

Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
From		Period start date			Period end date	
		Day01	August	Year2024	To	Day31

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

Postcode

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	Jeffrey Bale	n/a		
2	Martin Lee	n/a		
3	Sharon Clancy	n/a		
4	Paul Murphy	n/a		
5				
6				
7				
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13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

	Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

☐ **Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	See Charity Commission website
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	See Charity Commission website
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	See Charity Commission website

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Growing Mansfield remains a small community charity with a largely volunteer-led structure. During the reporting period, the day-to-day delivery and operational management of activities across the allotment sites was primarily undertaken by project leads and volunteers, with trustees maintaining overall governance oversight and supporting the ongoing development of the organisation.

The charity continued to work in partnership with a range of organisations and stakeholders, including landowners, local authorities, schools, childcare providers, community growing projects and relevant statutory and voluntary sector organisations. These relationships helped support the ongoing development of the allotment sites and wider community engagement activities.

The trustees recognise the importance of safeguarding, equality, inclusion and health and safety within all aspects of the charity's work, particularly when supporting vulnerable individuals and community groups. During the reporting period, these considerations continued to inform the delivery and management of activities across the allotment sites, whilst the organisation also continued to develop and strengthen its governance arrangements and operational procedures.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the charity are, for the public benefit, to support the development of community allotments and local food growing for the advancement of community education, citizenship and community development. The charity also works for the relief of poverty and the assistance of people in need within the Mansfield district by empowering residents to grow food and distribute locally grown produce to people in need.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when planning and delivering the charity's activities.

Growing Mansfield continued to support community allotment and local food growing activities within the Mansfield district through the development and maintenance of community growing spaces at Northfield Avenue and Shaftesbury Avenue allotments.

During the reporting period, the charity's activities were focused primarily on the continued development of the Northfield Avenue Community Allotment site, whilst maintaining ongoing community activity at the Shaftesbury Avenue site despite limited staffing capacity and funding during the year.

The charity continued to provide opportunities for local residents to participate in volunteering, food growing, outdoor learning and community activities, supporting people of different ages and backgrounds including children, families, older residents and socially isolated individuals.

Growing Mansfield continued to promote access to fresh locally grown produce through regular "crop drop" and informal community food-sharing initiatives, with surplus produce made freely available to local residents and shared with local school food support initiatives where possible.

The charity also continued to support volunteers to develop practical horticultural skills, confidence and social connections through participation in community growing activities and wider community engagement.

Environmental sustainability continued to form part of the charity's activities during the year. The allotment sites continued to accept and make use of woodchip donated by local tree surgeons and other organisations undertaking tree maintenance work, helping to recycle green waste that might otherwise go to landfill. Northfield Avenue Allotments also introduced beehives to the site, helping support pollination of crops and encouraging local honeybee populations.

Throughout the year, Growing Mansfield worked in partnership with local schools, childcare providers and community organisations to encourage participation in community food growing, environmental activities and outdoor learning opportunities for local residents.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

During the year 2024-25, Growing Mansfield continued to deliver community allotment activity primarily through the Northfield Avenue site, where regular volunteering, food growing and community engagement activities continued to develop. Northfield Avenue continued to provide an accessible outdoor community space supporting food growing, volunteering, wellbeing and social connection within the local area.

The charity continued to operate a regular “crop drop” type initiative using surplus produce grown on the allotments, with fresh produce made freely available to local residents through regular community drop-in sessions at the Northfield Avenue site. These sessions were promoted through social media and provided accessible access to fresh locally grown produce for members of the community on an informal open-access basis.

Although no restrictive referral criteria were applied, the project continued to support many individuals and families experiencing food poverty or limited access to affordable fresh produce. The initiative helped ensure that surplus food grown on the allotments could be shared directly within the local community in an accessible and non-stigmatising way.

During the reporting period, Northfield Avenue Community Allotments continued to strengthen relationships with local schools, childcare providers and community organisations, supporting children, families and local residents to engage with practical food growing, outdoor learning and community activities.

Volunteers continued to make a significant contribution to the success of the project through practical support, peer encouragement and ongoing community involvement. The charity remained committed to creating welcoming and inclusive environments where local people could build skills, confidence, resilience and social connections through participation in community food growing activities.

During the reporting period, activity at the Shaftesbury Avenue site was maintained on a smaller scale due to staffing capacity and funding limitations. Despite these challenges, the charity remained committed to sustaining the site through the support of a small number of dedicated volunteers and continued community involvement. Although development activity at Shaftesbury was limited during this period, the site continued to support community food growing and local produce distribution activities where possible.

Amanda Fisher continued to lead the ongoing development and day-to-day management of the Northfield Avenue site, supported by volunteers and trustees. The charity continued to oversee site management, volunteer support, safeguarding responsibilities and community engagement activities across both allotment sites during the year.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

During the year, Growing Mansfield continued to provide community growing activities, volunteering opportunities and access to fresh produce for local residents across its allotment sites.

Northfield Avenue Community Allotments continued to develop significantly during the reporting period, with regular sessions, community engagement activities and partnership working helping to strengthen the site as an important local community asset. The project continued to provide opportunities for volunteering, food growing, outdoor activity and social connection for a wide range of local residents, including vulnerable and socially isolated individuals.

Across both allotment sites, the charity worked with approximately 25–30 regular or semi-regular volunteers during the reporting period. The project recorded almost 2,000 individual visits during the year (1,996), demonstrating continued community engagement and use of the allotment spaces.

The charity continued to work with local schools, childcare providers and community organisations, supporting children and families to engage with practical food growing and outdoor learning activities. Seasonal and community events formed an important part of engagement throughout the year, including an Easter egg hunt, regular summer holiday activities for children, a Halloween event and celebrations marking the fifth anniversary of Northfield Avenue Community Allotments in May 2025. These activities helped encourage wider community participation and strengthen local connections with the allotment sites.

Volunteers remained central to the success of the project, contributing to the maintenance and development of the allotments whilst also benefiting from increased confidence, social connection and opportunities for personal development. Some volunteers were supported to progress into employment or independent allotment growing during the year.

During the reporting period, activity at the Shaftesbury Avenue site was maintained on a smaller scale due to staffing capacity and funding limitations. Despite these challenges, the charity remained committed to sustaining the site through the support of a small number of dedicated volunteers and continued community involvement. The site nevertheless continued to support community food growing and local produce distribution activities where possible.

Important infrastructure improvements were also achieved during the year. The charity took on an additional allotment plot at Northfield Avenue to support continued development of the site. At Shaftesbury Avenue, the charity successfully secured a substantial shed and a polytunnel to support future project development. The shed has since been erected and now serves as a tea shed and meeting space for volunteers, providing an important communal area, particularly during colder weather. Plans are in place to work with community support and volunteers to erect the polytunnel in order to further develop growing capacity at the site.

The charity also continued to support local food provision during the year through regular crop drop activity, with surplus produce made freely

available to local residents through informal open-access community distribution.

Growing Mansfield continued to strengthen relationships with local partners and community organisations throughout the year and remains committed to developing sustainable, inclusive and community-led growing projects that improve wellbeing, encourage participation and strengthen local community resilience.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The trustees recognise the importance of maintaining an appropriate level of reserves to support the sustainability and ongoing operation of the charity.

Due to the limited size and financial position of the organisation during the reporting period, Growing Mansfield has not yet been able to build significant unrestricted reserves. The charity's available funds have continued to be applied directly towards the delivery and development of community activities and allotment projects.

The trustees will continue to review the charity's financial position and aim to develop reserves over time where possible, in order to provide greater financial resilience and support future sustainability.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

none

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Principal Sources of Funds

The charity's principal sources of funding during the reporting period were grants, donations and small community fundraising activities. The charity is grateful for the continued support received from local organisations, supporters, volunteers and funding bodies which enabled Growing Mansfield to continue delivering community allotment activities and support local residents.

How Expenditure Supported the Charity's Objectives

Expenditure during the year was directed towards the delivery and maintenance of community allotment projects and associated community activities. This included site maintenance, horticultural materials and equipment, volunteer support, community engagement activities, and the costs associated with maintaining safe and accessible community growing spaces.

The charity's expenditure supported its key objectives by enabling local residents to participate in food growing, volunteering, community learning and wellbeing-focused activities, whilst also supporting the distribution of locally grown produce within the community.

Investment Policy and Objectives

The charity does not currently hold investments and therefore does not presently operate a formal investment policy. Any available funds are held in the charity's bank account and applied directly towards the delivery of the charity's objectives and activities.

Growing Mansfield continues to work for the public benefit through the development of community allotments, local food growing and community-based activities that promote education, wellbeing, inclusion and access to locally grown produce within the Mansfield district.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Jeffrey Bale

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Treasurer

Date

14/05/2026

Section A Receipts and payments

A1 Receipts

Donation

Donations - fund raising event

Donation

Feel Good Gardens

Community Food Fund

Sub total(Gross income for AR)

A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).

NONE

Sub total

Total receipts

A3 Payments

Xmas Meal

Amanda Fisher

Mark Richmond Trees

Amazon

Skip Hire

Trade Timber

Strultch

Volunteer Refreshments

Enterprise Van Hire

Laptop

Gardening materials/consumables

Sub total

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)

Sub total

Total payments

Net of receipts/(payments)

A5 Transfers between funds

A6 Cash funds last year end

Cash funds this year end

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period
Categories

B1 Cash funds

B2 Other monetary assets

B3 Investment assets

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

B5 Liabilities

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Growing Mansfield

Receipts and payments accounts
For the period from

Period start date
01/08/24

Unrestricted funds
to the nearest £

Restricted funds
to the nearest £

	1120		700
-			
-			
-			
-			
-		-	
-		-	
	1120		700
-		-	
-		-	
-		-	
	1120		700
	74		
			3609
			298
			261
	74		4168
-		-	
-		-	
-		-	
	74		4168
	1046		-3468
-		-	
	2188		9922
	3234		6454

Details

Bank balance @ 31/07/25

Total cash funds
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

Details
NONE

Details
NONE

Details

Details
NONE

Signature

1194190

To

Period end date
31/07/2025

Endowment funds
to the nearest £

Total funds
to the nearest £

-	1820
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	1820
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	1820
-	74
-	3609
-	-
-	298
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	261
-	4242
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	4242
-	-2422
-	-
-	12110
-	9688

Unrestricted funds to nearest £		Restricted funds to nearest £	
	3234		6454
-		-	
-		-	
	3234		6454
OK		OK	
Unrestricted funds to nearest £		Restricted funds to nearest £	
-		-	
-		-	
-		-	
-		-	
-		-	
-		-	
Fund to which asset belongs		Cost (optional)	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
Fund to which asset belongs		Cost (optional)	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
Fund to which liability relates		Amount due (optional)	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
Print Name			

CC16a

Last year
to the nearest £

	2000
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
	2000
-	
-	
	2000
	72
-	
	634
	323
	185
	95
	214
	49
	85
	250
	1907
-	
	1907
	93
-	
	12110
	9688

Endowment funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

Endowment funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

When due (optional)

Date of approval