



# Birchgrove Community Foodbank

Annual Report  
&  
Financial Statement  
2024 – 2025

Birchgrove Community Foodbank is a registered charity, reg. no.1188963

**Charity's Principal Address:**

Birchgrove Community Centre  
Lon Gwesyn

Birchgrove  
SA7 9LD

### **Charitable Aims & Objectives**

The relief of financial hardship amongst people in Birchgrove and the surrounding area in such ways as the trustees from time to time think fit, in particular but not exclusively by;

- Providing emergency food, essential toiletries, and household items to individuals and families in need and/or for distribution by charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.
- Other means including (though not limited to) the provision of support or signposting to relevant information and other advisory services.

We, the trustees consider that these activities have been and continue to be conducted with regard to the guidance of the Charity Commission on public benefit.

### **Trustees:**

Chair	Jordan Rees
Secretary	Juliet Rees
Trustee	Leanne Dymond

### **Chair's Report**

This year, we focussed on the immediate pressures on the foodbank income and concerns of our clients. Providing much-needed support, signposting and food parcels.

The food bank has seen an increase in users this year as the cost-of-living crisis made the issue of food poverty more acute in our community.

With a very special thank you to all our supporters and all the volunteers who worked tirelessly throughout the year ensuring all clients received their food parcels.



*Jordan Rees - Chair*

## Food Parcels

In 2024-25, we continued to receive amazing support from our supporters in the form of donations, despite the increased pressure facing households. This year the foodbank has faced increased food costs and severe demand against an unexpected reduction in grants. We hope to improve this position in the next financial year. Despite these challenges, we handed out approximately 5000 bags of food to families in need.

## Birchgrove Community Garden

The community garden continues to grow and mature each year. Summer 2024 was a challenging year for vegetable-growing due to adverse weather conditions. However, we added more fruit trees to the garden to mitigate this and ensure we can consistently provide nutritious fruit and vegetables. This met our objectives from 2023 also.

We regularly host group visits from local primary schools, who have enjoyed learning how to grow vegetables, including kale, tomatoes, cabbages, carrots, a variety of herbs and even some flowers. Schools visited once in the winter when the garden is empty and again in the summer when the community garden is in full bloom and they have learned about seeds and plants in their classroom learning. This highlights the work of the foodbank and how we help our community.



## Christmas at the Foodbank

Christmas 2024, Birchgrove Community Foodbank received £500 in gift card donations from Faith in Families to help local families in need.

Birchgrove Community Centre hosted a Christmas fete in November 2024. The foodbank raised £300 from a raffle and craft stall which was kindly matched by CAF.

## Sponsors & Donors

Special thanks to the local churches, schools, businesses, charities and supermarkets for their continued support enabling the foodbank to help families living within Birchgrove and the surrounding area.



We had several food donations from Tesco



Swansea Marina customers, CKs Birchgrove, Poundstretcher Llansamlet and Birchgrove Post Office.

### **Our Supporters this year included:**

City & County of Swansea, Sullivans Estate Agents, Saron Evangelical Church, Arbourne's Winchwen, Glantawe Lions, Samlet Church, Tesco Marina, Farm Foods, CK Supermarket Birchgrove, JCP Solicitors, Sensitive Water Solutions, Elsbe, ATR Construction, Poundstretcher, Birchgrove Church, Plough and Harrow, Samlet Sunday Dinners, Tony Evans Swansea Male Voice Choir, Birchgrove WI, Ynystawe Cricket/Football Club, Seven Dragons, Faith in Families, KJ Hire, Swansea Vale Tri, Admiral, HSBC, CAF, Lloyds, Veramed, CKs Foodstores Birchgrove, Birchgrove Post Office, Glais Rugby, Old Glais Inn, Pobl.

Thank you!

### **Future Objectives**

**Supermarket Donation Baskets:** We would like to increase the number of donation baskets in stores to meet increasing demand and also create a visible presence in the wider community. We will contact more supermarkets and small shops to host a basket for us.

**Washing Powder and Toiletries:** We struggle with donations for laundry and hygiene products. Clients regularly ask for washing powder in particular. This year we will try ways of meeting this demand for families.

**Links with local groups:** We would like to continue making links with local groups. We have had success partnering with local schools and would like to continue educating children in the community about food poverty and the work we do.

**Pet Provision:** Contact local charities and organisations for support with pet food for our clients with animals.

### **Special Thanks**

Birchgrove Community Foodbank Trustees would like to give special thanks to the local Councillors for their continued support to the Foodbank and local community of Birchgrove.

Cllr Alyson Pugh    Cllr Ryland Doyle    Cllr Matthew Jones    Cllr Penny Matthews

### **Financial Statement**

We, as Trustees, have agreed that a proportion of the monies currently available will be placed into a separate savings account as reserves to ensure the steady supply of food stock is available should the amount of donations lessen.

**Income**

Cash at 01.04.2023	
Bank b/f	£2,482
Petty cash	£0
Donations	£4,057
Grants/Funding	£4,130
Total	£8,187

**Expenditure**

Stock replenishment	£6,459
Office (incl phone)	£883
Community Garden	£504
Volunteer Expenses	£22
Insurance	£238
FiF Giftcards	£500
Total	£8,606

Less Cash in hand	£0
Less Reserves/Savings	£5,871
Balance C/f	£2,482

**Notes to the accounts:**

In previous years, the Trustees discussed and agreed the sum of £8,000 to be placed as a reserve/savings for the bank account. This year due to a decrease in grants, the foodbank has had to use a portion of these reserves. The remainder (£5,871) will remain in reserves for 2025-2026.

This will ensure the foodbank will have sufficient funds to continue to operate in the event of a reduction in donations.

I confirm the above accounts provide an accurate record of Birchgrove Community Centre Foodbank's financial transactions for the year 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 Signed

Name Juliet Rees  
Position Secretary  
Date: 17.01.2025

**2024/25**

<b>Balance B/F</b>	<u>£ 2,481.62</u>
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<b>Income</b>	<u>£ 8,187.25</u>
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<b>Expenditure</b>	<u>£ 8,606.08</u>
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<b>Balance c/f (Operating A</b>	<u><b>£2,062.79</b></u>
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Reserves (Held separately) £ 5,870.96

Total Funds at Year End 2024/2025

Operating Account Balance

Reserves Account Balance

<u>Total Funds Held</u>
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At year end, the foodbank held £5,870.96 in reserves, reduced from previous years due to increased food costs and reduced grant income.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Apr	Food	£851.91
	Community Garden	£340.81
May	Food	£356.58
	Community Garden	£57.21
June	Food	£531.30
	Community Garden	£30.92
July	Food	£332.72
Aug	Food	£394.24
28.08.2023	Office	£24.89
Sept	Food	£428.60
	Mobile	£20.00
Oct	Food	£166.10
	Insurance	£238.24
Nov	Food	£645.85
Dec	Food	£1,778.53
	Volunteers	£21.60
	Faith in Families Gift Cards	£500.00
Jan	Food	£534.45
	Mobile	£20.00
	Office	£484.07
Feb	Food	£191.75
	Office	£333.98
March	Food	£247.35
	Community Garden	£74.98
<b>Total</b>		<b>£8,606.08</b>



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<b>Date</b>	<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Donation</b>
5/22/2024	T Evans Swansea Male Voice Choir	£200.00	£200.00
5/24/2024	Arbournes Collection Box	£59.91	£59.91
5/24/2024	Birchgrove Post Office Collection Box	£23.21	£23.21
6/16/2024	T Evans Swansea Male Voice Choir	£110.00	£110.00
7/18/2024	Anon	£100.00	£100.00
7/18/2024	Anon	£10.00	£10.00
7/18/2024	Anon	£40.00	£40.00
7/19/2024	Anon	£5.00	£5.00
7/25/2024	Birchgrove WI	£21.53	£21.53
7/1/2024	Swansea LA Food Poverty Grant	£2,500.00	
8/11/2024	Summer Fete	£354.00	£354.00
8/15/2024	Llansamlet Church	£50.00	£50.00
9/14/2024	Llansamlet Church	£75.00	£75.00
9/14/2024	T Evans Swansea Male Voice Choir	£35.00	£35.00
9/14/2024	T Evans Swansea Male Voice Choir	£50.00	£50.00
9/20/2024	Anon	£100.00	£100.00
10/21/2024	Pobl	£830.00	£0.00
10/30/2024	Anon	£100.00	£100.00
01/110/2024	Old Glais Inn	£105.00	£105.00
11/11/2024	Llansamlet Church	£110.00	£110.00
11/22/2024	Llansamlet Church	£65.00	£65.00
11/22/2024	Birchgrove WI	£300.00	£300.00
11/25/2024	Christmas Fete	£300.00	£300.00
11/28/2024	Llansamlet Church	£40.00	£40.00
12/1/2024	Anon	£50.00	£50.00
12/10/2024	Anon	£50.00	£50.00
12/10/2024	Faith in Families	£500.00	£500.00
12/12/2024	Anon	£26.00	£26.00
12/12/2024	Anon	£510.00	£510.00
12/20/2024	Anon	£43.00	£43.00
12/20/2024	Llansamlet Church	£100.00	£100.00
1/15/2025	Anon	£20.00	£20.00
1/15/2025	Llansamlet Church	£50.00	£50.00
1/16/2025	Birchgrove Post Office Collection Box	£27.74	£27.74
1/30/2025	Llansamlet Church	£70.00	£70.00
2/12/2025	CAF Matched Funding	£300.00	
3/6/2025	Pobl	£500.00	£0.00
3/14/2025	Llansamlet Church	£80.00	£80.00
3/14/2025	KJ Hire	£100.00	£100.00
3/14/2025	Anon	£50.00	£50.00
3/20/2025	Arbournes Collection Box	£126.86	£126.86
<b>Total</b>		<b>£8,187.25</b>	<b>###</b>

**Funding      Grant**

£2,500.00

£830.00

Giftcards provided by FiF - given stratight to clients.

£300.00

£500.00

Matched funding for summer fete

**£300.00      ###**