

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For The year ending 31 March 2025

Charity Number 1185903

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

Legal and Administrative Information

Charity name	Honiton Community Theatre Company
Registered Charity Number	1185903
Registered Office and operation address	10 Riverside Close Honiton Devon EX14 1XJ
Trustees	Rochelle Anderson Jaron Bonetta (appointed 10/03/2025) Susannah Gahan Grace Hemsley (appointed 13/05/2024) Tina Paveley Willow Ryerson (appointed 11/11/2024) Zara Sillitoe (appointed 13/05/2024) Lucy Williams Sally Cregan (resigned 18/01/2025) Karen Wilson (resigned (23/02/2025) Danny Beaven (resigned 23/02/2025) Kathy Tomlinson (resigned 9/09/2024) Steve Miller (resigned 9/08/2024)
Independent Examiner	Vernon Accounting The Manor House 143 High Street Honiton Devon EX14 1LJ

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

Trustees Report for Year Ending 31/03/2025

1. Structure, Governance and Management.

- a) The organisation is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) incorporated on the 21 October 2019. The charity constitution is established under the Foundation Model provide by the Charity Commission.
- b) The charity is managed by a board of Trustees who are:

Rochelle Anderson

Jaron Bonetta (appointed 10/03/2025)

Susannah Gahan

Grace Hemsley (appointed 13/05/2024)

Tina Paveley

Willow Ryerson (appointed 11/11/2024)

Zara Sillitoe (appointed 13/05/2024)

Lucy Williams

Sally Cregan (resigned 18/01/2025)

Karen Wilson (resigned (23/02/2025)

Danny Beaven (resigned 23/02/2025)

Kathy Tomlinson (resigned 9/09/2024)

Steve Miller (resigned 9/08/2024)

- c) The power of appointing new trustees is vested in the existing trustees who are also the members of the CIO.

2. Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity are to advance, improve and maintain education in and appreciation of the art of drama by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public performances.

The Charity undertook the following activities during the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025:

- Sister Act - a musical performed in August 2024
- Alice in Wonderland – a youth play with music in October/November 2024

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

Trustees Report for Year Ending 31/03/2025

- Jack and the Beanstalk – a Pantomime performed in February 2025
- Performed at several community events including Honiton Charter Day, a D-Day Commemorative event, Honiton Primary School Fete and further promoted our productions through group singing at Honiton Tesco.
- The charity continues to offer an inclusive platform for keen local performing artists of age 9 and above. We are pleased to provide the opportunity for members to develop and showcase their skills and passion for theatre. We strive to create and maintain local public interest and enjoyment in the performing arts by any means the Trustees see fit and in particular, through live public performances.
- We operate a transparent open audition approach however, no one is ultimately excluded from taking part and we are extremely proud of the inclusive reputation that we have developed. We have approximately 12 Devon County Council approved chaperones to keep our young people and vulnerable adults safe through licensed chaperones being present not only for the performances but also, notably for rehearsals. We are passionate about providing high quality live entertainment for the local community and we are pleased to support other local and national charities through collection bucket donations by our exiting audience.
- Honiton Community Theatre Company charitable trust has experienced a higher than normal rate of Trustee attrition through this period, settling down to 8 currently. No one has offered to take up the role of Chair of Trustees vacancy at this stage, however, we have found that the current Trustee group are able to divide tasks and responsibilities in a way that draws on the individual Trustees strengths. The workload is heavier across fewer Trustees however and so we have not had the capacity to plan fundraising events which was a previous objective. We continue to appeal regularly for further Trustees.
- We have maintained our previous pattern of three productions through the period commencing with Sister Act in August 2024, a magnificent musical production with mainly adult cast (14+ accepted). The cost to produce this was significantly higher than our average production and disappointingly, it failed to sell as well as anticipated and whilst it was never predicted to particularly achieve a surplus, it ultimately made a loss due to the lack of ticket sales.
- In November 2024, the youth section staged a magical performance of Alice in Wonderland which allowed our youth members to once again showcase their talent and commitment. It proved popular with the public and solid ticket sales provided a modest surplus over costs.

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

Trustees Report for Year Ending 31/03/2025

- We finished the year strongly with Jack and the Beanstalk in our usual February (2025) pantomime slot. Pantomime remains very popular in Honiton with high ticket numbers sold. As in previous years, the popular pantomime's financial success was welcome to help offset the more expensive shows to stage, which for this period was Sister Act in particular.
- We celebrated our 40th anniversary with a gala event attended and enjoyed by many current and previous members.
- Plans for the future
- Tracey Bonetta proposed Peter Pan, a further youth play with music after her successful first youth direction of Alice in Wonderland last November. This will take place in November 2025.
- Shaun Bonetta stepped forward to direct his second pantomime following his success with his first foray into directing with Jack and the Beanstalk. This will be Treasure Island in February 2026.
- The following productions are planned but not confirmed currently.
- Tracey also presented her proposal to direct potentially a whole cast (chiefly adult) production of The Little Mermaid musical which the Trustees felt would be a good option for our cast and audience numbers alike.
- Alison Johns pitched Wyrld Sisters, a play suitable for a family audience for her directing debut, chiefly for an adult cast. The original book was written by Terry Pratchett and adapted for stage by Stephen Briggs. We felt that Wyrld Sisters would be ideally placed in the Autumn 2026 due to the theme of witches tying in nicely with its Halloween time slot.
- As mooted in 2024, the reduced number of Trustees and lack of general help forthcoming for putting together productions has resulted in placing too much pressure on fewer volunteers. We therefore decided that we would not stage a summer production in 2026, this being the first time in many years. Summer being a time where potential audience members are away on holiday or people are out enjoying the local good weather.
- Our youth officer felt that Summer 2026 could be an ideal opportunity to provide something different for the youth members to enjoy. Perhaps taking the form of workshops or involvement in a cabaret style event.
- We were also approached via Tracey for youth to take part in a smaller joint venture in 2026 with the established and popular East Devon Dance Academy. A date will hopefully be forthcoming soon regarding this.
- As such, after consideration, the plan is for The Little Mermaid to fall into our traditional pantomime slot in February half term 2027 which we hope will attract the young and young at heart.

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

Trustees Report for Year Ending 31/03/2025

- We have been pleased and relieved to recently learn that the future of our main performance venue, The Beehive Honiton, has been secured from September 2025 for a further 30 years. Landlord, Honiton Town Council, established a 30 year lease to the current tenant of the property, Honiton Community Complex, a charitable company who facilitate recreation and leisure events for the benefit of the local community and visitors to the region.

3. Risk Management

The Trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated in the Reserves Policy, combined with the controls over the key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions.

The Trustees regularly examine and review operational and business risks which they face and confirm they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

4. Reserves Policy

The Trustees have agreed to maintain a reserve of £15,000 earmarked as a minimum should for any reason the charity ever need to wind up. This minimum sum has been arrived at through a review of average expenditure of this accounting year's productions x1.5 productions, with a slight reduction applied. As we anticipate our future expenditure to be materially lower than this year as there is no appetite to repeat high-cost licensing, for example Sister Act which suffered a loss. We also keep in mind that many of our core costs have risen and will continue to do so creating the need for even greater financial scrutiny going forward. We had to find a place to store our containers which had previously been free of charge. And our main space for performances, rehearsals and meetings has passed on a significant increase in their hourly hire rate from October 2025.

5. Financial Review.

The charity made a small surplus in the year of £1,250 (2024 £3,040).

At the end of the year the charity held funds and assets totalling £40,342 (2024 £39,001).

6. Public Benefit

The Trustees have noted the Charity Commission publishes guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011. The charity carries out a range of

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

Trustees Report for Year Ending 31/03/2025

activities in accordance with its charitable aims, and the trustees consider that these activities provide benefit to the wider public.

7. Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates which are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures which must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the applicable charities regulations.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed Declaration of Trustees:

Signed..... Trustee. Dated

Print Name

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 as set out on the following pages.

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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

John Hilton

For and on behalf of:

Vernon Accounting

The Manor House

143 High Street

Honiton EX14 1LJ

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES For the year ending 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<u>Income:</u>					
Charitable Activities		31335		31335	29987
Donations		748		748	611
Membership		3058		3058	2593
Other trading Income		1365		1365	1070
Sundry Income		44		44	738
Bank Interest		325		325	236
		36875	0	36875	35235
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Raising Funds		32182		32182	26868
Operation of the Charity		3443		3443	5327
		35625	0	35625	32195
Net Income /Expenditure		1250	0	1250	3040

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form an integral part of the accounts

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025.

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2025

Charity Number 1185903

	Notes	£	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Tangible Fixed Assets			14745	15569
Current Assets				
Debtors		1817		2076
Cash at bank and in hand		24494		23380
		<u>26311</u>		<u>25456</u>
Current Liabilities				
Amounts falling due within one year		<u>-714</u>		<u>-2024</u>
Net Current Assets			25597	23432
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>40342</u>	<u>39001</u>
Funds of the charity				
Unrestricted funds			40342	39001
Restricted funds				
Total Funds			<u>40342</u>	<u>39001</u>

Trustees responsibilities in relation to financial statements

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 2011.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

..... Date

Print TRUSTEE NAME

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025.

Basis of Preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Going concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.3 Change of accounting policy The accounts present a true and fair view and no changes have been made to the accounting policies adopted.

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period (3.46 FRS102 SORP).

1.5 Material prior year errors

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period (3.47 FRS102 SORP).

2. Accounting Policies

2.1 Income

Recognition of income

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP).

Debtors and prepayments

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. The charity does not make any claims for Gift Aid.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Income from interest

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to the trustees for the ongoing purposes of the charity.

The charity has not received restricted funds in the year and does not hold any restricted funds at the Balance Sheet date.

2.2 Expenditure and liabilities

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the cost of work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025.

3. Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity.

Individual fixed assets costing £250 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimates useful lives on a straight line basis:

Equipment – over 10 years

Containers – over 20 years.

4. Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds Total 2,025 £	Total 2,024 £
a) Charitable Activities		
Performance Draws	1,244	649
Sale of DVDs	13	210
Sale of Programmes	807	882
Sale of T Shirts	364	1,403
On Tour income	0	264
Ticket Sales	28,907	25,623
	31,335	29,031
b) Membership		
On Stage subscriptions	1,170	1,592
Other subscriptions	1,888	1,001
	3,058	2,593
c) Other trading Income		
Advertising income	1,365	820
Sale of Costumes	0	250
	1,365	1,070

HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE COMPANY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025.

5. Analysis of Expenditure on charitable activities

a) Performance costs

Advertising & promotion	1,416	663
Band	6,300	4,145
Beehive rental performances and rehearsals	8,479	8,712
Cube hire	1,834	
DVD/Video purchases	350	110
Fundraising expenses	0	300
Sound & Lighting	1,752	1,575
Programmes & tickets	744	1,026
Purchase of T shirts	680	1,443
Scenery, props & wardrobe	3,401	3,803
Scripts and fees	3,964	4,941
Professional fees (Director & BSL)	1,200	
Venue hire	198	120
Container rental	1,711	
Sundry	0	30
	<u>32,029</u>	<u>26,868</u>

b) Operation of the charity

Depreciation	1,960	1,684
Insurance	514	506
Miscellaneous Expenses	349	994
NODA Subscription	230	215
Office Expenses and Postage	61	101
40th Gala expenses	0	750
Charity / sponsorship	234	200
website fees	157	877
	<u>3,505</u>	<u>5,327</u>