



Trustees' annual report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
		Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year
From		01	01	2024	To	31	12 2024

Reference and administration details

Charity name	Clare Combined Charities
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	206513
Charity's principal address	The Old School, Callis Street, Clare, Sudbury, Suffolk
Postcode	CO10 8PX

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1 Nigel Partridge	Chair		
2 Andy Gill	Vice-Chair		
3 Caroline Vander Meersch	Treasurer		
4 Fiona Cowie			
5 Sarah Walters			
6 Jonathan Birkett			
7 Christine Little			
8 Alan Mayle			
9 Charles Swan			
10 Rev M Woodrow			

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	

Names and addresses of advisors (Optional information)

Type of advisor	Name	Address
N/A		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust/Charity
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are appointed or reappointed every four years at the Trustee Meeting held in April.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- ☐ Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees
- ☐ The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works
- ☐ Relationship with any related parties
- ☐ Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them

The trustees oversee the day to day running of the charity.

All policies have been recently formulated or reviewed. They will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits.

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

Clare Combined Charities is a small Charity which owns and manages land and property in and around the town of Clare, namely the Almshouses situated next to Clare Parish Church, the Upper and Lower common (including the allotments) and two other small areas of agricultural land on the outskirts of Clare.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

All income contributes to the running of the responsibilities of the Charity and also provides support for people of Clare in need and educational grants to young people.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

Policy on grantmaking

Policy programme related investment

Contribution made by Volunteers

The Countryside Stewardship Scheme for the Upper Common continues to be monitored by the Trustees to ensure that it remains of benefit to the wildlife and environment. The new trees and hedge row have been inspected and where necessary certain areas have been replanted. Ideas are being discussed for the future use of the nearby derelict barns and whether they could be of benefit to the local community.

The Lower Common continues to be let for the grazing of cattle. Demand for allotments continues to be steady.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year.

new tenants to reap rewards for their labours. Trustees are pleased to see the efforts of the allotment holders and hope that this growing season will be beneficial to them even after the very damp start.

The scheme for the renovation of the Almshouses continues and the Trustees are currently looking to secure funding to enable the scheme to go ahead.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Cash balances at 31 March 2024 were £31,278, all of which were in unrestricted funds. Funds are held to cover 6 months' worth of expenditure, approximately £10k, in the case of loss of income.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details: (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising).

How expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity.

Investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity's principal source of funds is rental income from its land holdings and buildings. Funding is at risk if rental values decrease or vacancies arise that cannot be filled among its land holdings and buildings. The charity has received grants from The Rural Payments agency for specific works carried out on its land holdings and the charity cannot rely on receiving such further grants in the future.

Costs are incurred in maintaining the land holdings and in ongoing investment in the Almshouses that are provided at low rent to people in need of affordable housing.

Other optional information

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Nigel Partridge

Full name(s)

Chair

Position (eg secretary, chair, etc)

Date

30th January 2025



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/ Set out on the attached

Charity	Name	Clare
Combined Charities		

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Clare Combined Charities**Charity registered number 206513****Income and expenditure: year ended 31 March 2024**

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Receipts		
Grants	26,825	5,407
Rental income	7,634	8,100
Investment income	2,776	8,177
Total income	37,236	21,684
Payments		
Investment activities	(15,410)	(38,494)
Charitable activities	(6,215)	(5,146)
Total expenses	(21,625)	(43,640)
Gain/loss on investment	8,418	(11,300)
Net income/(expenditure)	24,029	(33,255)
Funds brought forward	108,938	142,193
Funds carried forward	132,966	108,938
Investments: COIF	101,689	102,270
Cash and bank	31,278	6,667
Closing Funds	132,966	108,938

I confirm that I have examined the accounting records of Clare Combined Charities for the year ended 31 March 2024.

I further confirm that those records are adequate and correctly maintained.

The above Receipts & Payments Account correctly summarises and reflects that year's transactions and year end balances.

Signed:

Date:

27/01/2025

Colin Barrable
Independent Examiner

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