



## **KNUTSFORD TOGETHER**

**Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registered 2 December 2021**

**Charity Registration Number 1196898**

**Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2025**



## Trustees

Chairman	David Briggs CVO, MBE, KStJ	Appointed 9 September 2021
Treasurer	Rayna Jackson MA FCA	Appointed 1 March 2023
	Sarah Flannery B Soc Sc	Appointed 9 September 2021
	Dr Paddy Kearns	Appointed 9 September 2021
	Rosie Longden	Appointed 9 September 2021 Resigned 17 February 2025
	Piers McLeish	Appointed 1 June 2022

## Registered Address

Dukenfield Hall, Knutsford Road , Mobberley ,Knutsford , KNUTSFORD , Cheshire ,  
WA16 7PT



## **Knutsford Together**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025**

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2025.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; FRS 102) issued in October 2019.

### **Our purposes and activities**

Set up in 2022 by former Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire David Briggs, Knutsford Together is a Cheshire-based Charitable Incorporated Organisation that identifies, maps and connects every agency, voluntary organisation and interest group in the WA16 postcode, covering Knutsford Mobberley High Legh Ollerton and surrounding areas.

Our mission is to support local people in need, whether economic or social. Knutsford Together exists to walk alongside them to make a positive change in their lives going forward. We seek to connect Knutsford residents with Government services such as medical, social care, education, welfare benefits, and Council funded services according to their circumstances. We also help to direct them towards suitable services provided by charities and voluntary groups.

This enables us to provide the infrastructure and practical framework to allow anyone in our area to overcome the disconnection between statutory support, community and voluntary services and activities, and find the support they didn't even know existed.

Our network is able to reach and connect everyone in need with everything our Knutsford community has to offer, and where necessary encourage new services to fill any gaps.

By harnessing the power of the community and humankindness we create the opportunity for any individual in Knutsford – regardless of any formal training or qualifications – to help another human being in need: this will not only help the person in need but will also provide great satisfaction to the person offering to help and making the initial connection.

**We aim to effect support for individuals which will reduce the negative social psychological and medical impact of people in need and experiencing “life's difficulties”.**

### **Achievements and performance**

During this year we have built on the success of our first full year of operation. With two full time staff members we have been able to provide a regular weekly well-being walk for those residents with limited mobility and their carers. We are especially pleased that those attending the walk, many of whom had not felt able to venture outdoors without our support, have made friendships with each other which enable them to have their own social interactions. This has materially improved their wellbeing and mental health.





We have also, with the help of a grant from the Cheshire East Flourish Fund, established our befriending service. A volunteer management scheme has been set up with the intention of ensuring that volunteers are able to regularly visit housebound and lonely residents who we have identified through our work. These visits are intended to improve client's mental health and reduce their dependence on NHS services.

The biggest source of referrals to our service is Knutsford Medical Partnership ("KMP"), whose social prescribers have an excellent working relationship with our staff.

Attendance at our weekly Talking Café has grown substantially. This is now an integral part of our service; word of mouth ensures that the number of attendees grows organically and it is obvious that the Talking Café is serving a fundamental need for social interaction and integration whilst also providing the opportunity for guests to access bespoke support and signposting help from our competent staff. The evidence we continue to gain is that the Talking Café is succeeding in reducing social isolation, attendees are making new friendships leading to renewed community involvement, and referrals for additional help continue to increase. The many compliments and unsolicited donations we have received at the Café assures us that our service is both necessary and appreciated.

Our Chief Officer was honoured by Knutsford Town Council in their 2024 Community Awards under the 'Extra Mile' category which recognises someone who, in their paid employment, has gone above and beyond for the benefit of the local community. Nicola had been nominated for her outstanding leadership of Knutsford Together and for helping people in Knutsford find the support they need in difficult times.

The feedback we've received from clients has been extremely positive. To quote some of their words:

"I felt upset when I arrived at the Talking Café. This has just lifted me. I feel so much better"

"Knutsford Together has changed my life"

### **Our Financing**

We are acutely aware of the need for funding to support our activities and ambitions, and are extremely grateful for the grant funding that we have obtained from Cheshire East Council and the Oglesby Charitable Trust. The climate for grant funding remains extremely tough, and we would like to express our thanks to the very generous private organisations and donors detailed in note 7 to the accounts and in particular Oliver Valves Ltd. For the coming year our fundraising activities will continue to target philanthropic donors and grant-giving bodies.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have read and had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.





## **Financial review**

### **Review of the year**

Knutsford Together was formed as an entity in December 2021, but did not start operating until March 2022. The attached financial statements cover the period ending on 31 March 2025.

The results for the year and Knutsford Together's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements

During the year we had income of £99,551 (2023-4 £67,026), of which £3,404 was restricted (2023-4 £10,000) , and expenditure of £81,468 (2023-4 £72,070), of which £3,404 (2023-4 £10,000) was restricted. There was a surplus of £18,083, (2023-4 deficit of £5,044) which was added to reserves. We also have received funds in advance totalling £12,079 to fund part of our 2025-6 activities.

### **Reserves policy**

We have a policy of maintaining reserves sufficient to cover four months running expenses.

### **Plans for future years**

We have long had an ambition to improve wellbeing by bringing Parkrun to Knutsford. Parkruns (a collection of 5k events for runners, walkers and volunteers) take place at more than 2,000 locations in 23 countries across five continents every week. As a result of much dedicated work by our Chief Officer we have identified a likely venue and obtained funding for part of the set-up costs. Not only will this provide exercise and friendship for those who participate in the run, but it will enable residents who are not runners to participate as volunteers and marshals at the events, giving them a sense of purpose and belonging to Knutsford and improve their mental health. It will also help to promote our services to many more local people.

With the benefit of the Flourish Fund grant from Cheshire East we will be implementing our befriending group, based on a small group of volunteers who will be recruited and trained to 'befriend' those of our clients who need this support. Loneliness is recognised as a major national issue and our local experience confirms this. It is hoped that our befriending scheme will prove to be pivotal to answering this need.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Knutsford Together is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation which is governed by a constitution. Its objects are for the public benefit the protection and preservation of good health and wellbeing and the relief of persons who are in need by reason of age, ill-health, bereavement or unemployment or other social disadvantage in such ways and by such charitable means as the Trustees may from time to time decide. The Trustees have agreed that its work will be carried out for the benefit of residents of the WA16 postal area.

New Trustees are appointed by resolution of the existing Trustees. They are selected having regards to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity.



Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role. They are required to have training in safeguarding.

Approved by the Trustees on 10 July 2025 and signed on their behalf by David Briggs, Chairman





## **KNUTSFORD TOGETHER**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

I report on the financial statements of Knutsford Together CIO for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 8 to 13.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

#### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention 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 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.

Signed on 11 July 2025 by Peter David Willgoose A.C.I.B.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter David Willgoose", is written over a horizontal line.





**KNUTSFORD TOGETHER**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income from</b>					
Restricted Grants	5		3,404	3,404	10,000
Unrestricted Grants	6	10,000		10,000	-
Donations	7	81,843		81,843	52,370
HMRC Giftaid		2,862		2,862	3,001
Bank Interest		<u>1,442</u>		<u>1,442</u>	<u>1,655</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>96,147</u>	<u>3,404</u>	<u>99,551</u>	<u>67,026</u>
<b>Expenditure on</b>					
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	8	<u>78,064</u>	<u>3,404</u>	<u>81,468</u>	<u>72,070</u>
<b>Net income/(deficit)</b>		<u>18,083</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,083</u>	<u>(5,044)</u>
<b>Funds brought forward</b>		48,708	-	48,708	53,752
<b>Funds carried forward</b>		<u>66,791</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,791</u>	<u>48,708</u>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form an integral part of these accounts.

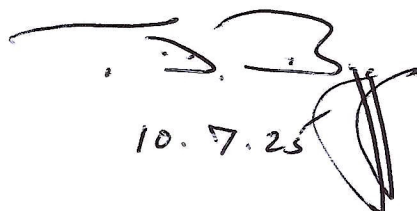


**KNUTSFORD TOGETHER**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Current assets</b>				
Debtors		235		143
Cash at bank	11	<u>80,565</u>		<u>50,330</u>
<b>Total current assets</b>	12		80,800	50,473
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Deferred Grants		6,746		
Deferred Donations		5,333		
Donations		<u>1,930</u>		
Amounts falling due within one year	13		<u>(14,009)</u>	<u>(1,765)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b><u>66,791</u></b>	<b><u>48,708</u></b>
<b>Total net assets</b>			<b><u>66,791</u></b>	<b><u>48,708</u></b>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>				
Unrestricted income funds			60,045	48,708
Restricted income funds			<u>6,746</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total funds</b>			<b><u>66,791</u></b>	<b><u>48,708</u></b>

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on 10 July 2025 and are signed on its behalf by David Briggs, Chairman.

  
10.7.25



**KNUTSFORD TOGETHER**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended 31 March 2025

**1 Accounting Policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

**2 Basis of accounting**

**2.1 Basis of preparation**

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 Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Knutsford Together CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

**2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

The charity reported total funds at the year end of £66,791, of which £60,045 is unrestricted. It has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 to 18 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

**3 Income**

**3.1 Recognition of income**

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

**3.2 Offsetting**

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

**3.3 Grants and donations**

Income from grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is



deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

### **3.4 Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity.

### **3.5 Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Restricted funds are grants and donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

## **4 Expenditure and liabilities**

### **4.1 Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised when 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.

### **4.2 Charitable activities**

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

### **4.3 Governance and support costs**

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities.

### **4.4 Irrecoverable VAT**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### **4.5 Provisions for liabilities**

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

## **Analysis of income**

### **5 Income from restricted grants**

	2025 £	2024 £
Knutsford Town Council	1,500	
Cheshire East Council	<u>1,904</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total	<u>3,404</u>	<u>10,000</u>



## 6 Income from unrestricted grants

	2025	2024
	£	£
Oglesby Charitable Trust	<u>10,000</u>	-
Total	<u>10,000</u>	-

## 7 Donations

	2025	2024
	£	£
Oliver Valves Ltd	40,000	40,000
PasTest Charity	10,000	
Anonymous	30,000	10,000
Other	<u>1,843</u>	<u>2,370</u>
	<u>81,843</u>	<u>52,370</u>

## Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

## 8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
<u>Direct costs</u>				
Staff salaries	65,697	1,618	67,315	51,894
Pension and social security costs	3,260	82	3,342	2,106
Talking and other cafes	970	1,500	2,470	700
Training	400		400	137
Website and IT	5,596		5,596	14,597
<u>Support costs</u>				
Telephone	416		416	490
Accountancy	527		527	446
Advertising	158		158	492
Bank charges	64		64	63
Insurance	494		494	573
Volunteer Expenses		204	204	
Recruitment				124
Other	482		482	448
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Legal				
	<u>78,064</u>	<u>3,404</u>	<u>81,468</u>	<u>72,070</u>



## 9 Analysis of staff costs and numbers

	2025	2024
Number of full time employees	2	1
Salaries	£67,315	£51,894
Social security cost	£1,697	£1,014
Pension cost - defined contribution scheme	<u>£1,645</u>	<u>£1,092</u>
	<u>£70,657</u>	<u>£54,000</u>

## 10 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the charity.

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

There have been no related party transactions in the year.

## 11 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Social security overpayment		
Bank interest receivable	235	143
HMRC giftaid receivable		
Total	<u>235</u>	<u>143</u>

## 12 Cash at bank

This comprises cash at bank and short term cash investments with less than 96 days maturity date.

## 13 Liabilities falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Donations received in advance	5,333	
Cheshire East 2024-25 Flourish grant received in advance	6,746	
Accruals	<u>1,930</u>	<u>1,765</u>
Total	<u>14,009</u>	<u>1,765</u>