with Chorley FC, ensures they have free use of the Social Club for their meetings. This year, we hosted an Andy's Man Club football tournament at Victory Park, with 8 teams and over 60 participants taking part in 6-a-side matches. The day was a huge success, bringing people together to enjoy football and raise awareness about men's mental health, while strengthening the sense of community across the North West.

## **Future Plans**

Looking ahead, Chorley FC Community Foundation is committed to expanding its reach and deepening the impact of its programmes on the Chorley community. The Foundation has identified several key areas for growth, which will enable it to provide even greater support to individuals from diverse backgrounds and those facing specific barriers to participation.

One of our most exciting future developments is the potential expansion into disability football. We are currently awaiting a funding decision that, if successful, will allow us to significantly increase our provision by launching Chorley FC's first-ever deaf football team. This initiative is aligned with our mission to make football and physical activity accessible to everyone, regardless of ability. Additionally, we plan to broaden our focus on girls' football, building on the growing interest and participation from girls in our current programmes and tournaments.

In order to achieve these ambitious goals, the Foundation plans to increase staff capacity. By expanding staff hours, we will be able to accommodate more beneficiaries across our various initiatives, including Walking Football, Social Inclusion Football, and Sporting Memories, all of which have seen significant demand and impact over the past year. Increasing our staff resources will allow us to deliver more sessions, expand to new venues, and engage with a larger number of participants in both schools and community programmes.

In addition to expanding our staff and programme offerings, the Foundation aims to continue developing key partnerships with local schools, community groups, and statutory organisations such as Chorley Council and Lancashire FA. These relationships will be essential in ensuring that we can reach the widest possible audience and make a lasting impact on the health, well-being, and social cohesion of the Chorley community.

Overall, Chorley FC Community Foundation is dedicated to building on the success of its existing programmes while exploring new opportunities to serve the community. With the right support and funding, the Foundation looks forward to a future where it can provide even more inclusive, engaging, and life-changing programmes for all residents of Chorley and the surrounding areas.

## **Financial Review**

The Foundation had income of £52,361 (2023 - £29,993) and expenses of £50,626 (2023 - £26,320), leaving a surplus of £1,735 (2023 - £3,673). The Foundation's overheads and support costs are minimal and the majority of the expenses are on charitable activities.

## **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees have a policy of carrying minimum free reserves of £12,000 to cover two months' overheads and any unexpected costs. Free reserves at 31 March 2024 were £15,068 (2023 - £11,066), but as explained above, the activities of the foundation have increased in the year and going forward.



## **Volunteers**

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the many dedicated volunteers who tirelessly support Chorley FC Community Foundation. Their unwavering commitment plays a crucial role in the success of our projects and in improving the lives of the individuals who benefit from our services.

In particular, we would like to highlight the invaluable contributions of those who work on a weekly basis with our Sporting Memories, Walking Football, and Blokes United programmes. These volunteers go above and beyond to ensure that participants not only have a thoroughly enjoyable experience, but also feel supported every step of the way. Their compassion, patience, and willingness to give their time help foster a welcoming and inclusive environment where individuals can thrive, both socially and physically.

Simply put, we could not do what we do without them. These sessions depend on the dedication of our volunteers, who are integral to their smooth running. Their hard work and generosity are at the heart of what makes Chorley FC Community Foundation the fantastic organisation it is today.

We are immensely proud of the community spirit they embody, and their efforts make a lasting difference in the lives of everyone they help.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The process for appointing trustees to the Chorley FC Community Foundation board is outlined in our constitution. At present, the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) has six trustees, but we are actively seeking to expand our board by encouraging members of the Chorley community to get involved. We welcome individuals who share our vision and feel they can make a valuable contribution towards supporting our mission and objectives.

This year, we saw several trustees step down due to personal relocations or to focus on other commitments. Despite these changes, we remain committed to maintaining a strong and engaged board that can continue to guide the Foundation in its development and ensure that we meet the needs of the community.

Our board plays a pivotal role in making key decisions regarding the Foundation's budget, marketing strategies, and the overall direction of our projects. They are also responsible for overseeing the quality and effectiveness of our programmes, ensuring we continue to meet the high standards required of a CIO. We are grateful for the dedication of our trustees, whose leadership helps to drive the success of the Foundation and its continued positive impact on the community.

**Administrative Information**

Chorley FC Community Foundation is based at Victory Park in Chorley, home of Chorley Football Club. The Correspondence address is Chorley FC Community Foundation, Victory Park, Duke St, Chorley PR7 3DU.

Chorley FC Community Foundation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and can be found under Charitable number 1183529 with the Charity Commission.

Chorley FC Community Foundation trustees who have served during this year are:

Darren Jenkinson	Chairman
Paul Clarkson	Vice Chair and Secretary
Simon Denham	
Wayne Richard Beck	
David James Murphy	
Carole Ann Turner	

**Approved by ChorleyFC Community Foundation Trustees and signed on their behalf by Darren Jenkinson (Chair).**

*Darren Jenkinson*

13 Sep 2024

**Chorley FC Community Foundation  
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Chorley FC Community Foundation**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended (date) which are set out on pages 12 to 14.

**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 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 Act; or
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.

Signed:  .....

Name: Christine Harwood ACMA  
Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Dated: 14/9/24 .....

Accounts Matters Limited  
3-2-1 Storey House  
White Cross  
Lancaster  
Lancashire  
LA1 4XQ

## Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted 2024	Restricted 2024	Total 2024	2023
<b>Receipts</b>				
Charitable Activities	24,749		24,749	4,229
Donations and Gifts	7,493		7,493	250
Fundraising income				364
National League Grant		17,190	17,190	22,500
Sporting Memories	2,929		2,929	350
Youth Zone				2,300
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>35,171</b>	<b>17,190</b>	<b>52,361</b>	<b>29,993</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Advertising & Marketing	2,170		2,170	480
Accountancy fees	621		621	1,044
Bank Fees	323		323	287
Coaches		11,922	11,922	4,474
Consulting	576		576	528
Community Engagement	1,335		1,335	-
Insurance	369		369	358
IT Software and Consumables				200
Legal Expenses				87
Printing & Stationery				75
Project sundries - bibs, trophies, tickets	1,616		1,616	3,326
Room/Pitch Hire	23,195		23,195	9,916
Staff Training				330
Travel - National	306		306	175
Season tickets	468		468	660
Schools Engagement Officer		6,975	6,975	4,380
Sporting Memories Officer	750		750	
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>31,729</b>	<b>18,897</b>	<b>50,626</b>	<b>26,320</b>
<b>Net of Receipts and Payments</b>	<b>3,442</b>	<b>(1,707)</b>	<b>1,735</b>	<b>3,673</b>

**Chorley FC Community Foundation**  
**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

	Unrestricted 2024	Restricted 2024	2024	2023	Notes
<b>Current Assets</b>					
<b>Cash funds</b>					
Current Account	15,068	1,394	16,462	14,727	
<b>Total Cash funds</b>	<b>15,068</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>16,462</b>	<b>14,727</b>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>15,068</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>16,462</b>	<b>14,727</b>	
<b>Net Current Assets (Liabilities)</b>	<b>15,068</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>14,462</b>	<b>14,727</b>	
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>15,068</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>14,462</b>	<b>14,727</b>	
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>15,068</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>14,462</b>	<b>14,727</b>	
<b>Charity funds</b>					
Current Year surplus	3,442	(1,707)	1,735	3,673	
Funds brought forward	11,626	3,101	14,727	11,055	
<b>Total Charity funds</b>	<b>15,068</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>16,462</b>	<b>14,727</b>	

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**Approved by Chorley FC Community Foundation Trustees and signed on their behalf by Darren Jenkinson (Chair).**

*Darren Jenkinson*

13 Sep 2024

\_\_\_\_\_ **Signed**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Dated**

**Chorley FC Community Foundation**  
**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

**1 Restricted Funds**

**RESTRICTED FUND MOVEMENT YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2024**

	<b>Balance 31/03/2023</b>	<b>Received in year</b>	<b>Paid in year</b>	<b>Balance 31/03/2024</b>
<b>National League</b>	3,101	17,190		
Coaches			11,922	
Schools engagement officer			6,975	
	<hr/> 3,101	<hr/> 17,190	<hr/> 18,897	<hr/> 1,394
<b>TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>	<hr/> 3,101	<hr/> 17,190	<hr/> 18,897	<hr/> 1,394