

Hickling Playing Field or Recreation Ground Charity Annual Report November 2025

Names of the Trustees who manage the charity

Name	Office	Appointing Body
Nick Baker	Chair	Open Election
Louise Chicken	Treasurer	Hickling Football Club
Gemma Scarborough		Hickling PC (nominated)
David Prettyman		The Snooker Club
Shirley Sainsbury	Secretary	Co Opted
Viv Tallowin		Open Election
Matthew Hubbard	Vice Chair	The Phoenix Trust
Vacant		St Mary's Church
Vacant		Methodist Church
Gary Grover		Co opted
Tony Swain		Co opted
Anne Holloway		Co opted
Jezz Coggins		Co opted
Jeanette Jennings		Co opted
Jan Binning		Co opted

Names of the Charity's advisers

Solicitor Hansells Solicitors 13 the Close Norwich NR1 4DS

Accountant Ms Karen Christiansen

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document - Constitution

How the charity is constituted - As a Trust

Trustee Selection Method

A proportion of our Trustees are elected annually by open election by the charity's members.

Further trustees are appointed as nominated Trustees from stakeholder groups in our community.

For the benefit of the Charity's management up to three further Trustees may also be co-opted

The Charity trustees agreed that Hickling Parish Council would be granted two trustee positions (one nominated, one co-opted) following successful resolution of the Parish Councils dispute with the Charity in May 2015.

Two Parish Councilors have been annually appointed to the Board of Trustees since the Charity AGM in September 2015. One of these is an appointed Trustee, the other is co-opted.

The Hickling Hunnies were a nominating organisation, but have now ceased operating. They were removed by the membership as a nominating body at the 2018 AGM, with the place on the Board replaced by an openly elected post. The District Councillors Trustee post was removed and replaced with a co-opted post at the 2019 AGM.

Policies and Procedures

The HPFRGC has a range of policies and procedures of which the following are in place.

- Membership
- Equality and Diversity
- Environmental
- Children and Vulnerable Adults
- Complaints
- Fire Safety Policy
- Weekend Block Booking Policy
- Age Verification
- Snow and Ice clearing
- Roles and responsibilities of Trustees and Office Holders
- Data Protection
- Privacy
- Equality & Diversity
- Volunteers

All policies are reviewed at least annually before the AGM or as required by changes in circumstances.

Additional policies and procedures will be introduced according to the needs of the charity and its members.

The HPFRGC will aspire to the Charity Commissions "Hallmarks of a good Charity" and use them to underpin all decisions, policies, procedures and strategy.

Charity Structure

The Charity is Governed by the Board of Trustees.

Within this group there are Trustees who take responsibility for particular areas of the Trusts activities. The Board are responsible for the overall Governance of the Charity and its ongoing strategic development.

The Trustees make the practical daily decisions about booking, cleaning, maintenance and use of Hickling Barn as well as broader areas of work such as sports and community recreation development, marketing and organising fundraising events and projects.

The Events Management Team

The events management team have been formed from a combination of Trustees, volunteers and stakeholder representatives, and have co opted community members with specific skill sets to support the ongoing development of Hickling Barn's events and its community services. The Events management team are responsible for overseeing and managing events at the barn run by the charity.

The Phoenix Trust

The Phoenix Trust is a separate Village Charity whose objects closely match those of the HPFRGC.

The Phoenix Trust made a substantial financial contribution towards the capital cost of Hickling Barn and in recognition of this it was planned that they have a separate room on the premises. Now that Hickling Parish Councils dispute with the charity has been settled, an agreement has been drawn up the Phoenix Trust's use of the Laura Edgell room. The "Laura Edgel Room" room run by the Phoenix Trust has two snooker tables with hard covers which enables the room to be used for other community purposes in line with the objects of both charities specifically and community recreation halls generally.

Risk Management

HPFRGC is committed to risk management.

The HPFRGC will follow Charity Commission risk management strategies to ensure that the beneficiaries, resources and reputation of the Charity are properly protected.

Charity Objects

The original objects of the charity were set out in a conveyance dated 6 May 1937 which says that the Recreation Ground land at Ouse lane must be held "upon Trust to permit the same to be used in perpetuity as a Playing Field or Recreation Ground for the Parish of Hickling.

The Conveyance was amended by a scheme on 20th August 1976 to allow a parcel of land to be sold and the proceeds to benefit the charity.(The building plots now known as Mallard Way)

The conveyance was further amended by a scheme on the 11th May 2010 to allow the sale of another parcel of land with the proceeds going towards the building of a new Recreation Centre on the Charity's land in furtherance of the charity's objects.

A Further deed of Amendment of Administrative Provisions to enable the public election of Trustees was made in April 2012. The Constitution was further amended by members at a SGM of the charity in December 2014

**The objects of the Charity are
"To provide a playing field or recreation ground for the Parish of
Hickling"**

**The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that the Charity's
activities provide Public Benefit when meeting its objects.**

Principle 1: There must be an identifiable benefit or benefits

1a It must be clear what the benefits are - The HPFRGC has built a new, accessible recreation hall, Hickling Barn, for the community to replace old facilities that had been lost or were not fit for purpose

1b The benefits must be related to the aims - Hickling Barn meets the objects of our charity by providing indoor as well as outdoor community recreation facilities for our community.

1c Benefits must be balanced against any detriment or harm -

The Trustees have put in place stringent booking and management procedures to ensure that events do not cause undue noise or disruption to our neighbours.

**Principle 2: Benefit must be to the public, or section of the public -
Hickling Barn is available to the public.**

2a The beneficiaries must be appropriate to the aims - The beneficiaries are the members of our local community

2b Where benefit is to a section of the public, the opportunity to benefit must not be unreasonably restricted by:

1. geographical or other restrictions - Hickling Barn is based centrally in the community that it serves.

2. ability to pay any fees charged - Hickling Barn is of potential benefit to all members of our community not to a section of it as we are keeping hire fees and activity session fees to a minimum. See fees and charges below

2c People in poverty must not be excluded from the opportunity to benefit. - We are keeping our session charges as low as possible and are fundraising and providing subsidised lettings to ensure that people in poverty can use the hall. We have also provided subsidised Gym membership to persons who cannot afford to participate.

2d Any private benefits must be incidental - the Trustees have all signed governance documents to this effect/ The Charity Commission has issued guidance on Public Benefit and the responsibilities of Trustees. This guidance has been given to Trustees who ensure that they have read and understood it.

Grant Making

At this stage the HPFRGC is not in a position to make grants. We hope to set up a Bursary Fund in the long term to assist people in poverty to use our resources.

Volunteers

Hickling Barn and the Recreation Ground are reliant on volunteers to ensure its effective management, operation and provision of activities and recreation.

A core team of Volunteers was established through community meetings, and door to door surveys. We have developed a policy that supports volunteers and ensures that they are valued and respected by the Charity, its management and Trustees.

Community Wellbeing

The Charity continues to deliver a wide range of community wellbeing activities that have improved the health and wellbeing of our community

Governance of the Charity

The charity's current constitution was approved by its members at a General meeting of the Charity in December 2014. It was amended at the 2018 AGM to remove the nominated place for the Hickling Hunnies who are no longer in existence. The Hunnies place on the Board became an openly elected place at this time. At the 2019 AGM the District Councillor Trustee role was changed to a co opted one.

Community Consultation and Information

The HPFRGC has consulted and informed the local community in the following ways.

Public Trustee and General meetings of the Charity

Information Fliers delivered to each Household in Hickling

Information Updates in the monthly Parish Magazine

Information updates and Plans on the Parish website

Reports to the Parish Council

A detailed website has been designed and implemented by the HPFRGC to give full public access to the Charity's work and activities at the Barn

Donations

A number of generous donations have been received by way of purchase of items and by voluntary contribution of professional skills.

Funds

The Trustees have worked hard to stabilise the Charity's finances over the ensuing years. Happily, we have now re established an excellent relationship with the current Parish Council and thanks to the hard work of our volunteers and tremendous support from our community, we have now managed to create essential reserve and maintenance funds.

Reserves Policy

The Charity's Deed of Amendment to its administrative provisions meets the Charity Commission's requirements for reserves management policy and procedure.

In line with good Charity management principles and prudent risk management, the Charity has now established a capital reserve of £20,000 which is equivalent to approximately one years operating costs.

Details of funds Materially in Deficit

Nil

Grant and Community Funding

This financial year we have received grants from The Phoenix Trust Charity for which we are most grateful. We would like to thank the following sponsors and Grant bodies for their kind and generous funding and donations which enabled the construction of Hickling Barn.

The Parishioners of Hickling

The late Mr & Mrs D Tate

Norfolk Rural Community Council

Community Sustainable Energy Programme

The Broads Authority Sustainable Development Fund

The Football Foundation

Tesco Community Foundation

The Geoffrey Watling Charity

The Norfolk Playing Fields Association

The Family of Mrs J Tallowin

Norfolk Community Foundation

A Squared Architects

Davis Langdon

Broadland Computers

The John Jarrold Trust

The Cadbury Trust

KPMG

HICKLING PLAYING FIELD OR
RECREATION GROUND

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2025

ACCOUNTS PREPARED BY:-

Hickling Playing Field or Recreation Ground
C/O Mrs S Sainsbury
Briarley Lodge
Stubb Road
Hickling
Norwich
NR12 0BN

CHARITY NUMBER:-

270199

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:-

Farr & Associates
1 Church Farm Cottages
Church Farm Lane
Great Witchingham
Norwich
NR9 5PL

RESPONSIBILITY AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the body responsible for the preparation of annual accounts, the charity's trustees 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 accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in doing so I have followed the applicable guidance under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give 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 requirements as set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

I have no material 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.

K J Christianson
Farr and Associates

**HICKLING PLAYING FIELD OR RECREATION GROUND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	Notes	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Bank account balances			
Cash on hand (cinema/bowls)		100	100
Barclays Community account		85,358	77,902
Barclays Community Gym account		11,898	11,406
NatWest Business Reserve		<u>486</u>	<u>474</u>
		97,842	89,882
Fixed Assets	1		
Freehold property		837,545	837,545
Kitchen and gym equipment		16,659	14,204
Premises improvements		24,572	28,168
Cinema and computer equipment		372	466
Playground equipment		<u>3,080</u>	<u>3,849</u>
		882,228	884,232
Other Assets			
Prepayments	3	<u>1,393</u>	<u>600</u>
		1,393	600
Liabilities			
Other creditors and accruals	2	<u>1,622</u>	<u>425</u>
		1,622	425
Total assets less liabilities		<u><u>£979,841</u></u>	<u><u>£974,289</u></u>

RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

Total funds brought forward		974,289	955,439
Total income per summary			
General Fund – Unrestricted		41,690	67,771
Other Funds – Restricted		<u>23,984</u>	<u>6,872</u>
		65,674	74,643
Total payments per summary			
General Fund – Unrestricted		56,968	55,793
Other Funds – Restricted		<u>3,154</u>	<u>-</u>
		60,122	55,793
Surplus for the year		<u>5,552</u>	<u>18,850</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u><u>£979,841</u></u>	<u><u>£974,289</u></u>

HICKLING PLAYING FIELD OR RECREATION GROUND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

FIXED ASSET SCHEDULE

Note 1	<u>Freehold Property</u>	<u>Gym and Barn Equipment</u>	<u>Premises Improvements</u>	<u>Cinema & Computer Equipment</u>	<u>Playground Equipment</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Cost						
As at 1 April 2024	837,545	54,195	53,951	7,651	8,115	961,457
Additions		5,214	741			5,955
Disposals						0
As at 31 March 2025	837,545	59,409	54,692	7,651	8,115	967,412
Depreciation						
As at 1 April 2024	-	39,991	25,783	7,185	4,266	77,225
Charge for year	-	2,760	4,336	94	769	7,959
						0
As at 31 March 2025	-	42,751	30,119	7,279	5,035	85,184
NBV 31/03/2024	837,545	14,204	28,168	466	3,849	£884,232
NBV 31/03/2025	837,545	16,658	24,573	372	3,080	£882,228
Depreciation rate: Reducing balance		15%	15%	20%	20%	
Additions:-						
Alarm for battery storage area			741.00			
F3 folding treadmill		2500.00				
Body Solid Bi-Angular Gym		2714.00				
		5,214.00	741.00	0.00	0.00	
Note 2	Creditors and accruals					
	Accounts fee			£525.00		
	Gym instructor fees			£951.00		
	Wave – water rates			£146.00		
					£1,622.00	
Note 3	Prepayments					
	Electricity account balance in credit			£1,393.00		
					£1,393.00	
Note 4	Grants					
	ACRE			£13,668.00		
					£13,668.00	
Note 5	Donations					
	Badmington			£250.00		
	Hickling FC			£200.00		
	Other small donations			£265.00		
					£715.00	
Note 6	Protected Funds - Balance of Funds			£70,633.42		
					£70,633.42	

HICKLING PLAYING FIELD OR RECREATION GROUND

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
SUMMARY OF PAYMENTS	Notes		
<u>Management and administration</u>			
Property repairs and maintenance		9,706	3,190
Cleaning and associated sundries		2,829	3,069
Grass cutting and grounds maintenance		3,394	3,609
Rates and water		926	876
Insurances		2,228	2,593
Light and heat		11,635	9,118
Postage and office supplies		-	42
Broadband and telephone		899	781
Subscriptions and licences		1,515	1,238
Community garden		270	1,256
Accountancy		525	395
		<u>33,927</u>	<u>26,167</u>
<u>Cost of generating funds</u>			
Advertising, printing and promotions		295	437
Community gym – instructors and hire		12,937	11,923
Equipment repairs and replacements		1,393	593
Other misc costs		400	5,794
Cinema and sundry fund raising costs		3,211	2,323
		<u>18,236</u>	<u>21,070</u>
<u>Depreciation</u>			
Gym and barn equipment	1	2,760	2,506
Improvements to premises	1	4,336	4,971
Cinema and computer equipment	1	94	117
Playground equipment	1	769	962
		<u>7,959</u>	<u>8,556</u>
TOTAL PAYMENTS		<u><u>£60,122</u></u>	<u><u>£55,793</u></u>

HICKLING PLAYING FIELD OR RECREATION GROUND

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS			
Voluntary Sources			
Grants	4	13,668	21,460
Donations	5	<u>715</u>	<u>3,012</u>
		14,383	24,472
Fundraising and trading activities			
Fundraising events		8,112	9,334
Community garden		1,978	-
Room hire		14,627	17,100
Community gym		17,968	15,300
Rural cinema		<u>1,977</u>	<u>1,444</u>
		44,662	43,178
Other income			
Solar energy		6,393	6,872
Sale of gym equipment		224	-
Bank interest received		12	-
Other sundry income		<u>-</u>	<u>121</u>
		6,629	6,993
TOTAL RECEIPTS		<u><u>£65,674</u></u>	<u><u>£74,643</u></u>

ACCOUNTS PREPARED BY:-

Hickling Playing Field or Recreation Ground
C/O Mrs S Sainsbury
Briarley Lodge
Stubb Road
Hickling
Norwich
NR12 0BN

CHARITY NUMBER:-

270199

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:-

Farr & Associates
1 Church Farm Cottages
Church Farm Lane
Great Witchingham
Norwich
NR9 5PL

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K J Christianson
Farr and Associates

4/9/25