

Snodland Community Association —Treasurer's Report (revised) Year to 31st March 2025

The Association's accounts to the 31st March 2025 were independently prepared and scrutinised by Mr T Aylward, accountant of Herne Bay, Kent. During the last financial year, the Community Centre has continued to be a widely used venue. This has resulted in a surplus of £18,721, an increase of £2933 on the previous year. This has been achieved as a result of a number of factors, including lower expenditure on repairs and maintenance, increased interest from some of our bank accounts and the ability of the Downsvie Bar Company to pay its annual rent £5,000 again this year.

Fundraising: As usual, a number of events were organised over the year, including a Christmas quiz and three Music Nights. The first music night followed the pattern of previous ones with insufficient tickets being sold and an over reliance on the raffle to break even. Following this, a radical rethink occurred and it was decided to rebrand the evenings as Cabaret Nights, which would include a two course meal and which would shift the emphasis from the artiste to the event as a whole. This has so far proved much more successful with worthwhile profits with some people commenting that the cost of £12 per ticket was too cheap. As well as this, catering was provided for a number of wrestling events, although this year the Centre was not asked to support the boxing show in March. As a result of all this, £4380 was raised over the year compared to the £1,971 in the previous year, which was encouraging. Even so, the message remains the same - for our events to be good fundraisers, members need to support them by either spreading the word to others, buying tickets themselves or offering prizes for the raffles. Many thanks as ever to those volunteers, who plan and organise these activities. On another note, membership increased by £175.

Centre Operation: The amount of money raised from hall hire was on a par with the previous year and totalled £60,323 which was an increase of £97. By the end of this financial year, there was something like 25 groups meeting regularly at the centre. Disappointingly, attempts to hold monthly Food and Craft Fairs at the Centre, however, have not taken off and Indoor Table Sales have also stopped after six attempts. On the other hand, the Downsvie Lounge has generated extra income by offering NHS clinics regarding Men's Health, Carers and Diabetes. The fees raised from one-off events, such as parties, remained healthy. Children, rather than adult, parties continue to be very popular in both halls. Despite this, the Downsvie Bar Company was still able to pay its annual rent of £5,000. A Sum Up card reader has now been acquired for the Centre, so that once it is set up the public can use it to pay if they wish for other services run by the Association (e.g. hire fees, catering events etc).

Electricity usage continues to be a major expense with the amount being spent rising to £13,373 an increase of £4037 on the previous year. As the new rate with Scottish Power is much higher than the previous one enjoyed with SSE, we paid £4191.44 to Scottish Power for their services during February and March, which amounted roughly to an alarming £60 a day. While the weather was particularly cold during February, it clearly illustrates the continuing need for all users to be much more vigilant in their use, avoiding waste wherever possible and for strategies to be discussed which could be employed to reduce our overall expenses. Water and sewage continue to be a major expense over the year rising from £2653 to £3642.

As the centre is a large building, it takes a lot to maintain and keep in good order. From a Health & Safety viewpoint, the fire alarm is tested weekly and serviced each year along with the fire extinguishers (£337) and the PAT testing of all electrical equipment (£216.30). Plans are afoot to enable the emergency lights to be tested more regularly with the older lights operated from a single switch. Extra lights have been installed inside and outside the building where potential trip hazards have been noted. The two defibrillators also required attention with one being sent off for repair, while the other needed a new battery, which amounted to an total outlay of £485.61

A number of repairs were required over the year. The changing room sprung a leak where the new building joined the old, which cost £380. There were also some tiles that needed to be replaced, some of which had been deliberately broken by vandals (£150). The two high level hall windows facing Cemetery Road that had been smashed by stones from catapults were finally replaced along with one that had misted up at a cost of £1050 - this much reduced cost was enabled by employing a roofer to support the glazier on the roof, whilst a number of volunteers erected the tower and did general labouring on the day so the work was completed without a problem. The lower wall of the main hall was also emulsioned by volunteers. Much thanks are due to those volunteers who offer their time and skills to reduce what the Centre spends on repairs and maintenance.

A number of plumbing jobs were required over the year. At one point the hot water boiler stopped working, but thankfully this was repaired rather than replaced. One major expense was the installation of trace heating in the changing rooms to avoid the freezing of pipes, which had burst causing much damage a couple of winters ago (£1055).

The air con system only required its annual service this year and did not require any repairs, so it cost just £518 instead of the £2,134 of the previous year. The floor cleaner, which is vital for keeping the main hall floor in good order, continued to need attention, which cost £628, a drop from £1,065.

On a positive note, the stage curtains were replaced at a cost of £3765.50. To protect them, a box has been placed around the winding gear. There are plans in the next year to develop the stage area further and to investigate the feasibility of installing a loop system for the hard of hearing.

As was mentioned last year, the Centre has always been reluctant to raise fees, but it did increase them by £1 an hour in July 2023 and there was a plan to increase the rates further by up to £3 an hour in July 2024. This was postponed, however, on the basis that the Association did not exist to make large profits, but to provide an amenity that was affordable to most. It was feared that if the rates went too high, some smaller groups would have to fold. Even so, the Association has to act in a responsible and sustainable manner and with increased running costs, including a wage increase to £12.50 per hour for Centre staff since April 2025, the issue of hire rates will have to be revisited.

Downsvie bar accounts are available for the year ending 2024.

Summary: It has been pleasing to see how strongly the Community Centre has continued to perform over the last year and how it continues to fulfil its vital role in the community. The Association remains financially viable with sufficient funds to meet all future commitments.

SNODLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

The following accounts have approved by the Trustees on

Date: 20th May 2025 **and signed on their behalf by:**

**Chris Howick
Secretary**

C. J. Howick.

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

I certify that the accounts overleaf show a true and fair view of the Snodland Community Association's affairs for the year ended 31st March 2025 and the Balance Sheet as at that date and are in accordance with the books and records for that year. All funds are unrestricted.

T.G. Aylward

T.G.Aylward FAIA FMAAT

Snodland Community Association
Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2025

			2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets	Depreciation	(48,687)	(48,161)	
	Equipment	<u>48,687</u>	<u>48,687</u>	
		<u>-</u>	<u>526</u>	526
			-	
Debtors	Accrued Income	1,934	-	
	Downsview account	35,693	35,693	
	Prepayments	<u>2,741</u>	<u>2,509</u>	
		<u>40,368</u>	<u>38,202</u>	
Bank	Building Society account 1	21,009	20,000	
	Building Society account 2	17,717	17,554	
	Current a/c	25,985	63,548	
	Savings Account 3 - Shawbrook	<u>60,023</u>	<u>-</u>	
		<u>124,734</u>	<u>101,102</u>	
			165,102	139,304
Creditors	Accruals	(9,037)	(2,490)	
	Deferred Income	<u>(1,083)</u>	<u>(1,080)</u>	
		<u>(10,120)</u>	<u>(3,570)</u>	
			(10,120)	(3,570)
Net assets			<u>154,981</u>	<u>136,260</u>
			£	£
General Fund	Accumulated Fund B/Fwd	136,260	120,472	
	Excess to Fund	<u>18,721</u>	<u>15,788</u>	
			154,981	136,260
General Fund			<u>154,981</u>	<u>136,260</u>

Snodland Community Association
Income & Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 March 2025

			2025 £		2024 £
Income	Deposit account Interest	1,172		162	
	Downsview Rental	5,000		5,000	
	Fundraising	4,380		1,971	
	Gifts & Donations	160		89	
	Hall Hire	60,323		60,226	
	Membership Fees	898		723	
			71,933		68,170
Expenses	Accountancy Fees	(924)		(780)	
	Advertising Website	(76)		(264)	
	Caretaker Wages	(5,123)		(1,906)	
	Cleaning & Laundry	(7,099)		(8,558)	
	Depreciation	(526)		(132)	
	Electricity	(13,373)		(9,336)	
	Fundraising events	(2,264)		(1,451)	
	Housekeeping	(3,357)		(2,932)	
	Insurances & Licences	(3,695)		(3,258)	
	Printing, Stationery & postage	(47)		(61)	
	Repairs & Renewals	(11,861)		(20,742)	
	Sundries PNET	(324)		(311)	
	Wages - Gates	(900)		-	
	Water/Sewage	(3,642)		(2,653)	
			(53,212)		(52,382)
Excess to Fund			18,721		15,788

SNODLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

<u>Variance Analysis</u>	£	£
2023/24 Excess of Income over Expenditure		15788
INCOME		
Higher booking fees	97	
Higher membership Fees	175	
Lower Grants	0	
Equal Rents	0	
Equal payphone	0	
Higher Interest received	1010	
Higher gifts & Donations	70	
Higher Fundraising	<u>1596</u>	
TOTAL		2948
EXPENDITURE		
Higher Caretaker wages	-3217	
Higher Services	-5027	
Equal Rates	0	
Higher Insurance	-437	
Lower Cleaning & Laundry	1459	
Higher Wages gates	-900	
Higher Housekeeping	-425	
Lower Repairs & Maintenance	8881	
Equal Legal expenses	0	
Higher Audit & Accountancy	-144	
Lower Stationery	14	
Lower Advertising	188	
Higher Sundries PNET	-13	
Higher Depreciation	<u>-394</u>	
TOTAL		-15
2024/25 Excess of Income over Expenditure		<u>£ 18721</u>