

theculturehouse

engage, excite & inspire

Financial Statements

For the year ended

31st March 2025

Registered Charity Number: 1203001

Company Number : CEO32214

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. H. H. H.', located at the bottom left of the page.

15.12.2025

The Culture House CIO

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

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The Culture House CIO

Charity No. 1203001

Company No. CE032214

Annual report 2024 - 2025

Report of the trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025.

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the consolidated financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2025, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Companies Act 1985, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005).

Chair's report

As we reflect on our journey at The Culture House, we are proud to reaffirm our longstanding commitment to elevating the cultural landscape of North East Lincolnshire. Since becoming a charity in 2023, our role as a locally-led arts and cultural organisation has never been more vital.

Through strategic collaborations with a diverse array of partners, we consistently produce impactful projects that inspire, educate, and uplift our community. We are thrilled to report that in 2024-2025, 100% of our audiences would recommend a Culture House event to a friend - a testament to our dedication to excellence.

Recognised as a 'National Portfolio Organisation' by Arts Council England, we are at the forefront of driving creative growth and expanding access to cultural opportunities across North East Lincolnshire. Our inclusive initiatives not only animate public spaces but also transform perceptions, foster inspiration and ambition within our communities.

The positive feedback from stakeholders and the public reinforces the importance of our work, highlighting our value and influence. Our strategic partnerships with local authorities, businesses, other stakeholders and the broader arts sector are crucial in advancing quality programming that enhances audience engagement and creative participation.

Aligned with Arts Council England's objectives, our 2024-2025 programme effectively delivered on its 'Cultural Communities' and 'Creative People' strategic outcomes. With North East Lincolnshire designated as an Arts Council England Priority Place, we are well-positioned to lever significant investments and play a pivotal role in the delivery of the area's creativity strategy.

Looking ahead, we are committed to innovation, including the integration of sustainable practices and programming that reflects both contemporary Britain and arts practice, ensuring that our work remains groundbreaking and relevant. We remain excited about the future and the transformative impact we can achieve in our place through culture.

Emma Olivier-Townrow

Chair - The Culture House CIO

Who we are

The Culture House is a Grimsby-based arts organisation, originally established in 2010, with a fourteen-year track record of working to 'engage, excite and inspire' residents of and visitors to North East Lincolnshire through arts and culture.

We widen access to creative opportunities and in an area of very low arts engagement and participation. In 2023 we became both an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation and a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Our Mission is to **Transform futures through the power of creativity and culture.**

The Object of The Culture House CIO is:

For the public benefit to advance the education of the public in, and the appreciation of, the visual, applied, performing and written arts in all their aspects, in Grimsby and North East Lincolnshire, particularly but not exclusively by:

- organising and promoting indoor and outdoor arts events including local arts festivals;
- assisting in the provision of work experience programmes for young people interested in the creative industries.

What we did

During 2024/25, The Culture House delivered an extensive programme of cultural activity in North East Lincolnshire, which engaged **new and existing audiences for culture and provided many impactful creative opportunities for all ages.**

The programme comprised six strands; Placemaking, Outdoor Events, Indoor Events, 'Made in Grimsby' (commissioning local talent to develop new work), 'Grown in Grimsby' (creative sector development) and 'Taking Part' in Grimsby (workshops).

2024 - 2025 in numbers:

16,767 live audience
18 days of outdoor events
11 indoor events
233 paid artists in total (national & local)
7 local artists commissions
108 workshops
2452 participants learning new creative skills
32 partnerships
14 sponsorships
2131 digital audience

Placemaking

Overview: Our strand of work that responds to place, while increasing cultural opportunity, raising pride levels and demonstrating the differences culture can make.

Our Future Starts Here (OFSH)

With a focus on 'shifting the narrative' about Grimsby, highlighting Grimsby's place in the world now and exploring sustainable futures, 'Our Future Starts Here' is an innovative, future-facing and accessible arts and cultural programme hosting outdoor national touring shows, installations, talks, creative workshops and nature activities.

94% very good or good quality rating from audiences.

"Excellent choice of shows, we really enjoyed experiencing new things in our area." - OFSH Audience Member

Edible Grimsby

Working in national partnership with Emergency Exit Arts, Green Futures, The Canopy Community Hub and more, we produced a joyful festival in St James' Square, Grimsby.

This project with a theme of 'grow, cook share', featured a blend of live performance, music, free food tastings made by local community groups and hosted national artists. People engaged with high quality, immersive and local musicians performed on a 'Made in Grimsby' music stage while community stalls promoted services and advice agencies.

98% of respondents felt it was either 'important' or 'extremely important' 'to have access to these kind of events / activities in North East Lincolnshire'.

"The area never used to have events like this hosted, so it brings some life and happiness to the town of Grimsby" - Edible Grimsby Audience Member

Outdoor Events Programme

A series of free outdoor events enabling engagement and participation in culture and creativity in public places and green spaces throughout North East Lincolnshire. Events included Picnic in the Park summer series of live music and nature activity, Everybody Loves the Sunshine festival which focuses on enabling access to diverse live music from credible national artists, Grubfest a locally-led food market for which we programmed accessible street theatre and 'A Community Christmas', brass band and singalong event, which saw 350 people joining in with carols outdoors.

The programme overall garnered a 98% very good or good quality rating from audiences.

"Once again the Culture House has brought a great chilled out event to Grimsby to enhance our summer vibes!! Long may they reign! By the looks of the crowds here, it's an event [that] residents have come to anticipate and look forward to!"
Audience Member, Picnic in the Park

Indoor Events Programme

We delivered a relatively new programme of live performance in the Living Room - a small and intimate space in Cleethorpes, designed to create a platform for micro events and musicians and performers who want *to be heard* and for audiences who want to *listen*.

100% very good or good quality rating from audiences and participants.

"Another fantastic event. Where do you find these artists??"- Audience Member, The Living Room

Grown in Grimsby - Sector Development Programme

Theatre workshops hosted at Franklin Sixth Form College for Performing Arts students
1 year-long work experience placement which led to the candidate securing long term employment, growing confidence and skills.
Paid support slots for local musicians cross event programme.

Made in Grimsby - Advocacy and Promotion

We promoted the importance of culture as a contributor to regeneration, health, wellbeing & community building through our work. We commissioned place-based arts and spoke at regional and national events, including the Outdoor Arts UK conference and as part of the Future Humber place brand launch.

Taking Part in Grimsby - Participation programme

All programmes included opportunities for creative participation, increasing cultural opportunities and supporting self-expression and well-being.

108 workshops
2452 participants learning new creative skills

Impact

We have extensive data to evidence the impact of our programmes. Qualitative feedback tells us we are:

- Meeting a need for cultural provision that is valued
- Increasing access to culture and creative opportunities for all while proving demand for more
- Promoting and creating inclusivity and a sense of community, along with an appreciation of 'culture' and why it matters
- Continually raising pride of place, while enhancing residents experiences of living in / visiting North East Lincolnshire
- Raising aspirations amongst all ages and giving people reasons to feel good
- Providing opportunities to explore sustainable futures through art and culture
- Connecting people to local green spaces and promoting environmental responsibility

Organisational Development

During 2024/25 we have delivered on commitments aligned with Arts Council England's Investment Principles and embedded them into our organisational plans and activities.

'Ambition and quality'

We have reviewed how we approach evaluation with new methods introduced to capture qualitative feedback around how Culture House activity makes people feel. Feedback continues to shape future programmes

We joined national peers when chairing a panel talk at Outdoor Arts UK Conference on diversity and inclusion. We continue to attend regional and national sector events.

'Dynamism'

In 2024 - 2025 we began to actively raise funds through more diverse income streams, including ticket sales and sponsorships. Exec team attended a six-week 'business accelerator programme focussed on driving business growth and marketing and undertook access training with Without Walls. Business Manager has developed a draft business plan for a multi-use space in Grimsby.

'Environmental Responsibility'

Exec Team attended Carbon Reduction workshop to support understanding and prepare an action plan. Everyday business operations rate low on Scope 1 carbon emissions. Culture House have been awarded an Oh Yes Net Zero (Humber Carbon reduction initiative) Silver Membership Award for commitment and work to reduce carbon emissions.

'Inclusivity & Relevance'

Exec team attended an Access and Inclusion training workshop facilitated by Without Walls. We continue to gather information through evaluation to help understand the Culture House audiences and where they come from to help to shape relevant and inclusive programmes and to communicate directly with audiences. A board recruitment plan is in place for the 2025/26 period, with the aim of attracting new members to support the organisation's goals and growth during this time. Steering group meetings held with local community groups, charities and education partners to scope out the future of Our Future Starts Here and Edible Grimsby.

Governance and Compliance

The Culture House became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in May 2023.

Charity number: 1203001

Company number: CE032214

Principal Office: The Business Hive, 13 Dudley Street, Grimsby, DN31 2AW

Our advisers

Independent Examiners: Rebecca Beaton Accountancy Services

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank

Directors and trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Emma Olivier Townrow (appointed 26 June 2003)

Simon Webster: Trustee (Appointed June 2024)

Tracy Stringfellow (appointed September 2025)

Benjamin Taylor (appointed September 2025)

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Culture House is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by its Constitution dated 09 May 2003). It is registered with the Charity Commission.

The constitution is based on the model constitution provided by the Charity Commission for a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are its charity trustees.

New trustees undergo an induction to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, content of Constitution, the committee, the decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organisation

The board of trustees, which can have up to 12 members, administers the charity. The board meets quarterly. A Chief Executive is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and artistic performance related activity.

Related parties

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager of the charity with a production company, contracted actor, performer or exhibitor must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party.

Risk Management

In fulfilling its objectives, The Culture House is committed to identifying and managing risks that could impact its operations, reputation and ability to deliver services. The trustees are fully aware of their responsibility in relation to Risk Management and regularly review the risk register to assess potential threats and ensure appropriate measures are in place to mitigate them.

This includes implementing effective financial controls through monitoring management accounts and the adoption and review of a Financial Procedures manual. A full set of policies ensure compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. By proactively managing risks, The Culture House strives to maintain the trust of its stakeholders and ensure the sustainability of its work.

Closing thoughts and future plans

2024 - 2025, following our first year simultaneously as both a new charity and National Portfolio Organisation, saw us solidly deliver a range of impactful projects that are well-appreciated by people in our place.

Evaluation tells us that Culture House activities continue to have a significant impact on local people and on their relationship with, and their perceptions of, North East Lincolnshire.

We've continued to build upon the good work of the last 14 years, flying the flag for culture, while ensuring public money provides positive experiences for people.

Our 2025 - 2026 fundraising plan will see applications made to a diverse range of small and large funders to support scaling up the organisation and our activities, seeing the organisation on its way to reaching its full potential.

Independent Examiners report
To the Trustees of The Culture House CIO

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025 which are set out on pages 9 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- * examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- * follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- * state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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 examinees statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Rebecca Beaton MAAT
Rebecca Beaton Accountancy Services Ltd

Waters Edge Business Centre, Maltkiln Lane, Barton upon Humber, DN18 5JR

The Culture House CIO

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31st March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £
<u>Incoming Resources</u>		
Incoming resources from generated funds:		
Arts Council and local grants	211,822	64,971
Total Grant Income	<u>211,822</u>	<u>64,971</u>
Incoming resources from Charitable Activities:		
Event income	49,161	63
Total incoming resources	<u>260,983</u>	<u>65,033</u>
Resources Expended		
Charitable activities	179,151	20,298
Administrative costs	57,974	12876.6
Total Resources Expended	<u>237,124</u>	<u>33,175</u>
Net incoming resources	23,859	31,858
Fund Balances brought forward	31,858	0
Fund balances carried forward	<u>55,717</u>	<u>31,858</u>

The Culture House CIO

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<u>Fixed Assets</u>		
Fixtures and Fittings	0	
Leasehold improvements	0	
Computer Equipment	<u>0</u>	
	0	
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Current Account	58,461	47,770
Petty Cash	52	27
Deposits	2,000	0
VAT Debtor	0	1,197
Prepayments and accrued income	1,900	0
Debtors	0	0
	<u>62,413</u>	<u>48,994</u>
<u>Current Liabilities</u>		
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	4,535	9,100
Accruals	1,771	800
Other Creditors:		
PAYE and Pension Payable	0	2,913
Wages Payable	0	4,324
VAT	390	0
	<u>6,696</u>	<u>17,136</u>
Total Assets less current liabilities and net assets	<u>55,717</u>	<u>31,858</u>
<u>Capital and reserves</u>		
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		
Balance Bought forward	31,858	0
net Surplus/loss for year	<u>23,859</u>	<u>31,858</u>
Balance carried forward 31st March 2025	<u>55,717</u>	<u>31,858</u>

The Culture House CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st March 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Accounting

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published on 16 July 2014 (as amended by Update Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), subject to any limitations due to lack of historical information.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

(a) Funds

The Culture House CIO funds consist of unrestricted funds, which it may use at its discretion. There are no designated or restricted funds.

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

Incoming resources are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to receive them and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

3 EMPLOYEE EMOLUMENTS

	2025	2024
	3	2
Total employee emoluments:		
Wages a	72,382	16,000
Pensions	1,658	nil

The Culture House CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st March 2025

4 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION

There have been no payments of remuneration or expenses to any trustees during this or the previous year.

5 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	
Independent examiner's remuneration	800	800

6 CREDITORS: Amounts falling within one year

Accruals	1,771	800
PAYE/NIC	0	0
Trade Creditors	4,535	9,100
Wages Payable		0
	6,306	9,900

The Culture House CIO

Detailed Income and Expenditure Account

For the year ended 31st March 2025

<u>Income</u>	<u>2,025</u>	<u>2024</u>
		£
Grant income and Donations	211,822	64,971
Other income	49,161	63

Total Income	260,983	65,033
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Less expenses - charitable activities

Artist fees	42,296	1,232
Programme Marketing	12,352	300
Production - Technical provision	8,357	802
Production - Other equipment	3,407	35
Production - Staffing and stewards	1,882	240
Production - Security	3,057	0
Production - Health & Safety Advisory	3,046	0
Production - Freelance	7,479	0
Production - Venue Hire	6,635	25
Production - Other	2,670	352
Workshop Fees	12,256	0
Workshop delivery costs / equipment	200	0
Education and Outreach Marketing	200	0
Direct Wages	72,382	16,000
Temporary staff	2,931	1,313
	179,151	20,298

Expenses - Overheads

Advertising & Promotion	9,499	608
Audit & Accountancy fees	7,818	2,691
Bank Charges	381	32
Cleaning	29	0
Consultancy Fees	17,273	0
Entertainment - 100% business	360	0
Other costs (not elsewhere specified)	50	107
Insurance	1,520	0
Interest paid	2	0
Legal & Professional	1,800	770
Small office equipment	789	1,576
Printing & Stationery	75	0
IT Software and Consumables	1,411	65
Rent	4,760	1,004
Employer National Insurance	1,963	0
Staff Training	2,682	560
Pensions Costs	1,659	386
Subscriptions	5,120	5,066
Travel - National	785	11
	57,974	12,877

Net Profit/Loss	23,859	31,858
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