



Hyde War Memorial Trust

Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Charity name: Hyde War Memorial Trust

Charity registration number: 228670

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>To look after the 1st World War Cenotaph standing in a prominent position on Trust land.</p> <p>To maintain Trust land and other assets for the health and well-being of the community.</p> <p>To hold memorial services each year to commemorate Peace Day and Armistice Day.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>To maintain the 1st World War Cenotaph as place of remembrance.</p> <p>To jointly manage Werneth Low Country Park with Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (TMBC) for the benefit of the people of Hyde (and surrounding areas)</p> <p>To hold two memorial services every year.</p> <p>To provide access to the historical records held by the Trust of the 710 men of Hyde killed in 1st World War and the history of the Hyde War Memorial Trust</p> <p>To engage with the local community and generate income by utilising Lower Higham Visitor Centre (Visitor Centre) and other assets.</p> <p>The Visitor Centre and outside space is used for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café 710 – community café run by trustees and volunteers and open on Sundays. Provides hospitality on remembrance days and at themed

		<p>community events organised by the Trust.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenspace volunteers and TMBC Greenspace Officer • Regular events for Country Park volunteers • To educate visitors and local community about different environments and habitats in the Country Park • To raise awareness of sustainable farming and key events in the arable farming year • To hold one-off events in partnership with TMBC targeted at low-income families in school holidays • Pre-school environment themed activities – provided by specialist education providers • Education activities for special needs high school pupils - provided by specialist education provider • Working with local schools to increase knowledge and understanding of historic conflict, the natural environment – and how they are connected in Hyde • To meet family members of 710 men of Hyde killed in 1st World War and invite them to be involved in WW1 commemorations • To engage with ex-service personnel through commemorative services and other initiatives when opportunities present
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have each received a copy of the guidance and contents have been discussed at Trustee Board.

Additional information

Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>All trustees are volunteers. They act as trustees to represent a range of community organisations and also bring relevant professional experience to support the running and reporting of the Trust.</p> <p>Trustees and community volunteers run the Café 710 which is based in the Trust's</p>

		<p>Visitor Centre and opens on Sundays and for any one-off community events. It provides a community hub, access to the Trust's archives and other memorabilia linked to the Trust and its land.</p> <p>Greenspace volunteers, managed by a Tameside Council 'Greenspace Officer' spend one day each week working in the Country Park. Duties include planting, pruning, tidying, path and fence maintenance, hedge laying, dry stone walling and endless countryside duties.</p> <p>Estimated to be around 60 volunteers (including trustees).</p>
Other		<p>The Trust leases 17 acres of land to the adjacent Werneth Low Golf Club. Trustees have worked with Golf Club officials, Neighbourhood Watch and Greater Manchester Police (GMP) on initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour in the area. These include improving signage on footpaths and boundary walls, hosting community meetings for local residents and GMC and setting up local reporting arrangements for concerned neighbours.</p>

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The Trust's Governance framework was further strengthened during this period. This was on the recommendation of the NCVO led Governance Review carried out in 2023. With a robust financial management framework in place, in this period we added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trustee Code of Conduct (May 2024) ○ Safeguarding Policy (Sept 2024) ○ Information Policy (Sept 2024) ○ Volunteer Policy (Sept 2024) ○ Complaints Policy (Sept 2024) ○ Inclusion and Diversity Policy (Sept 2024) <p>The Trust continued to jointly manage Werneth Low Country Park with Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (TMBC) through the Joint Management Committee</p>

		<p>which comprises attendees from the Trust and TMBC. Chair duties rotate annual between the Trust and TMBC.</p> <p>The Trust owns the 'Visitor Centre' a 300-year-old farmhouse which houses our community café 'Café 710' which opens on Sundays and is run by volunteers. This is a valuable asset which requires regular maintenance to make sure it provides a safe, warm and welcoming space.</p> <p>Looking outwards, the Trust carried out a wide range of activities aiming to engage, inform and include our local communities. These highlights are from the "Chair's Report for Annual General Meeting on 23 October 2025" was presented to attendees at the AGM on 23.10.25. This was a public meeting held in accordance with the Trust's governance framework. This meeting is well publicised and is an opportunity for local people to meet trustees and hear accounts of activities carried out by the Trust for the benefit of local communities and in the memory of the 710 men of Hyde who lost their lives in the Great War.</p> <p>Examples of the activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in Heritage Open Days when we opened our building and archives to the public. We offered guided walks in the County Park and talks from country craft specialists – all free of charge. • Skylark survey co-ordinated by a trustee and a local bird enthusiastic, offering visitors the opportunity to take part in monitoring endangered ground nesting birds. The subsequent report was shared with our tenant farmers to assist in their harvest planning. All the information generated was shared with the local community to increase their understanding and enjoyment of the Country Park. • War Memorial survey by specialist survey provided an opportunity to share an insight into this specialist trade – and our 100-year-old monument and the reasons for it. • Events with local uniformed organisations (Brownies and Scouts) around Remembrance Sunday and St George's Day • Book reading evening by local historical novelist Brent Shore – something a bit different for our older visitors
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Thank you’ afternoon tea for Greenspace volunteers. Not a community event but a way to say thank you and potentially encourage new volunteers. • Participation in local community events – Gee Cross Well Dressing, Gee Cross Christmas Tree Festival, Gee Cross Scarecrow Festival – all to engage with our community and remind them of why the Country Park exists • Beginners dry-stone walling events run by Cheshire and Lancashire Dry Stone Walling Associations running 3 times over summer months. Raising profile of countryside crafts and providing the opportunity to learn them under the supervision of experts • An annual calendar competition to encourage visitors to share their photos with the opportunity to feature in the next year’s calendar. A lot of fun, free to enter with the prize being one of our calendars. • Facebook pages for Hyde War Memorial Trust and Werneth Low Country Park to provide and educate followers about why we exist and what we do.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		The Trust has an independent bookkeeper to manage day to financial affairs and provide regular reporting to the Trustee Board, in accordance with the Financial Procedures Manual.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The Trust remains in a healthy financial position. Income exceeded expenditure this year. The Trust holds substantial financial reserves.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held for planned maintenance of the Cenotaph and maintenance and renovation of the Visitor Centre. A full structural survey in August 2022 (report available if required) identified maintenance work required over the next 5 years. This was estimated, then, to cost around £120k. Our plan is to enhance the property at the same time this work is completed. For example, to fit heritage windows and doors and enhance the interior. This estimated expenditure is likely to increase. Our Land & Estate Group will oversee this project and we have suitably experienced and qualified advisers for this work.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Approximately £394k
Reasons for holding zero reserves		N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit		N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Rental income from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm business tenancy • Golf Club land rent • Private property land leases • Community café income • Income from investments
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	We have an annual review of our investment portfolio with the fund manager, Evelyn. Accessible cash reserves in a local building society are reviewed regularly to ensure the best interest.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Godley Green Garden development – 2400 houses proposed adjacent to the Country Park on green belt land has been approved. Timescale is uncertain and there is considerable opposition from the local community and some Tameside Councillors. Because the development is

		<p>adjacent to the Country there is an environmental risk to our habitat and wildlife from displaced wildlife from the developed greenbelt land, and the increased footfall from visitors to the Country Park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This development may present an opportunity from increased visitors numbers who may want to contribute to the protection and development of the environment in the Country Park. • This development is also likely to provide a potential source of income from funds which are offered to offset the environmental impact of this extensive building programme on Green Belt. The Trust is likely to be a recipient of this funding. • There is a risk that Tameside may withdraw support for joint management responsibilities in the Country Park but we are in the process of signing a new 25-year agreement so the probability of this is very low.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals nominated by community groups • 3 elected representatives – allowed to self-nominate before AGM with voting (if necessary).

Additional information

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction training – a one to one session working through an overview of the history, working arrangements and financial policies and procedures at the Trust • The essential trustee – online training
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding training – online training and guidance from the Trust's nominated Safeguarding Officer • Trustee Code of Conduct issued to every Trustee at their induction
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>Trustee Board</p> <p>3 x Sub-Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance & Finance • Land & Estate • Café <p>Joint Management Committee – Chair rotates between Trust and Local Authority. Committee includes 5 Trustees and representatives from Local Authority.</p>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	<p>Joint Management Committee for the management of the Werneth Low Country Park. The Park comprises 200 acres; 150 owned by the Trust and 50 owned by the local authority, Tameside Metropolitan Trust.</p> <p>Werneth Low Neighbourhood Watch – hosting and speaking at meetings organised by the local coordinator.</p>
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Hyde War Memorial Trust
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	228670
Charity's principal address	<p>Lower Higham Visitor Centre Higham Lane Gee Cross SK14 5LR</p> <p>Telephone: 0161 368 6667 Email: hydewmt@gmail.com Website: www.hydewmt.org</p>

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	Betty Affleck			Tameside Council
2	Peter Ainger			Hyde United FC
3	Shibley Alam			Tameside Council
4	John Bell	Deputy Chair		Gee Cross Community Centre
5	Phil Chadwick			Tameside Council
6	Lee Davenport			Greenspace volunteers
7	Jane Durkin	Chair		Holy Trinity Church
8	Richard Ekin			Scouts Association
9	Susan Ellis	Secretary		Gee Cross Neighbourhood Watch
10	Margaret Halliday			
11	Carole Longson			
12	Susan Plackett			Brabyns GX Neighbourhood Group
13	Andrew Richardson			POP Culture Centre
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Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser Name Address

Financial	Ian Wicks	Scott, Roberts Taylor Accountants, Hyde
Financial	Alice Robinson	Bookkeeper

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

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Jane Durkin	Susan Ellis
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	SECRETARY
Date	30.1.26	30.1.26



Hyde War Memorial Trust

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding training – online training and guidance from the Trust's nominated Safeguarding Officer • Trustee Code of Conduct issued to every Trustee at their induction
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>Trustee Board</p> <p>3 x Sub-Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance & Finance • Land & Estate • Café <p>Joint Management Committee – Chair rotates between Trust and Local Authority. Committee includes 5 Trustees and representatives from Local Authority.</p>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	<p>Joint Management Committee for the management of the Werneth Low Country Park. The Park comprises 200 acres; 150 owned by the Trust and 50 owned by the local authority, Tameside Metropolitan Trust.</p> <p>Werneth Low Neighbourhood Watch – hosting and speaking at meetings organised by the local coordinator.</p>
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Hyde War Memorial Trust
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	228670
Charity's principal address	<p>Lower Higham Visitor Centre Higham Lane Gee Cross SK14 5LR</p> <p>Telephone: 0161 368 6667 Email: hydewmt@gmail.com Website: www.hydewmt.org</p>

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)
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2	Peter Ainger			Hyde United FC
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4	John Bell	Deputy Chair		Gee Cross Community Centre
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10	Margaret Halliday			
11	Carole Longson			
12	Susan Plackett			Brabyns GX Neighbourhood Group
13	Andrew Richardson			POP Culture Centre
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Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Financial	Ian Wicks	Scott, Roberts Taylor Accountants, Hyde
Financial	Alice Robinson	Bookkeeper

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

Other optional information

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

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Full name(s)

Jane Durkin	Susan Ellis
-------------	-------------

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

CHAIR	SECRETARY
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Date

30.1.26	30.1.26
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**HYDE WAR MEMORIAL TRUST
(CHARITY NUMBER 228670)**

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

HYDE WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

CHARITY INFORMATION

Chair

Jane Durkin

Trustees

Lee Howard Davenport (appointed 24 October 2024)
Carol Longson
Rilly Shibley Alam
Richard Ekin
Susan Ellis
Susan Plackett
John Bell
Margaret Halliday
Cllr Betty Affleck
Peter Ainger
Phil Chadwick

Registered Charity Number

228670

Address

Hyde War Memorial Trust
Lower Higham Visitor Centre
Higham Lane
Hyde
Cheshire
SK14 5LR

Accountants

Scott Roberts Taylor & Co
Central Buildings
5/7 Corporation Street
Hyde
Cheshire
SK14 1AG

HYDE WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

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HYDE WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HYDE WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

We have reviewed the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025 on pages 2 to 6 which have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

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 of the Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

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

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Our examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 EXAMINERS STATEMENT

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention

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

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

have not been met or

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

Ian Wicks FCCA

Scott Roberts Taylor & Co
Accountants
Registered Auditors
Central Buildings
5/7 Corporation Street
Hyde
Cheshire
SK14 1AG

Date: 24th October 2025

HYDE WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

DETAILED TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Turnover				
Cafe Income		15,887		13,329
Cost of sales				
Cafe goods for resale	7,180		5,817	
Cafe consumables	474		102	
Cafe stationary and admin	140		270	
Cafe cleaning	2,121		257	
Cafe repairs	1,385		1,137	
	11,300		7,583	
		(11,300)		(7,583)
Gross profit	28.87%	4,587	43.11%	5,746
Administrative expenses				
Training drystone walling	250		-	
Insurance	3,802		6,900	
Light and heat	4,872		-	
Boiler service, repairs and gas safety certificate	1,114		395	
Property repairs and maintenance	5,113		7,195	
Office expenses, repairs & maintenance	391		-	
Flat repairs	230		774	
Stationery and admin costs	124		232	
Advertising	287		-	
Broadband	614		543	
Book keeping	828		288	
Gardening	648		-	
Legal and prof fees - allowable	5,763		2,053	
Flat letting fees	500		1,200	
Consultancy fees	1,459		6,300	
Protective clothing	266		-	
Remembrance expenses	84		230	
Sundry expenses - allowable	225		1,164	
		(26,570)		(27,274)
		(21,983)		(21,528)
Other operating income				
Grazing rent receivable	6,600		3,140	
Ground rent and land rent receivable	852		1,235	
Flat rents received	5,000		12,000	
Golf club lease	6,000		2,000	
Insurance claims receivable	-		920	
Donations received	100		328	
		18,552		19,623
Operating loss		(3,431)		(1,905)

HYDE WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

DETAILED TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Other income

Bank interest - received	1,776		2,709	
Listed investment income	<u>6,398</u>		3,427	
		<u>8,174</u>		<u>6,136</u>
Net profit for the year	29.85%	<u>4,743</u>	31.74%	<u>4,231</u>

HYDE WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	2		76,803		76,058
Investments	3		344,584		344,584
			<u>421,387</u>		<u>420,642</u>
Current assets					
Investments		50,000		50,000	
Cash at bank and in hand		112,115		108,117	
		<u>162,115</u>		<u>158,117</u>	
Net current assets			<u>162,115</u>		<u>158,117</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u><u>583,502</u></u>		<u><u>578,759</u></u>
Funds					
Unrestricted Funds at 1 April 2024			497,608		493,377
Restricted Funds b/fwd & c/fwd			81,151		81,151
Profit for the year			<u>4,743</u>		<u>4,231</u>
			<u><u>583,502</u></u>		<u><u>578,759</u></u>

I approve the accounts set out on pages 2 to 6. I acknowledge my responsibility for the accounts, including the appropriateness of the accounting basis as set out in note 1 to the accounts, and for providing Scott Roberts Taylor & Co with all information and explanations necessary for their compilation...

Jane Durkin

Date: 23rd October 2025

HYDE WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Accounting policies

1. Income is included in the accounts on a receipt's basis.

2. Expenditure is included in the accounts on a paid basis.

1.3 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost.

1.4 Investments

Investments represent the value under a receipts and payments basis at 31 March 2025. The value does not include gains or losses on disposals or realised and unrealised gains during the year.

2 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	76,058
Additions	745
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	76,803
	<hr/>
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2024 & at 31 March 2025	-
	<hr/>
Net book value	
At 31 March 2025	76,803
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	76,058
	<hr/>

HYDE WAR MEMORIAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

3 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Value	
At 1 April 2024 & at 31 March 2025	344,584

The value consists of the following split between unrestricted and restricted funds:

Unrestricted funds - £334,454
Restricted funds - £10,130