

ASCape

Annual Accounts and Trustees Report

For the year ended 31 December 2025

ASCape

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ASCape
Charity information

Trustees	Rebecca Watkins (Chair) - Resigned 31 October 2025 Mark Rixon (Treasurer) Stacey Chilcott - Resigned 23 March 2025 Diane Evans - Resigned 11 September 2025 Max Glock (Young Trustee) - Resigned 25 July 2025 Peter Glock Sarah Orritt Elizabeth Rutherford Mark Samuel Sharna-Lee Raine - Appointed 22 April 2025 Eloise Bladon (Young Trustee) - Appointed 14 October 2025 Janet Susan Tolley - Appointed 24 February 2026
Charity's principal address	3 Nordons Bridport Dorset DT6 4DU
Independent examiner	Hartley's Chartered Certified Accountants The Grove Rax Lane Bridport Dorset DT6 3JL

ASCape

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements for the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Promoting social inclusion among children and young adults between the age of 0-25 years with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and/or social anxiety, especially living in the county of Dorset, who are excluded from society or parts of society, as a result of their condition by:

1. Helping such children and young adults become better socialised and less isolated through the facilitation of peer support and supported socialisation.
2. Supporting carers and families, including siblings, of such young people by providing peer support via groups and family activities, encouraging sharing of ideas, resources and support within and between these groups.
3. Promoting awareness about ASC and social anxiety and challenging fear and prejudice.

Throughout 2025, ASCape delivered our core package of social activities for autistic children and young people, consisting of our bi-monthly Teens Youth Club and monthly club for the 18-25s, our monthly Family Activity Afternoons, 'Gardenscape', our weekly after-school gardening club, and 'Musicmakers', our monthly Saturday music club. We also offered regular activities for families in Weymouth and Portland, our summer music workshop 'You Do Music' and woodworking workshop. Highlights included trips to Abbotsbury Illuminated Gardens, Weymouth Sea Life Centre and the Numatic Factory in Chard, the home of 'Henry the hoover'.

For our growing community of over 1,000 parents and carers we continued to provide our bi-monthly support group in Bridport and a monthly wellbeing session on Sunday afternoons, as well as an expanded series of webinars on key topics, alongside our ongoing online peer support groups.

ASCape was present at a number of local events, including Chesil Youth Pride in June and the Sherborne Classic Car Show in July. A Tea and Cake fundraiser in West Bay in June organised by Bridport Rotary and staffed by ASCape volunteers raised £500.

The trustees met regularly through the year, providing the oversight and control necessary to ensure that the charity's new and existing activities were in line with the charitable purposes set out in the Constitution, thus ensuring that the Commission's public benefit guidance continued to be taken into account. As part of the strategic planning process, the Board improved risk analysis and management.

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Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During 2025, ASCape continued to offer regular social activities and peer support for Autistic and socially anxious children and young adults in West Dorset, alongside information and support to their parents, carers and wider families. Responding to interest in the community, we launched a new regular cookery club for Teens and subsequently added a session for Teens aged 8-12. In total we delivered over 190 events and activities, and directly supported over 285 children and young people.

We also successfully piloted a community outreach project which reached 845 children and nearly 300 parents through engagement in schools and community spaces and events.

2025 saw the launch of ASCape's Youth Forum, a new youth engagement mechanism as a platform for young people to voice their vision and priorities, supported by the Youth Club's Lead and our Young Trustee. This has increased the representation of young Autistic and socially anxious people in ASCape's decision making and governance.

The Board and Co-Directors produced a new five-year Strategic Plan for the period 2026-2030. This set out a two-phase strategy to deepen our work in Bridport in 2026-2028, during which we will investigate the feasibility of widening our geographical scope and explore new funding streams. The full plan is available to read and download on our website.

At the end of the year ASCape secured a further five years of core funding from the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, providing considerable security for the organisation to continue to deliver support to our increasingly vulnerable community.

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Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total incoming resources in the year were £82,348 (2024:£74,494) and net deficit was £10,509 (2024:£12,549 surplus).

Total funds at 31 December 2025 were £41,712 (2024:£52,221) including restricted funds of £28,418 (2024:£39,811)

ASCape retains sufficient funds in reserve to be able to pay notice to staff as per their contracts and a nominal sum of £1,000 to cover administration and other costs should the organisation have to close.

These funds are held in a separate bank such that if we had any problems with our current account we could still pay our staff and creditors while this was resolved. An amount of unrestricted funds is also held separately for unforeseen running expenses and for ad-hoc activities and projects as approved by the Board.

The charity is funded predominately through grants, with the National Lottery Community Fund and Children in Need providing our core funding. Most of the charity's activities are covered by small annual grants from various local charities as well as supermarket funded schemes. This is supplemented with the unrestricted funding from the local community and parental contributions.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 20 January 2022.

Our AGM was held on 22nd April 2025, attended by staff, volunteers and members of the ASCape community.

In 2025, four Trustees left the Board and two joined. Sharna-Lee Raine joined in April, bringing specific experience of managing Autism services in Bedfordshire and charity management expertise. Eloise Bladon stepped into the role of Young Trustee in October, replacing Max Glock who left to start post-graduate studies.

ASCape

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) 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 no concerns and 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.



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Hartleys Accountancy Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Grove
Rax Lane
Bridport
Dorset
DT6 3JL

10 May 2026

Date:.....

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A. Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Last year £
A1 Receipts				
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	32,883	32,883	24,132
BBC Children in Need	-	15,000	15,000	15,000
Dorset Council Youth Fund	-	8,352	8,352	4,547
Dorset Council Local Alliance Group - West Locality	-	4,950	4,950	1,700
Wessex Water Community Foundation	-	-	-	3,752
Dorset Community Foundation Neighbourhood Fund	-	-	-	3,460
Dorset Masonic Care	-	-	-	2,800
Co-op Local Community Fund	-	2,546	2,546	-
Dorset Council Community and Culture Project Fund	-	1,600	1,600	1,600
LHC Community Benefit Fund	-	-	-	4,990
The Three Guineas Trust	-	2,451	2,451	-
Other small restricted grants	-	2,000	2,000	3,670
Fundraising	160	-	160	3,764
Donations	9,236	-	9,236	2,856
Ticket receipts	3,170	-	3,170	2,223
			-	-
Total receipts	12,566	69,782	82,348	74,494
A3 Payments				
Management and leadership	2,634	30,354	32,988	29,489
Admin services	908	8,571	9,479	4,445
HR services	-	405	405	326
Training	262	335	597	309
Comms services	-	2,881	2,881	2,910
Consultancy	-	1,750	1,750	-
Therapists and facilitators, Counselling and advocacy	2,145	8,624	10,769	7,136
Activity leadership	528	9,806	10,334	2,436
Offsite activities	1,729	9,961	11,690	5,004
Venue and room hire	190	2,715	2,905	2,859
Travel expenses	-	281	281	-
Artscape, Arts and crafts supplies	106	260	366	166
Gardenscape, Garden supplies	-	154	154	149
Misc	51	-	51	-
Refreshments	246	1,047	1,293	1,310
Misc activities and sundries	531	867	1,398	1,239
Pension costs	16	592	608	974
Website and IT	47	703	750	397
Banking, Accountancy, Insurance, Subscriptions	305	3,031	3,336	1,983
Books and t-shirts	154	-	154	813
	9,852	82,337	92,189	61,945
A4 Asset and investment purchases				
IT equipment	-	668	668	-
	-	668	668	-
Total payments	9,852	83,005	92,857	61,945
Net receipts/(payments)	2,714	(13,223)	(10,509)	12,549
A5 Transfer between funds	(1,830)	1,830	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	12,410	39,811	52,221	39,672
Cash funds this year end	13,294	28,418	41,712	52,221

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B. Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
B1 Cash Funds		
BBC Children in Need		13,028
Co-op Local Community Fund		2,162
DCF Neighbourhood Fund Round 5		180
Dorset Council Local Alliance Group - West Locality		1,672
Dorset Masonic Care		474
Dorset Council Youth Fund Round 7		8,685
The National Lottery Community Fund		2,020
The Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust		197
The Barratt Redrow Foundation	975	
The Burton Bradstock Art Exhibition	560	
The Maurice Fry Charitable Trust	1,882	
Sherborne Classic Cars CIO	715	
Waitrose	101	
Unrestricted funds	9,061	
	13,294	28,418

B2 Other Monetary Assets

-	-
-	-

B3 Investment Assets



B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
Epson printer	National Lottery	218
ASUS laptop	National Lottery	400
Dell laptop	Unrestricted	345
Crucial portable memory	Unrestricted	17
Xiaomi smart phone	LHC Community B	69
2 x Samsung A05 smart phones	National Lottery	200
ASUS laptop	National Lottery	399

B5 Liabilities

Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
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Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

	Mark Rixon	08 May 2026
Signature	Print name	Date
	Eloise Bladon	10 May 2026
Signature	Print name	Date