

IPSWICH COMMUNITY PLAYBUS



Annual Report And Accounts

Year ending 31 March 2025

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IPSWICH COMMUNITY PLAYBUS

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

LEGAL STRUCTURE: Constitution adopted 16 April 2003

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 278061

CURRENT OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Elizabeth Harsant - Chairperson
Robert Whitehead - Treasurer
Jane O'Shea
Lynne Burr
Sandie Catlin

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS: 7 Constantine Road, Ipswich, IPI 2DL

ADVISERS:

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

John Stenhouse

BANKERS:

Barclays Bank plc
1 Princes Street
IPSWICH
IPI IRJ

IPSWICH COMMUNITY PLAYBUS

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Governing document

The charity is governed by the constitution which was adopted on 16 April 2003.

Aims and objectives

To advance the education of children below compulsory school age, by providing or assisting in the provision of facilities for group play in which parents can participate where appropriate. In the interests of social welfare to provide recreational facilities for the inhabitants of Ipswich so that the conditions of life may be improved.

History and Background

The original Ipswich Playbus first went out on the road in the early 1970's. Over the years the Playbus expanded and changed its role, following demand from users and a grant from the National Lottery Charities Board. A new secondhand bus was bought and converted into a Playbus. Advice work, outreach and community services were developed.

Review of the Year

The Playbus has had an exciting year

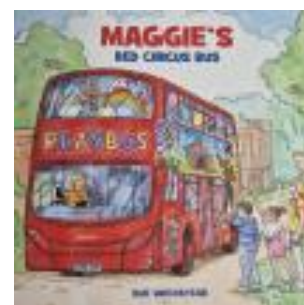
Dennis has had a fantastic first year out on the road! He has certainly captured the minds and hearts of all the children and families. Although some of the older children still ask “when is Maggie coming back?”

Maggie - On 23rd September, we said Cheerio to Maggie who left the Depot to make the journey to her new retirement home. Maggie had been with Ipswich Buses since new, 25th March 1985 all the way through to 23rd September 2024!

An absolutely brilliant link up with RRS Sir David Attenborough ‘Boaty McBoatface’ came at the right time to link in with “Our Environment” theme and Boaty’s travels to the Antarctica. A fascinating really interesting involvement as we were getting first hand photos back of icebergs, penguins and beautiful scenery! Us adults learnt a lot! With thanks to my neighbour, Joe, who is ship’s crew.

Suffolk Dental CIC Dental nurses attended Dennis for 2 days on 7th November where they chatted with families about dental hygiene and gave out toothbrushes and toothpaste to the children—they were thrilled!

Sue Wickstead’s Book - “Maggie’s Red Circus Bus” book featured references to our Maggie and Dennis and was purchased in bulk to give to the children as their little Christmas gift. Sue has also willingly accepted to join our Trustees.



Mini Maggie Memories supported by Cllrs Nadia Cenci and Nathan Wilson



(Stoke Park) who each donated half the cost towards these wooden bus toys made by the Lanka Kade Toy Company and given out to all the children and their families, past and present. The mini Maggies have been a big hit and parents report they are being taken to bed every night!

General Funding during the year has come from

Ipswich Borough Council - We were again awarded £5,000 from Ipswich Borough Council Cash Grants 2024-2025. We have also been awarded £15,000 from the Transport Fund at IBC towards parking and the care and maintenance of the Playbus.

BBC Children In Need Grant – We have received four payment this financial year totalling £42,187.65.

Other Funding – Generated by our Fundraiser

GRANT - Little Lives UK	2,000.00
GRANT - The Sackler Trust	10,000.00
GRANT - Nichol Young Foundation	2,000.00
GRANT - Grocers CT	5,000.00
GRANT - The Music Sales Charitable Trust/Wise Music Group.	1,000.00
GRANT - CLARKSON FOUNDATION	11,667.00
GRANT - Scarfe CT	500.00
GRANT - Mr And Mrs J P Marland's Charitable Settlement	350.00
GRANT - The Grace Trust	750.00
GRANT - R S Brownless	200.00
GRANT - Cranfield CT	300.00
GRANT - Xerox (UK) Trust	1,000.00
GRANT - BRIAN MURTAGH CHAR	10,000.00
GRANT - Belstead Ganzoni CS	3,000.00
GRANT - Annie Tranmer Charitable Trust	2,000.00
GRANT - Orwell Parl School	2,283.00
GRANT – Annie Tranmer	2,000.00
GRANT - Postcode Places Trust	11,667.00
GRANT - CSF Grant	500.00
GRANT - Fitton Trust	250.00
GRANT - THE 29TH MAY 1961	2,000.00
GRANT - Masonic Charity	4,000.00
GRANT - The Suffolk Dyslex	1,645.11

GRANT - Monica Rabagliati CT

3,000.00

Other Funding - SCC Locality

GRANT - Cllr Nadia Cenci and Cllr Nathan Wilson

900.00

The Trustees wish to thank all our funders for supporting the Playbus

Volunteers

The current Executive Committee believe that there was one volunteer during the year ended 31 March 2025. (2024: One).

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

Risk review Policies are in place regarding the specific areas of risk including child protection, confidentiality, employment.

Reserves policy

The trustees continue to work hard to secure ongoing funding to ensure the sustainability of the Playbus. We have secured £140.7K in Grants plus £1,699 in other income during the year. With running costs of £107.3K p.a., this gives the Playbus a surplus this year. This leaves our reserves in reasonable shape. The Trustees are however continually seeking sources of funding.

Investment policy

Monies in excess of day-to-day requirements are held in an interest bearing account, which with better interest rates has produced £1,032 of additional revenue for the Charity

Appointment of trustees

The Executive Committee is elected at the AGM and consists of:

Chair person

Secretary

Treasurer

4 to 9 Elected members and up to 3 co-opted members (not more than one third of members of the Executive Committee may be co-opted members).

Trustees are recruited from interested persons known to the Executive Committee.

Current Trustees are:

Mrs Elizabeth Harsant - Chairperson

Robert Whitehead – Treasurer & Secretary

Jane O'Shea

Lynne Burr

Sandie Catlin

Statement of Trustees responsibilities in respect of the accounts

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to: select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has appropriate systems of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued October 2000. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and to provide reasonable assurance that: the charity is operating efficiently and effectively', its assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition; proper records are maintained and financial information used within the charity or for publication is reliable; and the charity complies with relevant laws and regulations.

Approved by the Trustees on – 9 January 2026



Elizabeth Harsant

Elizabeth Harsant

Ipswich Community Playbus

Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2025

	Total	
	As of Mar 31, 2025	As of Mar 31, 2024
Fixed Asset		
Tangible assets		
Bus	75,597.60	75,597.60
Depreciation	21,547.00	0.00
Original Cost	0.00	0.00
Renovation Work	32,138.40	0.00
Total Bus	£ 86,188.80	£ 75,597.60
Total Tangible assets	£ 86,188.80	£ 75,597.60
Total Fixed Asset	£ 86,188.80	£ 75,597.60
Cash at bank and in hand		
ICP Current Account	8,191.45	3,276.25
ICP Interest Account	111,576.22	90,000.00
Renewals Fund	10,000.00	10,000.00
Takings/Petty Cash	27.11	22.42
Total Cash at bank and in hand	£ 129,794.78	£ 103,298.67
Debtors		
Accounts Receivable	0.00	0.00
Total Debtors	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Current Assets		
Undeposited Funds	0.00	0.00
Total Current Assets	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Net current assets	£ 129,794.78	£ 103,298.67
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Trade Creditors		
Accounts Payable	493.84	0.00
Total Trade Creditors	£ 493.84	£ 0.00
Current Liabilities		
Payroll Liabilities	£ 734.22	£ 532.69
VAT Control - HMRC	0.00	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	£ 734.22	£ 532.69
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	£ 1,228.06	£ 532.69
Net current assets (liabilities)	£ 128,566.72	£ 102,765.98
Total assets less current liabilities	£ 214,755.52	£ 178,363.58
Total net assets (liabilities)	£ 214,755.52	£ 178,363.58
Capital and Reserves		
Opening Bal Equity	38,466.99	38,466.99
Retained Earnings	140,114.39	53,997.94
Profit for the year	36,174.14	85,898.65
Total Capital and Reserves	£ 214,755.52	£ 178,363.58

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The financial statements also comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 1993 and with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified. Donations and fundraising are recognised in the Financial Statements on receipt. No amounts are included in the financial statements for the services donated by volunteers.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of resources. Fundraising Costs are commission paid to S Williams - SJW Fundraising Consultants

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and included at cost, including any incidental expenses of acquisition.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off each asset over its estimated useful life as follows:

Bus – 20% Straight Line

The organisation is a registered charity and its activities are exempt from United Kingdom Income and Corporation Taxation.

Any Income Tax recoverable under Gift Aid is recognised in the Financial Statements in the period in which it is received.

Gifts in kind Included at the valuation of the donor.

Signed:



Robert Whitehead
Treasurer

Signed:



John R Stenhouse
Independent Examiner

Ipswich Community Playbus Income and Expenditure

	Total	
	Apr 2024 - Mar 2025	Apr 2023 - Mar 2024
Income		
Fundraiser Sales	864.00	673.00
Gifts and Donations Income		
Unrestricted	834.74	983.30
Total Gifts and Donations		
Income	£ 834.74	£ 983.30
Grants	98,512.11	77,619.00
Restricted Grant	42,187.85	18,835.60
New Bus Fund	0.00	69,686.74
Total Restricted Grant	£ 42,187.85	£ 88,522.34
Total Grants	£ 140,699.76	£ 166,141.34
Services		
SLA	0.00	0.00
Total Income	£ 142,398.50	£ 167,797.64
Gross Profit	£ 142,398.50	£ 167,797.64
Expenses		
Admin Services	328.24	560.64
Advertising and Promotion	4,072.39	1,400.98
Bus Equipment Expense	25.98	61.87
Cleaning Materials	495.99	261.85
Depreciation Expense	21,547.20	00.0
Dues and Subscriptions	42.00	189.18
Fundraising Costs	18,333.67	18,093.88
Insurance	1,983.85	4,195.18
Licenses and Permits	0.00	-131.25
Maintainance	15,000.00	11,250.00
Motor Expense	517.08	539.39
Bus Repairs and Renewals	18.53	6,733.05
Diesel	2,966.69	3,293.46
Total Motor Expense	£ 3,502.30	£ 10,565.90
Office Supplies	0.00	26.39
Payroll Expenses		
Pension	1069.06	896.15
Taxes	195.96	323.56
Wages	35,867.78	33,161.19
Total Payroll Expenses	£ 37,132.80	£ 34,380.90
Play Equipment	1,489.25	769.47
Printing Postage and Stationary	9.80	70.89
Rent	2,060	0.00
Repairs		
Equipment Repairs	10.00	10.00
Total Repairs	£ 10.00	£ 10.00
Subscriptions	194.99	12.00
Telephone	735.76	683.05
Training	0.00	103.98
Travel & Ent	60.13	178.20
Total Expenses	£ 107,256.77	£ 82,683.11
Net Operating Income	£ 35,141.73	£ 85,114.53
Other Income		
Interest Income	1,032.41	784.12
Total Other Income	£ 1,032.41	£ 784.12
Net Other Income	£ 1,032.41	£ 784.12
Net Income	£ 36,174.14	£ 85,898.65



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Ipswich Community Playbus

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2025

**Charity no
(if any)** 278061

Set out on pages

Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss
(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2025**.

**Responsibilities and basis
of report**

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.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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.

Signed:

Date: 7th January 2026

Name: John Stenhouse

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FIOEE

Address:

1 Ramsey Road, Hadleigh, Ipswich, Suffolk IP7 6AN