

WARD FREMAN COMMUNITY POOL GROUP CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1207746

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2024-04-05
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	52 Oak End Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 9BU
Phone	01920821981
Email	swhite@wardfremanpool.org
Website	https://wardfremanpool.org

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC AT LARGE, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY THOSE LIVING IN HERTFORDSHIRE AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS, THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE OF THE SAID INHABITANTS.

Activities: Raising funds to repair and bring back into public use the Ward Freman swimming pool

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Amateur Sport, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Hertfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£33,430	£4,956	-	-
2024-12-31	£15,871	£2,922	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alison Barr		2024-04-05
Frazer Cameron Willett		2024-04-05
Ian Morton Ballantyne		2024-04-05
Joanne Willett		2024-04-05
Linda Susan Roberts		2024-04-05
Philip John Wylie		2024-04-05
SHEILA WHITE		2024-04-05
Timothy Miller		2024-04-05

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Accounts

Ward Freman Community Pool Group CIO
Charity Number: 1207746
Registered Office: 52 Oak End, Buntingford SG9 9BU
Trustees Annual Report

The trustees present their report and the financial statement of Ward Freman Community Pool Group CIO (WFCPG) for the year ending 31st December 2025.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable Objectives

The WFCPG was established to promote for the benefit of the public at large, in particular but not exclusively those living in Hertfordshire and the surrounding areas, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

The first facility it wishes to provide is the Ward Freman swimming pool, which was closed by the local authority in December 2023.

Charitable Activities

Whilst the Ward Freman swimming pool remained closed, during 2025, the WFCPG has focused on charitable activities to raise awareness and funds to reopen the pool. It has hosted fundraising events such as quizzes and table-top sales. It has also been represented at the Buntingford, Reed and Cottered annual town/parish meetings, ensuring the swimming pool is not forgotten.

Achievements and Performance

The WFCPG has continued to work with Hertfordshire County Council (HCC), East Herts District Council (EHDC), Everyone Active and selected contractors to obtain an accurate scale of works required to reopen the pool.

The Business plan stood up to scrutiny by HCC's external consultant, Lambert Smith Hampton and resulted in HCC offering WFCPG the freehold, which we hope to complete in April 2026.

Promotion of the WFCPG charity at numerous events has resulted in over 900 people signing up to be Pool Supporters, receiving regular (at least monthly) updates via email about the WFCPG activities and achievements. This has helped to recruit volunteers to attend events and make donations of books and cakes.

Financial Review

We continue to build reserves in anticipation of the freehold transfer (April 2026) when our Phase One repairs will commence. Expenditure has therefore been on expenses incurred during fundraising activities and insurance.

WFCPG has generated a Total Income for the year ending 31st December 2025 of £33,430, with Expenditure of £4,956. This equates to Net Income of £28,474.

Year to end Dec	2025	2024
Income	£	£
Other Trading Activities	6,564	7,843
Donations & legacies	25,399	6,923
Grants	1,000	1,000
Investment income (Interest)	468	105
Total	33,430	15,871
Expenditure		
General Trading Expenses	1,810	1,552
Insurance & other fees	3,146	1,370
Total	4,956	2,922
Net Income	28,474	12,949

At the end of December 2025, the Balance Sheet for WFCPG had Total Assets of £41,424 (held in three linked NatWest bank accounts). There were zero liabilities.

Structure, governance and management

The WFCPG is governed by our constitution as agreed on 5th April 2024 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). First Trustees were recruited following public consultation in January 2024 and hold office for either 4 or 3 years ensuring that all trustees do not step down at the same time.

The first charity trustees are as follows, and are appointed for the following terms:

Frazer Willett for 4 years
Joanne Willett for 4 years
Philip Wylie for 4 years
Sheila White for 4 years
Ian Ballantyne for 3 years
Linda Roberts for 3 years
Tim Miller for 3 years
Alison Barr for 3 years

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Wylie', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Full name: Philip John Wylie

Position: Treasurer

Date: 15/4/26

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Year to end Dec	2025	2024
Income	£	£
Other Trading Activities	6,564	7,843
Donations & legacies	25,399	6,923
Grants	1,000	1,000
Investment income (Interest)	468	105
Total	33,430	15,871
Expenditure		
General Trading Expenses	1,810	1,552
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Ian Ballantyne for 3 years

Linda Roberts for 3 years

Tim Miller for 3 years

Alison Barr for 3 years

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:

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Full name: Philip John Wylie

Position: Treasurer

Date: 15/4/26

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Ward Freman Community Pool Group CIO for the year ended 31st December 2025.

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 Trust'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.

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:

- 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.



Karen Thomson ACMA
15 Bishop Way,
Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SG9 9SL

15th April 2026

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Charitable Activities

Whilst the Ward Freman swimming pool remains closed the WFCPG focuses on charitable activities to raise awareness and funds to reopen the pool. It has hosted fundraising events such as dances, quizzes and table top sales.

Achievements and Performance

The WFCPG has worked with Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) and East Herts District Council (EHDC), along with the pool operator Everyone Active to obtain an accurate scale of works required to reopen the pool. This included the WFCPG funding an independent structural survey of the pool by Pell Frischmann following a condition survey conducted by Oakleaf (commissioned by EHDC) which suggested that there may be subsidence present at the site. With no evidence of subsidence found, WFCPG were happy to proceed in developing a business plan with the intention of applying for a government Community Ownership Fund grant.

WFCPG were lucky enough to have local architectural firm G2 offer to develop plans for the refurbishment of the dry side of the building free of charge. Similarly, Lawson Cook Limited provided free of charge a structural survey required to support G2's plans.

The new Labour government formed in June 2024 and put an early closure to the Community Ownership Fund. Thus WFCPG had to change the plan from generating the capital investment required to completely refurbish the whole building, to a phased refurbishment scheme.

Negotiations are still ongoing with Hertfordshire County Council in order to obtain the lease or even a Community Asset Transfer, which is a key criteria for many grant awarding charities.

Promotion of the WFCPG charity at village summer events resulted in over 700 people signing up to be pool supporters, receiving regular updates via email about the WFCPG activities and achievements.

Financial Review

The initial plan for total refurbishment stands at £934,000. Without the possibility of a COF grant, the phased approach is looking for £400,000 to complete phase 1 which will see the pool open with new filtration, dosing, expansion joints, repaired tiles and air handling system. Reserves are being held in order to fund necessary capital expenditure.

East Herts District Council has pledged £200,000 in addition to £16,000 s106 money previously specified for the Ward Freman pool.

WFCPG has generated a total income for the year ending 31st December 2024 of £15,871 with an expenditure of £2,922. A net income of £12,949.

	2024
Income	£
Other Trading Activities	7,843
Donations	6,923
Grants	1,000
Investments (Interest)	105
Total	15,871
Expenditure	
Other Trading Activities	1,552
Insurance & Professional fees	1,370
Total	2,922
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Declarations

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Signature(s)

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Full name(s) Joanne Willett

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) Chair

Date 16/4/25