

LOVE BARTON

**ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

CHARITY REGISTRATION No. 1200369

Independent Examiners Ltd
The Grain Store
Hills Barns
Appledram Lane South
Chichester, West Sussex
PO20 7EG

LOVE BARTON

CONTENTS

Page 3	Legal and Administrative Information
Page 4 to 6	Trustees' Report
Pages 7	Independent Examiner's Report on the accounts
Page 8	Statement of Receipts and Payments
Page 9	Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Pages 10 to 11	Notes to the Accounts

LOVE BARTON

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER	1200369
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1st April 2024
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st March 2025
TRUSTEES SERVING DURING AND AFTER THE YEAR	Judith Potts - Chair Jonathan Lescault Tanya Bownds Susan Haehnel Jeremy Todd
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	CIO - FOUNDATION Registered 14 Sep 2022
OBJECTS	<p>THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE CARRIED OUT IN DEMONSTRATION OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AND IS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT:</p> <p>TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE MENTAL, PHYSICAL OR EMOTIONAL HEALTH OF PERSONS RESIDING IN BARTON, OXFORDSHIRE AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS AND SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DECIDE;</p> <p>FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, TO RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF PERSONS RESIDING IN BARTON OXFORDSHIRE (OR SUCH OTHER AREAS OF OXFORDSHIRE OR THE UNITED KINGDOM AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES MAY DECIDE) WHO ARE IN CONDITIONS OF NEED BY REASON OF YOUTH, AGE, ILL-HEALTH, SICKNESS, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, DISCRIMINATION ON THE GROUNDS OF RACE OR ETHNIC ORIGIN, POOR SKILLS ATTAINMENT OR SUCH OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DISADVANTAGE.</p>
REGISTERED ADDRESS	20 FETTIPLACE ROAD HEADINGTON OXFORD OX3 9LJ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Zita Derbak Independent Examiners Ltd The Grain Store Hills Barns Appledram Lane South Chichester, West Sussex PO20 7EG

LOVE BARTON

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Love Barton is a Christian charity to tackle systemic issues keeping people and families in Barton in poverty, and to release them to flourish in all areas of life.

Barton is one of the most deprived estates in Oxford, sitting among the 20% most deprived wards nationally. For children and young people, outcomes are even starker: the area ranks in the bottom 10% for education across England. Nearly a quarter of children (24%) grow up in poverty, double the Oxfordshire average.

It is into this context that Love Barton works. We exist walk alongside those facing poverty, isolation and crisis, and create a space where individuals and families can flourish.

Based on the needs of the community and our current capacity our work is built around three interconnected areas – Health & Wellbeing, Youth, and Flourishing Families. Each address pressing needs within our community, but all are underpinned by our relational, long-term approach.

In Spring 2025 our Interim Charity Manager joined Love Barton to cover our permanent Charity Manager whilst on maternity leave.

Health & Wellbeing: Working to provide practical and emotional support to those in Barton facing food poverty, isolation, and poor mental health.

Over the course of the 2024-2025 financial year, our foodbank, run in partnership with Community Emergency Foodbank Oxford, provided food parcels to 1,238 individuals. Each parcel represents more than food; it represents care, dignity, and reassurance that neighbours in crisis are not forgotten. Alongside emergency provision, our dedicated volunteer team offers encouragement, advice, and signposting so that families feel supported beyond their immediate needs.

In addition to this practical help, our Hear4You listening service continued to provide vital emotional support throughout 2024. We received 14 referrals from a wide range of sources, including social prescribers, local churches, Love Barton itself, and even through social media. The individuals we supported were facing complex challenges: bereavement, financial hardship, unemployment, poor mental and physical health, suicidal thoughts, family breakdown, loneliness, violence, and substance misuse.

Three trained volunteers delivered over 60 hours of one-to-one listening, with sessions ranging from a single meeting to ongoing support over 24 weeks. This flexibility is one of Hear4You's greatest strengths: it allows us to respond to people's need as they truly are. Clients repeatedly tell us that having someone listen without judgement is crucial – giving them hope, space to breathe, and the encouragement to take next steps.

Over the course of the year to strengthen the service we have:

- Distributed over 100 wellbeing packs at local health promotion and Love Barton events
- Improved accessibility through new signage and promotional resources
- Commissioned professional photography and videography to raise awareness and ensure effective signposting across Barton

This combined impact of our foodbank and Hear4You services is clear: hundreds of individuals and families have been supported in their most vulnerable moments, while many others have found encouragement and connection through our wellbeing initiatives. By working relationally and flexibly, Love Barton continues to build a community where physical, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing can take root and grow.

LOVE BARTON

TRUSTEES REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Youth: Working to support young people with low self-esteem and/or family challenges to have the confidence to make good choices and work towards their dreams and ambitions.

Being a young person today is more demanding than ever, and in an area like Barton those demands are layered on top of financial hardship. Nationally, about 1 in 5 children and young people aged 8 to 25 are estimated to have a probable mental health disorder. Rates of mental distress among young people have risen sharply in recent years, with young women showing higher prevalence. Meanwhile, research shows that children and adolescents growing up in poverty are more likely to experience emotional and behavioural difficulties, lower self-esteem, and restricted life-chances. They face additional barriers to accessing mental health support, social opportunities, and stable environments; challenges that compound the everyday pressures of relationships, social media, schooling, identity, and future planning.

In Barton, where socio-economic challenges are high, these pressures are not abstract. That is why our youth work matters. We continued our partnership with Know Your Worth this year to deliver an eight-week self-esteem course for teenage girls in Barton. Attendance during the first session was outstanding at 97%, showing how deeply the course resonated with young people.

Youth (Continued)

Over the eight sessions participants explored topics such as:

- What self-esteem is and how it can be nurtured
- Emotions and strategies to manage them
- Social media, identity, and online safety
- Healthy vs unhealthy relationships
- Hopes, dreams and overcoming limitations
- Resilience, inner strength, and coping strategies
- Stress management and self-care

The impact was significant:

- 100% of respondents said their self-esteem had improved by the end of the course
- The proportion feeling 'satisfied with themselves on the whole' rose from ~50% at the start to 86% by week eight
- The percentage of girls feeling 'they have much to be proud of' increased from 29% to 57%
- 86% of respondents agreed that they now know they are a person of worth who is equal to others

Following the course, all participants were invited into six months of one-to-one mentoring, matching them with trained volunteers. This mentoring is designed to carry forward the self-esteem work by offering deeper relational investment, ongoing encouragement, and individualised conversations.

Flourishing Families: Working to provide practical and pastoral support to families in need, particularly those in crisis and empower parents to translate the love they have for their kids into experiences and parenting that sees the child flourish.

Strong families are the foundation of a thriving community. Yet for many in Barton, family life is lived under enormous strain: financial hardship, isolation, and the stress of parenting without support can make it difficult for parents to provide the safe and nurturing environments they long for. Love Barton believes in equipping and encouraging parents so that their children can flourish.

In August 2024 we ran a Kids Matter parenting course, designed to support parents experiencing low income and low support. The impact was clear. From the end of the course surveys, parents reported that:

- 50% had developed better routines at home
- 50% felt they were looking after themselves more
- 50% said they were playing with their children more
- 50% said they were managing their children better
- 50% said they could listen and encourage their children better
- 50% said they felt their family team was stronger
- 100% said they would recommend going to a Kids Matter group to a friend

Parents' comments revealed the transformative impact of the course. They commented that the programme: 'Helps in ways that you wouldn't realise' and '...has been like a therapy session which has helped me a lot.'

Alongside this, we sought to bring joy and dignity to families at key moments in the year. At Christmas, we invited 50 families to receive festive hampers filled with food, gifts, and treats. For households struggling to make ends meet, these hampers were a reminder that they are seen, valued, and not alone.

LOVE BARTON

**TRUSTEES REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

Financial Review and Reserves Policy

Unrestricted year-end balance was £43,627, in line with last year. The Charity aims to have 4 months reserve in the value of £12,000 which the trustees consider appropriate to cover core operational costs and staff commitments.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act 2011 require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the trust will continue in existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees , Trustee.

Print name: JONATHAN LESCAULT

Date: 04 / 12 / 25

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the trustees/members of Love Barton on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025 set out on pages 8 to 11.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Zita Derbak MAAT AATQB
Independent Examiners Ltd
The Grain Store
Hills Barns
Appledram Lane South
Chichester, West Sussex
PO20 7EG

Sign: 

Date: 05.12.2025

LOVE BARTON

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024/25 £	Total 2023/24 £
RECEIPTS :					
Voluntary Receipts	2a	58,731	10,000	68,731	23,890
TOTAL RECEIPTS		58,731	10,000	68,731	23,890
PAYMENTS :					
Costs of Charitable Activities	3a	34,681	5,000	39,681	26,502
TOTAL PAYMENTS		34,681	5,000	39,681	26,502
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		24,050	5000	29050	-2,612
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Balances Brought Forward		19,577	-	19,577	22,189
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		43,627	5,000	48,627	19,577

The notes on pages 10 to 11 form part of these accounts.

All operations are continuing operations.

LOVE BARTON

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	31-Mar-25 Total £	31-Mar-24 Total £
ASSETS					
Cash Funds:					
Bank Accounts		43,627	5,000	48,627	19,577
		43,627	5,000	48,627	19,577
Assets retained for the Charity's own use:					
Equipment		-	-	-	-
HMRC (SMPC)		2,814	-	2,814	-
LIABILITIES					
Independent Examiners Fee		1,080	-	1,080	-
HMRC		-	-	-	920
Pension		-	-	-	104
		1,080	-	1,080	1,024

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities which are set out on pages 8 and 9.

Approved by the Trustees on 04/12/25 and

Signed on their behalf by J.L., Trustee.

Print name: JONATHAN LESCAULT

LOVE BARTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts have been prepared under the "Receipts and Payments" basis as prescribed by the Charity Commissioners, and they meet the appropriate legal requirements.

2. RECEIPTS

a) Voluntary Receipts

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024/25 £	Total 2023/24 £
Donations		58,731	-	58,731	23,890
Grants	4	-	10,000	10,000	-
		58,731	10,000	68,731	23,890

3. PAYMENTS

a) Costs of Charitable Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024/25 £	Total 2023/24 £
Advertising		799	-	799	888
Branding		1,510	-	1,510	919
Computer costs		70	-	70	594
DBS checks		50	-	50	38
Decorating		121	-	121	-
Entertainment / refreshments		-	-	-	909
Insurance		321	-	321	337
Legal fees		-	-	-	888
Office/general Administrative Expenses		1,258	-	1,258	425
<u>Payroll Expenses</u>					
Pension		706	-	706	405
HMRC		860	-	860	-
Wages	4	23,411	5,000	28,411	19,750
Phone Costs		208	-	208	174
Phone Handset Costs		-	-	-	110
Printing, Postage and Stationary		793	-	793	189
Recruitment Cost		375	-	375	-
Refreshments		2,197	-	2,197	-
Subscriptions		834	-	834	672
Training Course		1,009	-	1,009	180
Travel and Accommodation		159	-	159	24
		34,681	5,000	39,681	26,502

LOVE BARTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

4. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 31st Mar '24 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer £	Balance at 31st March '25 £
Oxford Community Foundation	-	10,000	5,000	-	5,000
	-	10,000	5,000	-	5,000

5. STAFF COST

	Total 2024/25 £	Total 2023/24 £
Gross wages	28,411	19,750
Employer's National Insurance contribution	860	-
Employer's Pension contribution	706	405
	29,977	20,155

6. PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

No trustee, or their related parties received any remuneration, or reimbursements for out-of-pocket expenses in this financial year (2024: Nil).

7. PUBLIC BENEFIT

The charity acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the charity has achieved this are provided in the Trustees report. The Trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities the charity should undertake.