

# SEASCALE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

England & Wales · Charity number 1189376

## Details

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Other names	SEASCALE LIBRARY LINK
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2020-05-06
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	Seascale Community Library Seascale Library Gosforth Road Seascale CA20 1PN
Phone	01946728487
Email	<a href="mailto:seascalelibrarylink@outlook.com">seascalelibrarylink@outlook.com</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY ARE:1. THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN SEASCALE AND SURROUNDING AREA BY THE PROVISION OF A VOLUNTEER RUN LENDING LIBRARY. 2. TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF RESIDENTS OF SEASCALE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE OF THE SAID INHABITANTS. 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.

**Activities:** 3.1. The advancement of education for the public benefit in Seascale and surrounding area by the provision of a volunteer run lending library.

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Cumbria

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£3,774	£1,919	-	-
2024-03-31	£5,416	£6,901	-	-
2023-03-31	£7,206	£1,311	-	-
2022-03-31	£880	£18	-	-
2021-03-31	£0	£0	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Elizabeth Boys		2023-05-03
Jacqueline Harper		2023-11-04
Jennifer Ruth Lister		2025-04-01
Penelope Cater		2023-11-15
Rebecca Redknap		2023-11-04
Susan elizabeth Weston		2026-02-01

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# Accounts

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## Seascale Library Link - Annual report Apr 2024 to Apr 2025

Looking back over the year, it's been very busy.

The team of around eighteen volunteers continues to work very well. Some have left, and there are some new faces, but the library continues to be a welcoming place for its visitors.

This team is still overseen by six trustees and the treasurer, who look after the overall running of the library - safety (including rewriting the fire risk assessment this year) and any building issues, and staying in touch with the parish council.

We have also been well supported by Whitehaven Library with book exchanges, requests from other libraries, and general enquiries, and by the parish council.

The library has been used by several local groups. The reading group meets here, the health visitor has a baby clinic in the library, and there's a well-being group. The building has also been used by the local knitters and local Scouting, and it's a designated warm space when it's open. Other community information groups have also used the library, notable "Digital Voice" about the new phone system.

The library took part in the summer reading challenge, and there is now a range of talking books on offer. We've introduced a "theme of the month" display to try to promote the different genres of books available.

Book donations from residents of the village are very generous, and there is a programme of turning the best of these into new books for the library, with the remainder being offered for sale to raise library funds. We also have a range of jigsaws for people to borrow, which is very popular.

We've held several coffee mornings, which were well attended, and we've also had a local history display, finishing with an enormously successful cheese and wine evening as part of Seascale Gala week.

Money raised from the coffee mornings was used to buy new armchairs and a table for the library, which looks much smarter as a result.

Christmas activities included a mulled wine and mince pie afternoon, a posting box for children's letters to Santa, and a library Christmas tree in the Church Christmas tree festival.

We've introduced a fortnightly "cuppa and craft" session, and tried one or two story and craft sessions for younger children, although these weren't as popular and will need a rethink. We're also developing a new wildlife garden at the side of the library.

Since the monthly Saturday morning opening was very poorly attended, it has recently been decided to open every Saturday for a trial period of three months to see if that helps.

The building continues to have its issues. The planned refurbishment still seems a very long way off, although the plans are now complete. We are all looking forward to having a smarter, bigger library.

## Seascale Community Library

### Income and Expenditure for Period 1.4.22 to 31.3.23

	2023	2022
<b>Income</b>		
Grants	5370	595
Donations	906	319
Hire of Premises	930	-
	<u>7206</u>	<u>914</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Non-Domestic Rates	697	-
Bank Charges	72	18
Miscellaneous Expenses	542	-
	<u>1311</u>	<u>18</u>
<b>Surplus Income over Expenditure</b>	<u>5895</u>	<u>896</u>

### Reconciliation Statement 31.3.23

	2023	2022
Opening Balance	896	-
<b>Income</b>	<u>7206</u>	<u>914</u>
	8102	914
<b>Expenditure</b>	<u>1310</u>	<u>18</u>
<b>Balance c/f</b>	<u>6792</u>	<u>896</u>
<b>HELD</b>		
Unity Bank	6726	862
Cash	<u>66</u>	<u>34</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>6792</u>	<u>896</u>

## Seascale Community Library

### Income and Expenditure for Period 1.4.23 to 31.3.24

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Grants	2332	5370
Donations	1464	906
Hire of Premises	1620	930
	<u><b>5416</b></u>	<u><b>7206</b></u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Non-Domestic Rates	-	697
Bank Charges	72	72
Miscellaneous Expenses	6829	542
	<u><b>6901</b></u>	<u><b>1311</b></u>
<b>Surplus Income over Expenditure</b>	<u><u><b>-1485</b></u></u>	<u><u><b>5895</b></u></u>

### Reconciliation Statement 31.3.24

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Opening Balance	6792	896
<b>Income</b>	<u>5416</u>	<u>7206</u>
	12208	8102
<b>Expenditure</b>	<u>6901</u>	<u>1310</u>
<b>Balance c/f</b>	<u><u>5307</u></u>	<u><u>6792</u></u>
<b>HELD</b>		
Debtor (NNDR)	414	-
Unity Bank	4818	6726
Cash	75	66
<b>Total</b>	<u><u><b>5307</b></u></u>	<u><u><b>6792</b></u></u>

## Seascale Community Library

### Income and Expenditure for Period 1.4.24 to 31.3.25

	2025	2024
<b>Income</b>		
Grants	0	2332
Donations	1806	1464
Hire of Premises	1968	1620
	<u>3774</u>	<u>5416</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Non-Domestic Rates	-	-
Bank Charges	71	72
Miscellaneous Expenses	1848	6829
	<u>1919</u>	<u>6901</u>
<b>Surplus Income over Expenditure</b>	<u>1855</u>	<u>-1485</u>

### Reconciliation Statement 31.3.25

	2025	2024
Opening Balance	5307	6792
<b>Income</b>	<u>3774</u>	<u>5416</u>
	9081	12208
<b>Expenditure</b>	<u>1919</u>	<u>6901</u>
<b>Balance c/f</b>	<u>7162</u>	<u>5307</u>
<b>HELD</b>		
Debtor (NNDR)	-	414
Unity Bank	7069	4818
Cash	93	75
<b>Total</b>	<u>7162</u>	<u>5307</u>

**SEASCALE COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

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# Accounts

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## **Seascale Library Link - annual report 2023/24**

The library continues to have a solid core of regular users, and recent figures show a significant increase in membership over the last year and encouraging results for footfall and for the borrowing of books. There are several older people in the community who often drop in and stop for a long chat, as well as a number of young families who regard the library as a morning out.

The five trustees are very well supported by our treasurer and team of twelve other volunteers, and everyone seems to be working very enthusiastically and very well together at the moment.

We enjoyed the help of three Y11/12 students over the summer as part of their work experience, and tried to find useful things for them to do.

We are also extremely well supported by Sarah and the team at Whitehaven library, with whom we often need to consult about technical issues. This year they supplied us with a “new” self check-out machine when ours stopped working, which we were all very pleased about.

We are also very grateful to Seascale Parish Council for its support, especially with the cost of heating the building, and look forward to working closely with them in the future.

As well as our usual supply of library books, both fiction and non-fiction, we have a good selection of donated secondhand books to borrow or buy, and are adding to and updating our range of books by converting the most popular of these books into library books. We now have a range of talking books for people to borrow, and there is also a range of jigsaws and magazines available.

We applied for some funding from LLWR, which has been spent on improving our computer facilities, with the printing especially proving very popular, and also on new blinds for the front and east walls of the library, and we plan to continue to improve the interior of the library as funds become available.

We have continued to organize coffee mornings every few months, which help to encourage people in, and there are several other groups that meet regularly or as a one-off, such as the Richmond Fellowship, the health visitor’s baby clinic, and the women’s wellness pilates sessions. The local Scout groups have also used the library for visits, meetings and Christmas fundraising activities.

The trustees have decided that the planned refurbishment of the library into a community hub as outlined by the Day Cummings report is an unnecessary upheaval, considering the other work going on around the village, but that the structure of the building needs to be repaired and a good refurbishment and kitchen/ toilet improvement is more in order, and we have recently started discussions with the parish council to move this forward.

## Seascale Community Library

### Income and Expenditure for Period 1.4.23 to 31.3.24

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<b>Income</b>		
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Hire of Premises	1620	930
	<u>5416</u>	<u>7206</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Non-Domestic Rates	-	697
Bank Charges	72	72
Miscellaneous Expenses	6829	542
	<u>6901</u>	<u>1311</u>
<b>Surplus Expenditure over Income</b>	<u><u>-1485</u></u>	<u><u>5895</u></u>

### Reconciliation Statement 31.3.24

	2024	2023
Opening Balance	6792	896
<b>Income</b>	<u>5416</u>	<u>7206</u>
	12208	8102
<b>Expenditure</b>	<u>6901</u>	<u>1310</u>
<b>Balance c/f</b>	<u><u>5307</u></u>	<u><u>6792</u></u>
<b>HELD</b>		
Debtor (NNDR)	414	-
Unity Bank	4818	6726
Cash	75	66
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>5307</u></u>	<u><u>6792</u></u>

Independent examination of the accounts was completed by Laura Watson ACA on 25/11/2024

L. Watson.

**SEASCALE COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

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# Accounts

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## Seascale Community Library - Annual report for period 1/4/22 to 31/3/2023

The library continues to be a useful space for the community. We have many regular users who like to come in to borrow books and have a chat, some of whom we are getting to know quite well, and the regular coffee mornings with children's crafts are also very popular with both volunteers and the rest of the community. We feel they are a good way of promoting the library and attracting new users.

We're now a registered warm space in the winter and we are able to offer tea and coffee to all our visitors.

Recently we've had a decline in the number of volunteers, but with advertising we now have 17, and other new people coming forward fairly regularly. This will continue to need working on as people move on to other things. It means that we are secure in offering two mornings and an afternoon each week, plus a monthly Saturday, but that to increase this and offer more sessions isn't really viable at the moment.

We continue to work with Whitehaven Library, who support us by supplying books for a housebound delivery service, book exchanges, and by converting some of our donated books into library books, ensuring that we always have a range of books on offer.

We received funding from Radioactive Waste Management to fund a feasibility study on what changes could be made to the library building, together with estimated costs. The plans include an extension to the footprint of the library and some updating of the existing facilities, with the aim of providing a small kitchen area, disabled toilet and meeting room. These plans are being reviewed by the trustees.

We have several groups using the library as a meeting place - the women's wellness group, Richmond fellowship, and visits from PJ's nursery and Seascale Cub Scouts among others.

A new heating system was installed, which is very effective, and we are working with the parish council to find the most efficient way of running this. Some maintenance work is required, and the parish council will support this once a decision is made on the proposed changes to the building.

Finally, the trustees would like to thank the Parish Council for continuing to meet the day-to-day running costs of the building.

## Seascale Community Library

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<b>Income</b>		
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### Reconciliation Statement 31.3.23

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Opening Balance	896	-
<b>Income</b>	<u>7206</u>	<u>914</u>
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<b>Balance c/f</b>	<u><u>6792</u></u>	<u><u>896</u></u>
<b>HELD</b>		
Unity Bank	6726	862
Cash	<u>66</u>	<u>34</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>6792</u></u>	<u><u>896</u></u>

Independent examination of the accounts was completed by Laura Watson ACA on 14/12/2023.

*L. Watson*

**SEASCALE COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

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# Accounts

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## **Seascale Community Library- Annual Report to Seascale Parish Council**

The Library was closed due to Covid from March 2020 to May 2021. At the point of closure the volunteer team had been running the Library for 7 months and had begun to generate momentum.

Like many organisations, the pandemic had a significant (adverse) impact upon the library.

The most significant was in terms of volunteers - we went down from 28 to 13. This meant that upon re-opening we were not able to maintain the 6 sessions per week we had been offering pre-Covid.

Instead we began with 2 sessions per week, which has now increased to 3 plus we are opening on a Saturday morning every 3 weeks.

The second major impact was on foot flow. When we first re-opened there was a natural reticence on the part of users to return to the building, although a robust risk assessment was put in place to ensure we were compliant with the Covid-safe operation standards quite rightly required by the county Council. The good news is that user numbers have consistently improved and are now largely back at pre-Covid levels. The other good news is that we have been able to recruit new volunteers- the number currently stands at 16 and the aspiration remains to return to offering 6 sessions per week in due course.

The intention to create a Community Hub in the Library building was also put on hold by the pandemic but we have been taking steps to develop the use of the building:- Coffee Mornings- a number of our users are elderly and live alone and really appreciate the opportunity to get out and socialise

Dignity in Dementia- held fortnightly Memory meet-up sessions for people living with memory issues and their carers

Copeland Wellness Services- Women's Wellness Group meet fortnightly

Copeland Adult and Learning Services tutors use the Library for mentoring sessions. As a result of these we have provided work experience opportunities for learners to practice employability skills and enhance their CV's

In the summer of 2021 we provided a 6th Form Student with work experience to strengthen their personal statement for University applications.

We have introduced Saturday morning opening to encourage more families to use the Library

In April 2022 For World Book Day we ran a successful Kids Coffee Morning with competitions and craft events etc. It is planned to run similar events in the future.

A Japanese embroidery/sewing/craft course is planned that will run for 5 sessions

A number of community engagement sessions were held by Radioactive Waste Management to consult with the local community over a possible geological disposal facility.

Finally the Library Trustees and volunteers would like to Thank the Parish Council for continuing to meet the day-to-day running costs of the building and in particular the significant investment in a new heating system.

Table 1

INCOME			EXPOENDITURE			
1/2/22	200.00	Coffee Mornings & Donated Books.	31/3/22	18.00	Bank Service Charges	
9/2/22	595.00	Transfer from PC-Donations				
15.02.22	85.00	Coffee Morning				
<b>TOTAL</b>	880.00			18.00		
<b>Surplus</b>	862.00					
<b>Balance Brought Forward</b>	0.00					
<b>Balance as at 31.03.22</b>	862.00					
<b>Represented by</b>	862.00	Balance held in Unity Bank Account				
<b>Balance Carried Forward to 22/23</b>	862.00					

**SEASCALE COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

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# Accounts

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## Seascale Community Library

### Annual Report for 2020/21

Seascale Parish Council took over the Library Building and the running of the service in August 2019.

A separate Charity was formed on 06 May 2020 to facilitate the management of the service and the move towards the creation of a Community Hub as set out in the Objects of the Charity.

Unfortunately the creation of the Charity coincided with the Covid pandemic, which resulted in the Library being closed from March 2020 to May 2021. During this time the Charity was unable to generate any income and the cost of maintaining the building continued to be borne by Seascale Parish Council. Therefore the Charity Accounts for the year 2020/21 show no income or expenditure, Appended below is an extract from Seascale Parish Council's Annual Report from the period

#### Seascale Parish Council

#### Annual Report for 2020/21

##### Seascale Community Library

- Asset transfer of the Library building completed.
- Continue to run and deliver a rural community based library service.
- Undertake alterations to create a multi-use space including a meeting room with disabled access. Work to progress the preliminary design work had to be paused due to COVID restrictions.

However, discussions have restarted with Morgan Sindall following the offer of in-kind support to undertake design and costing work to enable the creation of a community hub space. In addition to which a request for support will be made via Cumbria Exchange.