



Ouseburn Community Centre Annual Report and Financial Statement Year End 31st March 2025

**Charity number: 1195661 Legal Structure: Charitable Incorporated Organisation
(C.I.O).**

Message from the Secretary

I am pleased to present this year's annual report for Ouseburn Community Centre.

The past year has been one of both delivery and consolidation. The Centre has continued to provide essential services to the local community, while operating in a financial environment that remains challenging for community organisations. Rising costs, funding uncertainty, and increasing demand for services require careful financial management and clear strategic choices.

The Centre's ability to continue operating effectively is due to the commitment of our volunteers, staff, partners, and trustees, and to targeted projects such as Crossroads and Men's Pie Club, which deliver strong social value. We have also worked to broaden our funding base and strengthen partnerships to reduce reliance on any single source of income.

As Secretary, my focus has been on working closely with our Treasurer maintaining financial control while supporting the Centre's wider objectives. Support from the Reach Fund has enabled us to review our financial model, improve governance, and develop a more sustainable approach to income generation and cost management. This work is essential to ensuring the Centre remains viable in the medium and long term.

Looking ahead, the trustees are clear that financial sustainability must underpin everything we do. This will involve difficult decisions, continued fundraising effort, and a disciplined approach to budgeting, while protecting the activities that matter most to our community.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank everyone who contributes time, expertise, and resources to support the Centre's future.

Kind regards,

Jane Conway

Secretary

Ouseburn Community Centre

Ouseburn Community Centre is a vibrant and inclusive hub at the heart of our local community. Our core mission is to enhance the quality of life for residents; particularly those affected by social isolation, poverty, and disadvantage. We are committed to tackling inequality by responding directly to the needs and aspirations of our diverse local population.

Our Purpose and Approach

We provide a welcoming, multi-purpose space that hosts a wide range of services, activities, and events. Our flexible model allows us to adapt and grow in line with emerging community needs, ensuring that our offer remains relevant and impactful.

Activities and Services Delivered (Past 12 Months)

Over the past year, the Centre has hosted a variety of high-impact services and initiatives, including:

- Treehouse – After-school and school holiday provision for local children and families, operating 49 weeks per year.
- Crossroads – A specialist project supporting adults with learning disabilities and their carers - running three sessions per week across 50 weeks.
- Holiday Hunger and Activities Programme – Providing meals and engaging activities for local children during school holidays.
- Friends Action Northeast Community Arts Project
- Men's Pie Club – Supporting men's mental health and social connection.
- Nourish Food School who run educational cooking sessions from the Centre as well as having their head office with us and base for their staff team
- Women's Institute – Promoting education, community and empowerment for women.
- Yoga and Meditation Classes – Promoting mental and physical well-being.
- Spanish Language Classes
- Aikido Martial Arts

We also host a wide range of partner-led activities that expand our reach and ensure services are embedded locally. By enabling specialist providers and community organisations to access our facilities, we help bring vital services closer to the people who need them most.

We are grateful to those who support our social mission by hiring space for children's parties, dance events, consultation meetings, and community drop-in sessions.

Our Volunteers and Partners

The Trustees would like to express heartfelt thanks to our dedicated volunteers, whose loyalty and commitment underpin all we do. We also continue our valued partnership with HC Horizons CIC, who manage the Centre's day-to-day operations and create employment and training opportunities for residents.

Strategic Development

This year, we secured Reach funding through the Social Investment Business, which is supporting us to become investment ready. With this support, we are developing a robust business plan and long-term strategy to secure the Centre's future sustainability and growth.

Impact and Reach

Our reach continues to expand—particularly through projects like Treehouse and Crossroads—enabling us to serve a growing number of individuals from communities of geography, interest, and identity.

In the past 12 months, we recorded over 17,000 individual beneficiary engagements. Of these:

- 36% self-identified as having a disability
- 18% identified as Black, Asian, or Minority Ethnic (BAME)
- 37% were male—a notable statistic given that most community centres are more commonly accessed by women
- 36% were children and young people

These figures highlight the Centre's role as a truly inclusive space that addresses the needs of a broad and diverse community.

Financial Stewardship

We have implemented new measures to strengthen our financial management and sustainability. Through the expertise of Solid Base Accountancy and the adaptable support of HC Horizons CIC, we are maximising the use of our space and ensuring all areas of the Centre contribute to our operational viability.

However, rising overhead costs are creating financial pressure, making it increasingly important to maximise use of the space during evenings and weekends in a creative way to support sustainability. A robust review of pricing and licensing agreements will also take place in the Spring of 2026.

The Trustees of our C.I.O for 2024/2025

- Stephen Powers
- Kevin Anderson
- June Conway

In Summary

Ouseburn Community Centre remains a cornerstone of community life—responsive, inclusive, and future-focused. Through strong partnerships, committed volunteers, and sound strategic planning, we are creating a more connected and equitable future for the hub and all residents.



June Conway
Secretary
20th January 2026

Ouseburn Community Centre
Statement of Accounts 1st of April 24 – 31st March 2025

Charity Number: 1195661

Please note this statement of financial activities has been independently examined by Solid Base NPS <https://www.solidbasenps.co.uk/>

The charity was incorporated on the 31 of August 2021 as a C.I.O.

From that date it began operating as Ouseburn Community Centre C.I.O.

This is a financial statement of the accounts of the charity for the detailed 12-month period.

Approved by the Trustees on 20th January 2026

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K Anderson', is positioned above the signature line.

signed on their behalf by: Kevin Anderson Treasurer on behalf of the Trustees (20th January 2026 at 19:00GMT)

Ouseburn Community Centre

Accounts for the year ending Mar 2025

	This year		23/24 Comparison
	£	£	£
Income			
Grants & Donations			
NCC Grant		0	190
Qube Digital Skills		992	
Miscellaneous Donors		0	300
		992	490
Traded Income			
Subscriptions		0	0
Room Hire		55,794	52,591
Refreshments		0	0
NPOWER Photovoltaic		0	0
Miscellaneous		0	0
		55,794	52,591
Investment Income			
Bank Interest		492	0
Other Income		492	451
TOTAL INCOME		57,278	53,532
Direct Charitable costs			
Rent and Rates		1,383	1,252
Heat, Light and Power		9,170	10,631
Telephone and Computer		2,409	1,105
Maintenance		2,657	2,426
Staff costs & Administration		1,263	1,093
Consultancy, IT and Support		42,803	32,755
Bad Debt Write Off		0	0
		59,685	49,262
Other Costs			
Miscellaneous		992	1,860
Events & Festivals		0	0
Petty Cash		0	0
		992	1,860
TOTAL COSTS		60,677	51,122
NET PROFIT/LOSS FOR THE YEAR		-3,399	2,410
Cash & Bank Balances at 31st March 2024		45,064	
Cash & Bank Balances at 31st March 2025		39,748	45,064
Statement of Assets			
Deposit Account		35,213	31,913
Current Account		4,535	13,151
Debtors Control Account		6,177	7,112
Total Assets		45,925	52,176



Independently produced by Chris Armstrong - Solid Base Non-Profit Support

Signed by Kevin Anderson - Treasurer

Date

On behalf of the Management Committee

K Anderson
20/01/2026